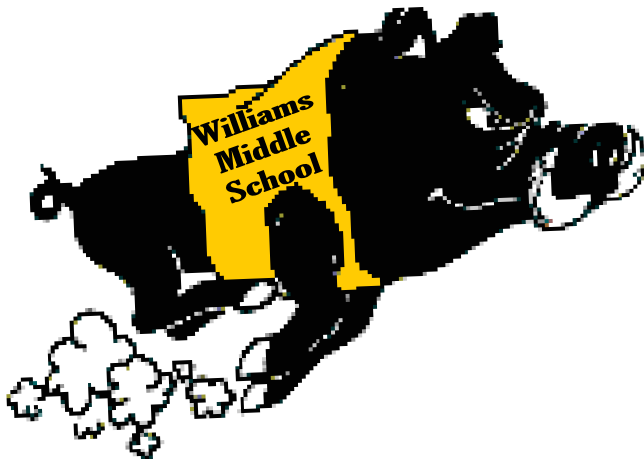


# Willie J. Williams



# Middle School

**STUDENT AND PARENT HANDBOOK  
2020-2021**

**Willie J. Williams Middle School  
950 4<sup>th</sup> Street SW  
Moultrie, GA 31768  
Principal, Mr. Jim Horne**

**Colquitt County Schools  
2020-2021 Calendar**

<u>Month</u>	<u>Date(s)</u>	<u>Day(s)</u>	<u>Event</u>
August	10	Monday	Classes Begin
September	7	Monday	Labor Day Holiday
October	22,23	Thurs - Fri	Fall Break
November	23-27	Mon - Fri	Thanksgiving Holidays
December	17	Thursday	Last School Day before Holidays
January	5	Tuesday	Classes Resume
January	18	Monday	M. L. King, Jr. Holiday
February	12	Friday	Holiday
February	15	Monday	Presidents' Day Holiday
April	5-9	Mon- Fri	Spring Break
May	26	Wednesday	Last Day of School

Early Release Days: September 16, October 7, March 3



## **Colquitt County School System**

**VISION:** The Colquitt County School System exists to educate all students to become empowered, life-long learners.

**MISSION:** Our system will: Provide quality instruction, Value collaboration, Support the development of the whole-child, and Provide students with varied opportunities.

### **Collective Commitments**

#### **As a school system that provides quality instruction...**

- We will provide quality instruction through activities/lessons that are standards-based and embedded in content-specific frameworks for learning that incorporate critical thinking, creativity, and collaboration.
- We will evaluate student progress towards mastery of knowledge before moving forward to subsequent information, and teachers will give additional support by employing enough time and instructional strategies so that all students can achieve a high level of understanding.

#### **As a school system that values collaboration...**

- We will function as a Professional Learning Community at all levels and use the tenants of this process to communicate with stakeholders, parents, and students to function as a school system, not a system of schools, with shared expectations.
- We will support our teachers through strategic mentoring, differentiated training to develop the whole-teacher and monitor the effectiveness of our support.

#### **As a school system that supports the development of the whole-child...**

- We will follow instructional practices that are grounded in the practice of building positive relationships to produce engaged students.
- We will be inclusive of all students regardless of race or gender.
- We will support our educators with professional learning in the development of a growth mindset in students, teachers, and leaders who will grow from their mistakes and learn to be self-motivated to succeed.
- We will have a fully functioning RTI (MTSS) system to support all students' academic and behavioral needs that includes enrichment and remediation.

#### **As a school system that provides students with varied opportunities...**

- We will provide opportunities for success for our students throughout their time in the Colquitt County School System that are tied to post-secondary education and industry by providing inquiry-based activities for students to solve real-world problems.
- We will integrate the use of technology into lessons to develop positive attitudes toward technology uses that support life-long learning, collaboration, productivity, and digital citizenship.

### **Message from the Superintendent**

Welcome to a productive and exciting 2020-21 school year. To those who have attended Colquitt County school previously, welcome back. To those entering for the first time, I welcome you. Everyone working in the school system wants you to have a satisfying school year that is filled with learning.

The contents of this handbook are important to each student and his/her parents/guardians. Effective education includes a cooperative effort based on clear communications. This handbook is just one of the many efforts to communicate clearly and

effectively with students and parents/guardians. I invite you to visit the web site of the school district at [www.colquitt.k12.ga.us](http://www.colquitt.k12.ga.us), and may I remind you of the many benefits of utilizing INFINITE CAMPUS Parent Portal.

As a school system, we continue to work for today as we plan for tomorrow. We ask for support and cooperation from students, parents, and community and pledge likewise as a school community to continue to strive to be a productive partner.

Doug Howell, Superintendent

## Table of Contents

Letter from the Principal .....	1
Master Schedule .....	2
School Clubs .....	3-4
PBIS Matrix .....	5
Afternoon Dismissal Procedures .....	6
Attendance Policy .....	6
Bus Riders.....	7
Cafeteria.....	8
Candy Sales.....	9
Class Responsibility .....	9
Counseling and Guidance .....	9
Course Offerings .....	9
Deliveries .....	9
Dress Code .....	9-10
Drink Machines .....	11
Early Arrival.....	11
Early Checkout.....	11
Electronic Devices.....	11
Field Trips .....	11
Grade Distribution .....	11
Grades and Records .....	11
Hall Passes .....	12
Health Services .....	12
Honors Programs.....	12
Honor Roll .....	12
Immunizations .....	12
Infinite Campus Parent Portal .....	12-13
Internet Policy .....	13
Instruction and Grading.....	13
Make-up Work.....	13
Moment of Silence.....	13
Official School Start/End Time .....	13
Parents' Right to Know.....	13-14
Parties.....	14
Physical Education.....	14
Progress Report/Report Card Dates .....	14
Promotion and Retention.....	14
Public Display of Affection.....	14
Releasing Students from School .....	14
Safety Drills .....	15
Searches .....	15
Student Debts .....	15
Student Information.....	15
Student Records .....	15
Student Rights.....	15
School Resource Officer (SRO) .....	15

Tardiness .....	15
Telephone .....	15
Visits to School.....	15
Volunteers .....	15
Withdrawal from School .....	15
Colquitt County School District Network/Internet and Publication Info .....	16
Bullying Awareness .....	17-19
Student Code of Conduct .....	20-24
Equity Compliance .....	25
Competitive Interscholastic Activities .....	26-28
Willie J. Williams School-Parent Compact.....	29-32

Williams Middle School  
950 4<sup>th</sup> Street SW  
Moultrie, Georgia 31768  
(229) 890-6183

Students,

On behalf of the faculty, staff, and administration, I would like to take this opportunity to welcome you to Willie J. Williams Middle School. We are excited about the 2020-2021 school year and look forward to working with you. This promises to be a great year for everyone. Many exciting things are being planned in instruction and curriculum. We have the opportunity to make 2020-2021 the best school year ever at Williams Middle School.

I want to give you some simple advice for a great school year.

- 1. Behave properly.**
- 2. Work hard.**
- 3. Take advantage of every learning opportunity.**
- 4. Come to school on time every day.**
- 5. Have Fun.**

If you follow these five simple rules you will have a great year! I promise!

This student handbook is a summary of school policies and procedures that impact students at Williams Middle School. Please review this handbook and sign the last page to indicate you have read and understood these policies and procedures. Pay special attention to the Colquitt County Schools Code of Conduct. Please make sure your parents also read and understand this handbook. They must also sign the last page to acknowledge receipt of the student handbook. Please place this student handbook in your student toolkit for future reference.

Sincerely,

Mr. Jim Horne  
Principal

**Williams Middle School**  
2020-2021 Master Schedule

6th Grade			7th Grade	
7:55-9:20	1 <sup>st</sup> **		7:55-9:20	1 <sup>st</sup>
9:25-10:30	2 <sup>nd</sup> **		9:25-10:30	2 <sup>nd</sup>
10:35-12:20	3 <sup>rd</sup> /Lunch		10:35-11:40	3 <sup>rd</sup> **
12:25-1:10	FLEX		11:45-1:30	4 <sup>th</sup> /Lunch
1:15-2:20	4 <sup>th</sup>		1:35-2:20	FLEX
2:25-3:30	5 <sup>th</sup>		2:25-3:30	5 <sup>th</sup> **

\*\* Indicates possible connections time

**Connections Schedule**

7:55-9:20	6th Grade Connections (Math/Sci)
9:25-10:30	6th Grade Connections (ELA/SS)
10:35-11:40	7th Grade Connections (Math/Sci)
11:40-2:25	Planning/Lunch/Lunch Duty/FLEX <b>Flex 12:25-1:10    Flex 1:35-2:20</b> Plumlee                  Jarvis Bass                        Gibbs Eidson                      Scroggins McCranie                  Herndon McCranie                  Register Manley                      Cain Key                          Montgomery
2:25-3:30	7th Grade Connections (ELA/SS)

- Lunch will be 25 minutes
- Flex time will be used for intervention, remediation, enrichment and clubs
- Clubs will be split into 6th grade and 7th grade meetings

## Williams Middle School Club Descriptions and Schedule

### **4-H Advisor:**

4-H is a youth organization for boys and girls in grades 5 – 12. 4-H teaches leadership; members are encouraged to participate in county, district, and state-wide 4-H activities, do community service, and participate in a project each year.

### **Beta Club Advisor: S. Ivey, A. Smith**

Beta Club is by invitation only to students who have an 85 or above average in each subject, are on grade level, and have no more than one office referral in a year.

### **CHRIST Club Advisor: Karen Illian**

Christ Club allows students to impact their school through their faith. Students meet to encourage each other and discover ways to positively change their school environment using sound Biblical principles.

### **FCCLA Advisor: Katie Eidson**

FCCLA (Family, Career, and Community Leaders of America) is a student organization for boys and girls in grades 6 – 12. FCCLA is involved in various activities throughout the school year focusing on school and community projects.

### **FCA Advisor: J. Scroggins, M. Key, T. Register**

The mission of FCA (Fellowship of Christian Athletes) is to present to athletes and coaches and all whom they influence the challenge and adventure of receiving Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord and serving Him in their relationships in the fellowship of the church.

### **FFA Advisor: Chad Bass**

FFA (Future Farmers of America) is an organization for students who are interested in agriculture, Georgia's largest industry. Activities include livestock shows, local, area, and state contests, Sunbelt Expo, after school socials, community service, and others.

### **FutureNow Advisor: Marlana Turner**

The FutureNow Club would consist of meetings that would prepare students for the future by teaching them necessary life skills. This club would greatly enhance students level of success through the creation of an atmosphere which would foster growth in numerous areas. Each club meeting would focus on a different life skill that is necessary for success as a productive member of society.

### **G.E.M.S. Advisor: Stacy Jones**

G.E.M.S. is Girls Exemplifying Magnificent Standards. Our mission is to inspire and enable girls to develop confidence and leadership skills in an effort to become gems who make a difference in our school, community, and world. The goal of the advisors is to become a positive influence in the lives of girls who others may fail to reach. We want to help them develop the qualities they need to become responsible, caring, and productive citizens.

### **Gentlemen's Club Advisor: Nick Edge and Avis Smith**

Our mission is to provide support to participants and assist them in taking steps to improve their quality of life. The Gentlemen's Club is also striving to empower young boys with tools necessary to become productive citizens and upstanding gentlemen. This club meets twice a month, once as a group and the other with representatives from the Passport to Manhood (Boy's and Girl's Club).

### **I.M.P.A.C.T. Club Advisor: Stacey Davenport, Joy Carnes, Scott Moore**

I.M.P.A.C.T stands for Improving Mankind through Partnerships by creating Advancements within the Community through Teamwork. Our mission is to expose and teach students the value of philanthropic work. The club will model this by building relationships with community organizations, creating partnerships to do community service projects, team building and transforming young people into tomorrow's leaders by impacting mankind.

### **Jr. Key Builders Club Advisor: Laura Littleton**



Jr. Key Builders Club enables members to make personal contributions to their school, community, and peers. Builders Club is for young people who want to take positive, constructive actions to build a better world for themselves and others.

**Leo Club Advisor: Brenda Arnold**

Access your future; become a Leo! The Leo club is a sponsored affiliation of the Moultrie Lions club and is part of the Lions international network. The Lions motto is "We serve." Leo club will follow the guidelines of the Lions to plan and organize projects to help others in our community. While doing service projects, Leos will have the opportunity to develop leadership skills and experience teamwork in action. Activities will include community service projects, social functions, regular meetings, and officer elections.

**Partnership for Success Advisors: Ashley Kelley**

The mission of the Partnership for Success is to develop leadership skills, support community service projects, and cultivate friendship among students with and without disabilities at Williams Middle School.

**Science Club Advisors: Paul Bledsoe**

The purpose of the science club is to help students become aware of the importance of science in the world around them. The science club enables students to dig deeper into earth, life, and physical science. Members will "go green", with projects on recycling and composting. Members will be able to participate in projects including an outdoor classroom, herb/organic gardening, restoring natural water resources, environmental science experiences, rocket-building, and many more.

**Student Government Association Advisor: Christina Scroggins**

SGA (Student Government Association) participants experience the election process and are active in activities supporting our school. Officers represent the school at our ballgames and honors program.

**Technology Club Advisor: Glyn Herndon**

The goal of the Technology Club is to promote the use of computer technology, enabling those who join the club to enhance educational experiences. Club activities include developmentally appropriate practices and programs that promote school service and academic achievement through the use of technology and applications of problem solving skills.

**Reading Bowl Advisor: Stephanie Barfield, Betsy Jones, Lisa McLemore**

**Math Counts Advisor: Shana Lampman**

**STEM Team Advisor: Joseph Wiggins, Lawton Allegood**

**Club Schedule 2020-2021**

- \*First club meeting will be September 11th
- \* Students may choose one club from each week
- \*Some clubs may be by invitation only

**1<sup>st</sup> Friday** (4H, FCCLA, Gentlemen's Club, GEMS, Jr. Key, LEO, Science)

**2<sup>nd</sup> Friday** (SGA, Beta)

**3<sup>rd</sup> Friday** (Christ Club, FCA, FFA, IMPACT, PFS, Technology, Drama, FutureNow)

**Meets during Flex Time M-Th as needed** (Reading Bowl, Math Counts, Academic Quiz Bowl, STEM Team)

## WJW Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports (PBIS) Matrix

<b>Expectations</b>	<b>Hallway/Stairs</b>	<b>Restroom</b>	<b>Cafeteria</b>
<b>Respectful</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Keep hands, feet, and personal belongings to yourself.</li> <li>• Walk to your location quietly.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Respect others personal space.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Use inside voices</li> <li>• Stay in your assigned seating area</li> </ul>
<b>Responsible</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Go directly to your location during the 5-minute class change.</li> <li>• Walk on the right side of the hallway.</li> <li>• Report any problems to the nearest adult.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Keep hands, feet, and personal belongings to yourself.</li> <li>• Clean up after yourself.</li> <li>• Flush toilet and wash your hands</li> <li>• Report any problems to the nearest adult.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Keep hands, feet, and personal belongings to yourself.</li> <li>• Clean up after yourself.</li> <li>• When leaving, make sure your seating area is clean.</li> <li>• Report any problems to the nearest adult.</li> </ul>
<b>Ready</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Wait for an adult before entering a classroom.</li> <li>• Stand in line quietly and face the front.</li> <li>• Always have a hall pass when leaving the classroom.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Exit quickly</li> <li>• Only 4 students in the restroom at one time. Wait quietly by the door for your turn.</li> <li>• Always have a pass.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Enter and exit quietly</li> <li>• Collect all items (napkins, utensils, sauces...) before sitting down.</li> </ul>

Parents, please take a few minutes to read the following policies and procedures. A complete Code of Conduct can be found following these pages. If you have any questions or concerns, feel free to contact your school office.

**AFTERNOON DISMISSAL PROCEDURES:**

- 3:30 p.m. 6th and 7th grade car riders and early bus riders released
- 3:35 p.m. Late bus riders released
- 3:40 p.m. Walkers released

Afternoon dismissal protocol must be followed in order to maximize student safety. All **parent pick-up** is located in the back of the school beginning at 3:30. **Early bus riders** will exit the front of the school and load their bus on 4<sup>th</sup> street. **Late bus riders** will report to the gym when called at 3:35. **Walkers** will exit at the back of the school when called at 3:40.

**ATTENDANCE:** Regular and punctual attendance is the greatest single factor in school success. Therefore, it is the responsibility and duty of both the school and the parent to cooperate and encourage students to establish a good attendance record. When students are absent, parents should write a note explaining the reason for a student's absence from school. Students who miss 5 days will be referred to the school social worker who may conduct a home visit if absences continue. Students who miss 7 days or more will be required to attend an Attendance Support Team meeting at the Central Office. Students may be retained due to poor attendance. When possible, dental and doctor appointments should be made outside of school hours.

**BOARD POLICY- JBA: SCHOOL ATTENDANCE**

**Georgia State Compulsory School Attendance Law 20-2-690.1**

1. Every parent, guardian, or other person residing within this state having control or charge of any child or children between their sixth and sixteenth birthdays shall enroll and send such child or children to a public school, a private school, or a home study program that meets the requirements for a public school, a private school, or a home study program; and such child shall be responsible for enrolling in and attending a public school, a private school, or a home study program that meets the requirements for a public school, a private school, or a home study program under such penalty for noncompliance with this subsection as is provided in Chapter 11 of Title 15, unless the child's failure to enroll and attend is caused by the child's parent, guardian, or other person, in which case the parent, guardian, or other person alone shall be responsible; provided, however, that tests and physical exams for military service and the National Guard and such other approved absences shall be excused absences. The requirements of this subsection shall apply to a child between his or her seventh and sixteenth birthdays who has been assigned by a local board of education or its delegate to attend an alternative public school program established by that local board of education, including an alternative public school program provided for in Code Section 20-2-154.1, regardless of whether such child has been suspended or expelled from another public school program by that local board of education or its delegate, and to the parent, guardian, or other person residing in this state who has control or charge of such child. Nothing in this Code section shall be construed to require a local board of education or its delegate to assign a child to attend an alternative public school program rather than suspending or expelling the child.
2. Any parent, guardian, or other person residing in this state who has control or charge of a child or children and who shall violate this Code section shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and, upon conviction thereof, shall be subject to a fine not to exceed \$100.00 or imprisonment not to exceed 30 days, or both, at the discretion of the court having jurisdiction. Each day's absence from school in violation of this part shall constitute a separate offense.
3. Local school superintendents in the case of private schools or home study programs and visiting teachers and attendance officers in the case of public schools shall have authority and it shall be their duty to file proceedings in court to enforce this subpart.

**BUS RIDERS:** The transportation department of the Colquitt County School System provides safe passage to and from school for all students who attend school within their school zone. The county has developed a positive county wide discipline plan, which includes consequences for inappropriate bus behavior. For students who must change bus arrangements (in the event of an emergency or legitimate reason), the parent must write a note to the child's teacher, explaining with whom he/she is to ride and on what bus. The note will be signed by a school employee and presented to the appropriate bus driver by the student.

The Superintendent of Schools will ensure that all bus drivers know and understand their responsibilities for establishing and maintaining appropriate student behavior on school buses. The administrative procedure for Bus Conduct will be included in each driver's Transportation Handbook.

Discipline - Self-control on the part of the student is necessary for the safe operation of any school bus. Students are expected to conform to the same standards of behavior as required during regular school activities. Students who fail to conform to reasonable behavior expectations may expect to receive disciplinary measures. Repeated or serious violations will result in short or long-term loss of bus privileges.

Safety - All drivers will emphasize safety instructions and emergency evacuation procedures during the first week of school. At least one emergency evacuation drill will be conducted during the school year. Students are expected to follow safety procedures concerning loading, unloading, seating and emergency evacuation as directed by the driver, teacher and principal. Violations of safety measures are considered a serious offense; appropriate disciplinary measures will result.

Parents should review and impress on their children the necessity to obey the following rules.

**School Bus Rules and Pupil Responsibilities:**

1. The driver is in charge of the bus and all pupils aboard. Obey the driver promptly and cheerfully.
2. Be on time; the driver cannot wait beyond his or her regular schedule for those who are tardy.
3. Wait in an orderly line off the street or road.
4. Cross in front of the bus only when the road is clear and at a safe distance in front of the bus in order to be seen by the driver. (Minimum: 10 Feet)
5. Do not run toward a school bus while it is in motion.
6. Ride only the bus assigned by school officials.
7. Do not try to get on or off the bus or move about within the bus while it is in motion.
8. Pupils must remain seated while the bus is moving. Ride three in a seat, if necessary, and do not exchange seats unless given permission by the driver. If all seats are taken, stand to the rear of the white marker line as long as the bus is in motion.
9. Behave on the bus as you are expected to behave in the classroom. Insolence, disobedience, vulgarity, foul language, fighting, pushing, and similar offensive acts will not be tolerated.
10. Students are prohibited from acts of physical violence, bullying, physical assault or battery of other persons on the school bus, verbal assault of other persons on the school bus, disrespectful conduct toward the bus driver or other persons on the school bus, and other unruly behavior.
11. Students are prohibited from using any electronic devices during the operation of a school bus, including but not limited to cell phones, pagers, audible radios, tape or compact discs without headphones, or any other electronic device in a manner that might interfere with the school bus communications equipment or the school bus driver's operation of the school bus.
12. Students are prohibited from using mirrors, lasers, flash cameras, or any other reflective devices in a manner that might interfere with the school bus driver's operation of the school bus.
13. Do not engage in any activity which might divert the driver's attention and cause an accident such as:
  - a. Loud talking or laughing, or unnecessary confusion.
  - b. Unnecessary conversation with the driver.
  - c. Extending any part of the body out of the bus windows or doors.
14. Pupils are not to pin or close bus doors at any time nor shall they regulate or operate any part of the bus.

15. Do not engage in any activity which might damage, cause excessive wear or litter to the bus or other property. The following activities are prohibited at all times:
  - a. Smoking, eating, possession or use of alcoholic beverages on the bus.
  - b. Spitting or throwing anything in or from the bus.
  - c. Bringing animals on the bus.
16. Pupils will not leave the bus on the way to school or home without permission of the driver. Driver will not give permission except in case of personal emergency, or upon request of the principal or pupil's parents. A written request is required.
17. Pupils must be courteous to drivers, to fellow students, and to passersby at all times.
18. Report promptly to the driver any damage done to the bus. Person causing damage shall be expected to defray its full cost.
19. All School Board Policies governing Student Discipline and Conduct will be observed.

**Bus Violations--** Misconduct on the bus is subject to the same disciplinary measures as misconduct at school. When necessary, the principal or other responsible school system administrators may suspend or revoke riding privileges. The age of the child and severity of the offense will be taken into consideration in the administration of the rules. In extreme cases, or to protect life and/or property, riding privileges may be revoked.

**CAFETERIA:** The school nutrition program strives to provide nutritious appetizing meals served in a pleasant environment. All meals are planned to meet USDA guidelines and are prepared by a trained staff under the supervision of a certified manager. Breakfast is served daily from (7:35 – 8:00). Special diets will be accommodated when the student or parent presents a statement from a **doctor or other medical professional**.

Willie J. Williams Middle School students will be eligible to receive a healthy breakfast and lunch at school at **NO CHARGE** each day of the school year. No further action is required of you. Your child(ren) will be able to participate in the Community Eligibility Meal Program without having to pay a fee or submit an application.

\*\*\*Any outstanding meal charges remaining on student accounts from previous years will remain in effect and must be paid in full immediately. No exceptions. Debit notices will continue to be sent home to students who owe money for meals provided **prior** to CEP implementation.

- Students can apply money to their student accounts at any time for extra serving, extra milk (\$.35), etc. However, School Nutrition will no longer charge items to students' accounts. Students must have money in hand at time of purchase or have money available on account.
- Parents can apply money to student accounts by sending it directly to the school cafeteria or by going on-line to **www.schoolcafe.com** to make a credit/debit card deposit.
- As supported by State Board of Education Rule 160-5-1-12(h) for **all accounts with negative account balances**; denial of the following privileges will be in effect until the account is paid in full:
  - Student football passes, Prom tickets, Parking passes, and all other student activities deemed appropriate by School Administration.

\*\*\*CCHS: Senior accounts with negative balances will be reviewed individually by School Nutrition Director/High School Principal prior to hold being placed on diploma.

**Accounts \$200.00 or more:** If an account reaches \$200.00 or more, School Nutrition and the Colquitt County Board of Education will have the option to pursue collection via judicial system (Small Claims Court). For further assistance, please contact the School Nutrition office at 229-890-6228.

The following regulations will be observed:

1. Breakfast or lunch should be eaten in the cafeteria or in the designated picnic area outside the cafeteria. This includes students who bring their lunch to school.
2. Students are expected to return their trays to the designated areas.
3. Students are to remain in the cafeteria or picnic area until the bell rings.\

The Colquitt County School Nutrition Program is operated in accordance with USDA policy that prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color, sex, handicap, religion, or national origin.

Adult Breakfast--\$2.00

Adult Lunch--\$4.00

**CANDY SALES:** The sale of candy or other food items by individuals on campus is **prohibited**.

**CLASS RESPONSIBILITY:** Students are **NOT** to stay with a teacher for **any reason** when they are scheduled for another teacher's class, without prior approval of the teacher they are scheduled to be with. Failure to secure the approval of the scheduled teacher will result in an office referral for **SKIPPING CLASS**.

**COUNSELING and GUIDANCE:** The purpose of the counseling and guidance program is to provide help to students in academic, behavioral, emotional, and social areas. The counseling program includes individual counseling, group counseling, and classroom guidance. Parents are encouraged and welcomed to share concerns about their children with the counselor.

**COURSE OFFERINGS:** All 6th and 7th grade students will take 6 classes, which will include Math, Language Arts, Science, Social Studies, and a choice of 2 Elective/Connections classes.

As a connection class a student may receive instruction in: P.E., Ag, Band, Choir, Computers, Family and Consumer Science, Technology, Visual Arts, and World Cultures. Band and Choir are year-long commitments. Band students must provide their own instrument.

**DELIVERIES:** The school will not accept delivery of flowers, gifts, and/or balloons to students at any time during the school day. Students should not bring flowers or gifts to hand deliver as well.

#### **DRESS CODE (BOARD POLICY- JCDG)**

##### **General guidelines:**

A student should:

1. Present an overall neat appearance.
2. Have clean and well-groomed body and hair.
3. Wear adequate and appropriate underclothing for all outfits.
4. Dress in outfits deemed appropriate for school wear.
5. Wear clothing of reasonable length, fit and cover.

Although dress reflects personal and family choice, students' dress should be appropriate for school. Students should dress in a manner which will not distract others from learning nor be offensive in nature. The administrative staff may address any other concerns at their discretion. All staff members are expected to assist in monitoring students. Students wearing inappropriate clothing will be sent to a counselor. Grooming is a personal matter that should take place in the privacy of your own home or in the restroom. (See next page for dress code)

ITEM	ACCEPTABLE	UNACCEPTABLE
Pants	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Worn at waist, fitted at crotch (belts must be buckled)</li> <li>• Leggings, Jeggings and Yoga pants must be worn with a shirt that covers the crotch and the butt area.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Oversized, baggy or saggy</li> <li>• Ripped, torn, or holes in any clothing that shows butt, crotch, upper thigh areas and undergarments are NOT allowed</li> </ul>
Shorts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Worn at waist, fitted at crotch (belts must be buckled)</li> <li>• Length should be no more than three inches above the knee.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Oversized, baggy or saggy</li> <li>• Made of spandex or nylon</li> <li>• Shorter than three inches above the knee</li> </ul>
Skirts, Skorts, Jumpers, Dresses	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Worn at waist, fitted at crotch (skort)</li> <li>• Length should be no more than three inches above the knee</li> <li>• Mini-skirts MUST be worn with tights/jeggings underneath</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Overly tight jumpers, catsuits</li> <li>• Exposed stomachs, backs or thighs</li> <li>• Bodycon dresses</li> </ul>
Shirts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Worn at waist level</li> <li>• Should cover midriff even when arms are raised above head or actively moving</li> <li>• Shirt straps should NOT expose undergarments such as bras</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Tight fitting or low cut that are revealing</li> <li>• No bare shoulders</li> <li>• Tank tops/camisoles cannot be worn by themselves</li> <li>• See – through tops that reveal undergarments</li> <li>• Tank tops, undershirts or muscle shirts</li> </ul>
Shoes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Soled footwear</li> <li>• Worn at all times during school day</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• House slippers,</li> <li>• Bedroom shoes</li> </ul>
Head Attire	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Decorative headbands,</li> <li>• Hair clips</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hats, caps &amp; hoods cannot be worn in the building</li> <li>• Skull caps, doo-rags, bandanas, scarves, beanies, berets or anything that covers the head is not allowed.</li> <li>• No sweat bands</li> </ul>
Other	<p>THESE ITEMS ARE NOT ACCEPTABLE:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pajamas, robes, blankets</li> <li>• Non-prescription sunglasses cannot be worn in the building</li> <li>• Trench coats</li> <li>• Chains, straps or any other item hanging from clothing</li> <li>• Any item that advocates or advertises any of the following: Tobacco products, alcoholic beverages, drugs, illegal substances, violence, racist organizations, gangs, obscenities, and nudity</li> <li>• No connections from ear to lip piercings or ear to nose</li> <li>• Any other type of dress/garment/paraphernalia that is distracting, immodest or interferes with learning will not be worn.</li> </ul>	

**DRINK MACHINES:** Drinks may be purchased in the cafeteria during **lunch only**. Students may bring drinks outside of the cafeteria but they must be put in backpack once returning to the classroom.

**EARLY ARRIVAL:** Students arriving on campus by bus, by car, or by walking before 7:55 a.m. will proceed to the cafeteria if they intend to eat breakfast or to the gym if they do not; in both locations they will be supervised by assigned personnel. All students will be dismissed at 7:55 a.m. at which time they should report to their advisory classroom. **Students are not to be left on campus before 7:30 AM. There is no supervision for students before 7:30 a.m.**

**EARLY CHECKOUT:** Early checkout means leaving school prior to the end of instructional time and/or the end of the official school day. Note: All students leaving or entering the school must go through the Student Services Area. Before a student can check out of school, a parent or legal guardian must be contacted. No student may leave the school without permission from a school official. **Because of the late afternoon rush, students may not check out after 3:00 p.m., nor can phone messages be delivered after 3:00 p.m.**

**ELECTRONIC DEVICES:** Independent student use of personal electronic devices may be permitted for instructional purposes at the discretion of the attending school administration. Schools choosing to allow personal electronic devices will notify parents and provide a Bring Your Own Technology contract outlining all details. Cell phones, if brought to school, should be put away during the day and should be turned off. The Colquitt County School System, its staff, or employees, are not liable for any device lost, stolen or damaged on campus. If a device is lost, stolen or damaged, it will be handled through the administrative office. The technology is allowed for educational purposes and only to enhance the classroom experience. Teachers will decide when it may be used and for what purpose(s). The technology may only be used to access files on computer or Internet sites which are relevant to the classroom curriculum. Students take full responsibility for their personal electronic/digital devices. Additionally, students are responsible for management, trouble shooting, and technical support of their personal devices. The school/district is not responsible for technical support of or repairs to personal devices. **In the event that the student does not turn over the cell phone or device on the first request of a school employee, the student will be referred to the discipline office and will be subject to disciplinary actions including in school suspension and suspension. The student's parents/guardians will be notified.**

**FIELD TRIPS:** Parents will sign one parental consent form for all school field trips. Parents will be notified in advance of all field trips. Should parents not want their child to participate, they should contact their child's teacher 3 days prior to the field trip. Parents who chaperone an overnight field trip must provide a current background check to the supervising school.

**GRADE DISTRIBUTION:** A general grade distribution will exist at WWMS for all courses. The course grade distribution is:  
Informal (Daily/Class Work/Homework): 50%  
Formal (Tests/Quizzes): 50%

Students will be allowed one (1) re-test opportunity for formal assessments upon completion of remediation. Re-takes must be completed by the next unit assessment.

**GRADES AND RECORDS:** The school term will be divided into four (4) quarters. Progress reports will be sent home with students at the mid-point of each quarter. Students will receive a copy of the 9-weeks report card at the end of each quarter. The end-of-year report card will be sent home with students on the last day of the school year. The 9-Weeks grade will reflect the average of all assignments for that quarter. Any changes in grades after this time will be reflected in the final yearly grade. The yearly grade is an average of all assignments given during the year. Students will receive a numerical grade for each class. As we continue our progress in aligning our curriculum with the Georgia Performance Standards, Williams Middle School has adopted the following guidelines for standards-based grading:



A:	90 – 100	Student is exceeding the standard.
B:	80 – 89	Student is meeting the standard.
C:	70 – 79	Student is progressing toward the standard.
F:	Below 70	Student is not progressing toward the standard.

**HALL PASSES:** Students are not to be out of class without an official hall pass.

**HEALTH SERVICES:**

1. General Health Services: School health services are provided to assist parents and teachers in promoting the health of the student to enable him/her to function to the maximum of his/her capabilities. A nurse promotes the health of students by providing vision, hearing, dental, and scoliosis screenings as deemed necessary; communicable disease control, counseling on individual health problems, and health education. The nurse also provides services for sick or injured students. The system's School Nurse Coordinator is also a health resource for students and staff. It is the parent/guardian's responsibility to complete an updated School Health Information form for each student annually. More than three nurse visits outside of regular scheduled visits to the clinic will be considered excessive and the student's parent/guardian may be contacted and referral made to the school counselor.

2. Notification of Illness: Before 9:00 a.m. please notify the school by phone if your child is ill, especially if the illness is a communicable condition such as chicken pox, impetigo, scabies, measles, lice, bed bugs. **Keep students home if they have a fever, diarrhea, vomiting, or red, draining eyes. Parents should keep children at home until they are free of fever, vomiting, and diarrhea for 24 hours (without the use of medication to treat the symptoms such as Tylenol or ibuprofen).** If a student is injured or becomes ill at school, every effort will be made to contact the parent/guardian. If emergency treatment is required, proper steps will be taken to ensure the child receives necessary care. **Be sure to keep the school notified of changes in work or cell numbers for all contacts that are provided.**

3. Dispensing Medication at School: All medications should be delivered to school by an adult.

A written request and physicians' order must be provided for all prescription medication. They must also be in the proper labeled bottle provided by the pharmacy.

The school staff can give over the counter medications **ONLY** if the medication is provided by the guardian. Schools do NOT stock these medications. The medications must be in the original container. A Short Term Medication form will need to be signed by the guardian for these to be given.

According to Georgia law, students are allowed to maintain Epi-pens and inhalers on their person provided proper release has been signed by the guardian.

Medication forms can be obtained from the school nurse are on the Colquitt County School System website at [www.colquitt.k12.ga.us](http://www.colquitt.k12.ga.us) under Departments/Health Services.

**HONOR PROGRAMS:** An honor program will be held at the end of the school year. All parents of students receiving awards or honors are invited to attend.

**HONOR ROLL:** The two categories for honor roll are as follows:

- Honor Roll of Excellence – Students must receive a grade of 93 or higher in each subject including Physical Education and Connections.
- Academic Honor Roll – Students must receive a grade of 85 or higher in each subject including Physical Education and Connections.

**IMMUNIZATIONS:** All students must maintain current records of Georgia State Law required immunizations in the school office.

**INFINITE CAMPUS PARENT PORTAL:** Infinite Campus is the student information system software used in the Colquitt County Schools and warehouses student information, electronic gradebooks, and parent portal access. All parents who wish to access student information and grades online must

complete an online registration form located on the school website under the link for “Parents”. You will need your child's student number, social security number, and date of birth to begin the process. You will receive an activation code and you will be redirected to a page to create your new account. In addition to viewing student grades and attendance, parents will be able to update student information such as addresses, phone numbers, emergency contacts, and email addresses. When updating your address, please provide a “Proof of Residence to your child’s school. For more information, contact the school.

**INTERNET POLICY:** According to Colquitt County’s policy # IFBG, students will:

1. Follow guidelines established in the Colquitt County School’s Internet policy.
2. Acquire permission to use the Internet and assistance from an adult.
3. Not give personal information on the Internet.
4. Be trained before using the Internet in the classroom.

**INSTRUCTION AND GRADING:** The goal of Willie Williams Middle School is to prepare students for a successful future. We will do all we can to prepare students for success academically, behaviorally, and from a maturity perspective to be successful not only at middle school, but also for their upcoming junior high and high school years. The expectation for students has increased with age and ability. Each student must leave our campus prepared for the challenges they will face at our junior high school, and also begin to develop skills that will be built upon to carry them through Colquitt County High School and then their future endeavors. These policies and procedures are designed to enhance the qualities needed to be a productive citizen in the 21st century society. Expectations are high for all of our students. We have a program designed for growth and achievement.

**LOST AND FOUND:** *Please label all coats, sweaters, gloves and bookbags with your child’s first and last name.* Items will be kept in lost and found for two weeks. Lost and found will be located in Student Services. After two weeks the items will be donated to Crossroads Mission.

**MAKE-UP WORK:** Students will be given **three (3) days** to make up work missed due to short-term unexcused absences.

**MOMENT OF SILENCE:** The 1994 Georgia General Assembly passed the following legislation: In each public school classroom, the teacher in charge shall, at the opening of school upon every school day, conduct a brief period of quiet reflection for not more than 60 seconds with the participation of all students therein assembled. Teachers and administrators shall not suggest or imply that students should or should not use the moment of silence for prayer, nor shall they deny to any student the right to use it for a moment of quiet prayer. Students and/or staff may not use the moment of silence to audibly pray, singly or in unison. Colquitt County schools will observe this legislation each morning after the pledge to the American flag.

**OFFICIAL SCHOOL START/END TIME:** This is the time designated by the principal and advertised to students and parents as the official start or end of the school day. Correct time will be the time as determined accurate by the school principal, indicated on a designated school clock, and displayed in a prominent location.

- |           |  |
|-----------|--|
| 7:30 a.m. | Students may enter the school (report to cafeteria or gym) |
| 7:55 a.m. | Students released from cafeteria and gym to first period   |
| 8:10 a.m. | Students arriving after 8:10 are marked tardy              |
| 8:15 a.m. | First period begins  |
| 3:30 a.m. | School dismissed   |

**PARENTS’ RIGHT TO KNOW** (as Required by The Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) Section 1111 6-A)

**Parents have the right to ask school administration about the following:**

- Whether the teacher met state qualifications and certification requirements for the grade level and subject he/she is teaching,
- Whether the teacher received an emergency or conditional certificate through which state qualifications were waived, and
- What undergraduate or graduate degrees the teacher holds, including graduate certificates and additional degrees, and major(s) or area(s) of concentration.
- Parents may also ask whether their child receives help from a paraprofessional. If their child receives this assistance, information about the paraprofessional's qualifications can be provided.

**PARTIES:** Parties may not be held during the school day without prior approval from the administration.

**PHYSICAL EDUCATION:** Physical education is a required class. Students will be excused from Physical Education only with a physician's statement.

**PROGRESS REPORTS/REPORT CARD DATES:**

9/14/20- 10/13/20

11/16/20- 1/7/21

2/10/21- 3/19/21

4/27/21- 5/26/21

**PROMOTION AND RETENTION:**

Board Policy: Minimal Promotion Requirements:

The Colquitt County Board of Education encourages academic excellence and endorses the concept of attaining specified grade level standards in order to be promoted to the next higher grade.

Grades 1-8:

- To be promoted from one grade to the next, students must meet three of five specified grade level standards
- To be promoted from one grade to the next, students must meet all state assessment requirements for promotion as specified in 160-3-1-07 Testing Programs – Student Assessment.

Three of five specified grade level standards are defined as:

Grade level = semester average grade of 70 or above (passing) **or** meets/exceeds expectations on the GMAS

Average grade = student performance on tests and assigned work

1. Grade level performance in math
2. Grade level performance in language arts/writing
3. Grade level performance in science *or* social studies

Minimum of 89% attendance (no more than 20 days absent – 160/180)

**PUBLIC DISPLAY OF AFFECTION:** Kissing, groping, etc. is not allowed at school. These actions may result in disciplinary action.

**RELEASING STUDENTS FROM SCHOOL:** Neither the principal nor any school staff member should release a child to anyone without the consent of the parent. In the case where a court or judge has awarded full custody of the child and parental rights to one parent, the child is not to be released to the other parent without the consent of the parent who has legal custody.

**SAFETY DRILLS:** Fire drills, severe weather drills, and other emergency drills will be conducted throughout the school year. An evacuation plan is posted in each room. All procedures will be explained to the students at the beginning of the school year. A copy of the school safety plan may be reviewed in the principal's office.

**SEARCHES:** Students and personal items (book bags, duffle bags, purses, etc.) are subject to be searched at any time by an administrator providing there is reasonable suspicion. The school, with superintendent's approval, may use search dogs on occasion to search classrooms, restrooms, and other facilities. Students will not come into direct contact with search dogs.

**STUDENT DEBTS:** All student debts must be cleared before any records/report cards may be released.

**STUDENT INFORMATION:** Information that may be used in school related publications includes the student's name and photo. Any parent desiring that information regarding his/her child not to be made public should give written notice to the principal within two weeks, 10 school days, of enrollment.

**STUDENT RECORDS:** A student's school records are private and are protected from unauthorized inspection or use. A cumulative record is maintained for each student from the time the student enters the system until the student withdraws. This record moves with the student from school to school.

**STUDENT RIGHTS: Student reporting of acts of sexual abuse or sexual misconduct by a school system employee:** Any student (or parent/friend of a student) who has been the victim of an act of sexual abuse or sexual misconduct by a teacher, administrator, or other school system employee is strongly encouraged to make an oral report of the act to any teacher, counselor, or administrator at his/her school. "O.C.G.A. 20-2-751.7"

**SCHOOL RESOURCES OFFICER (SRO):** The School Resource Officer will aid administration in various Code of Conduct offenses.

**TARDINESS:** To receive the maximum benefit from classroom and instructional participation, students must report to school on time each day. Students tardy for school are required to bring a written excuse the same morning. Excessive tardies may result in a referral to the Attendance Support Team.

**TELEPHONE:** School telephones are for business and emergency use only. Parents should make transportation plans for students prior to the school day. Calling the classroom to deliver messages disrupts vital instructional time. Students will not be interrupted from class to come to the phone.

**VISITS TO SCHOOL:** Parents are always welcome to visit our schools and are encouraged to do so during the school day. All visitors must report to the office to get a visitor's pass before visiting the classroom. Personal items that need to be delivered to a student should be brought to the office. If parents need specific information concerning their children, they should call the school and request a conference. By reserving a certain time, adequate attention and confidentiality can be preserved.

**VOLUNTEERS:** The Colquitt County School System welcomes volunteers in the classrooms. Individuals interested in registering to serve as a mentor should contact the Moultrie YMCA at 985-1154.

**WITHDRAWAL FROM SCHOOL:** Parents, legal guardians, or legal custodians should accompany students when withdrawing them from school. If this is not possible, written authorization should be secured from the parent, legal guardian, or legal custodian. The procedure for withdrawal is as follows:

1. Notify the school secretary that your child should be withdrawn on a certain date.
2. Return all school textbooks, library books, school property, and make sure all fees or fines are paid.
3. Records will be sent when requested by the new school the child is attending.

# Colquitt County School District

## Network/Internet and Publication Information

Technology resources including school network access and Internet access are used in Colquitt County Schools as part of instructional activities. Colquitt County Schools takes every measure to protect students while using these resources as required and outlined by the Children's Internet Protection Act [Pub. L. No. 106-554 and 47 USC 254(h)]. A technology protection measure is in place to protect students while using these resources by blocking or filtering inappropriate websites at all schools. Students will be permitted to use these resources and will be expected to adhere to the Colquitt County Schools' Internet Acceptable Use Policy (Board Policy Descriptor Code: IFBG). Parents and students may access this policy by visiting the Colquitt County Schools online board policy manual at <http://tinyurl.com/bmjxpzb> or from your school office. The Acceptable Use Policy outlines best practices for school computer/technology use with specific emphasis on the following restricted activities:

- Using obscene language
- Sending or displaying offensive messages or pictures
- Giving personal information, such as complete name, phone number, address or identifiable photo, without permission from teacher and parent or guardian
- Harassing, insulting or attacking others
- Damaging or modifying computers, computer systems, computer networks, or any school technology equipment
- Violating copyright laws
- Using others' passwords
- Trespassing in others' folder, work or files
- Intentionally wasting limited resources
- Employing the network for commercial purposes, financial gain, or any methods deemed unlawful or unethical.

Violations may result in a loss of access as well as other disciplinary or legal action (Board policy and procedures on student rights and responsibilities).

In addition, Colquitt County Schools is committed to maintaining system and school websites that highlight the achievements of the faculty, staff, and students of all Colquitt County Schools by displaying photographs, videos, audio files, and/or student creations with possible student full name recognition. Students may also be asked to create accounts for educational websites. Parents or legal guardians of minor students (under 18 years of age) who wish to decline permission for his or her student to participate in instructional activities using these resources or who wish to decline permission to publish student photographs or student creations may complete the "Decline Internet Usage/Publication Form." These forms may be obtained from the Colquitt County Schools Technology Department website at <http://colquitt.k12.ga.us/Departments/Technology> or from the main office of each school.

**The "Decline Network/Internet Publication or Use Form" must be submitted to the home school main office within 20 days of the beginning of school or the first day the student is enrolled.**

(Revised January 19, 2019)

## Bullying Awareness

In the Colquitt County School System, we take bullying behaviors very seriously. Parents, did you know that **bullying is against Georgia State Law**? Take a closer look at the bullying law – Code of Conduct Rule 5A - of this agenda book. Isolated or repeated mutual conflict between students is not generally considered as bullying. Bullying happens when one child exhibits power (i.e. social status, physical strength, popularity) over another child and does so with intent to harm repeatedly either physically or emotionally. Bullying can be a physical act such as hitting or kicking, or it can be emotionally hurtful behavior such as excluding a child on purpose or starting rumors. To classify any behavior as bullying, all three conditions must be in place—power over another student, purposeful intent to harm, and repeated behavior. At the discretion of the principal, consequences for a student who is bullying may range from a verbal reprimand to out of school suspension or even referral to a Board of Education disciplinary hearing.

In an effort to address bullying, the Colquitt County School System staff members would like to work together with all students and parents. We strive to provide a well-supervised and safe learning environment for all of our students, including preventing bullying and enforcing the rules if it does occur. By teaming together, we can create more effective communication between home and school to increase the well-being of our students. No one deserves to be bullied, and we will work together to prevent or stop bullying behavior.

### What Can Parents Do?

There are several things parents can do to help their children deal with being bullied. To help your child:

- Listen respectfully.
- Help your child understand the difference between reporting and tattling. Reporting is when a student informs an adult to get help for someone who is being hurt or who is sick or when property is being damaged. Tattling is when a student tells an adult in order to get another student in trouble.
- Avoid using statements such as, “You just need to toughen up!” or “That’s part of growing up. Learn to deal with it.”
- Notice if your child is telling you about problems with the same student or similar incidences over and over again.
- If you think your child is being bullied, contact your child’s teacher.

### A Pledge for Parents

I pledge to work together with my child’s school to address bullying. By signing below, I agree to take the following steps:

- Model respectful behaviors for my child
- Avoid using words or actions that hurt others
- Talk with my child regularly about how students treat others at school
- Set an example by valuing differences and promoting sensitivity to others
- Discuss with school staff members any concerns about bullying behavior

Parent Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

### A Pledge for Students

I pledge to work with others at my school to put an end to bullying. By signing below, I agree to take the following steps:

- Treat others respectfully
- Try to include others who are left out
- Refuse to bully others
- Refuse to watch, laugh or join in if someone is being bullied
- Tell an adult

Student Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## **BULLYING IS NOT ALLOWED!**

### **Board Policy JC DAG Summary:**

The Colquitt County Board of Education believes that all students can learn better in a safe school environment. Behavior that infringes on the safety of students will not be tolerated. Bullying, as the term is defined in Georgia law, of a student by another student is strictly prohibited. Such prohibition shall be included in the Student Code of Conduct for all schools within the school system.

Bullying is defined as follows: An act that is:

1. Any willful attempt or threat to inflict injury on another person, when accompanied by an apparent present ability to do so;
2. Any intentional display of force such as would give the victim reason to fear or expect immediate bodily harm; or
3. Any intentional written, verbal, or physical act, which a reasonable person would perceive as being intended to threaten, harass, or intimidate, that:
  - a. Causes another person substantial physical harm within the meaning of Code Section 16-5-23.1 or visible bodily harm as such term is defined in Code Section 16-5-23.1;
  - b. Has the effect of substantially interfering with a student's education;
  - c. Is so severe, persistent, or pervasive that it creates an intimidating or threatening educational environment; or
  - d. Has the effect of substantially disrupting the orderly operation of the school.

The term applies to acts which occur on school property, on school vehicles, at designated school bus stops, or at school related functions or activities or by use of data or software that is accessed through a computer, computer system, computer network, or other electronic technology of a local school system. The term also applies to acts of cyberbullying which occur through the use of electronic communication, whether or not electronic act originated on school property or with school equipment, if the electronic communication (1) is directed specifically at students or school personnel, (2) is maliciously intended for the purpose of threatening the safety of those specified or substantially disrupting the orderly operation of the school, and (3) creates a reasonable fear of harm to the students' or school personnel's person or property or has a high likelihood of succeeding in that purpose. Electronic communication includes, but is not limited to, any transfer of signs, signals, writings, images, sounds, data or intelligence of any nature transmitted in whole or in part by a wire, radio, electromagnetic, photo electronic or photo optical system.

**Examples of prohibited behaviors** include but are not limited to:

- Verbal assaults such as unwanted teasing or name-calling;
- Threats, taunts and intimidation through words and/or gestures;
- Direct physical contact such as hitting or shoving;
- Physical violence and/or attacks;
- Destruction of school or personal property;
- Any form of electronic bullying or cyber-bullying using school equipment, school networks, or e-mail systems or committed at school;
- Theft of money and/or personal possessions for the purpose of bullying, harassing, or intimidating;
- Harassment or intimidation motivated by any actual or perceived characteristic including race, color, ethnicity, religion, gender, gender identity, sexual orientation, ancestry, national origin, physical attributes, socioeconomic status, physical or mental ability or disability, or by any other distinguishing characteristic;
- Public humiliation;
- Social isolation;
- Extortion or manipulation, including incitement and/or coercion;
- Rumors or spreading of falsehoods;
- Stalking;

- Cyber-stalking or engaging in conduct to communicate, or to cause to be communicated, words, images, or language by or through the use of electronic mail or electronic communication, directed at or about a specific person, causing substantial emotional distress to the victim;
- Cyber-bullying or the willful, hostile and repeated harassment and intimidation of a person through the use of digital technologies, including, but not limited to, email, blogs, social networking websites (e.g., Facebook, etc.), chat rooms, texts, and instant messaging;
- The use of cameras or camera phones to take embarrassing photographs of students or school employees and distributing them to others or posting them online;
- Sending abusive or threatening text messages or instant messages; and
- Using websites to circulate gossip and rumors to other students.

**Physical Violence** --In accordance with Georgia Law, physical violence is defined as:

1. Intentionally making physical contact of an insulting or provoking nature with the person of another; or
2. Intentionally making physical contact which causes physical harm to another unless such physical contacts or physical harms were in defense of him or her, as provided in Code Section 16-3-21.

Students who witness bullying or who are victims of bullying behaviors should make a report to a teacher or school administrator so that an appropriate investigation can take place. At the option of the person reporting the incident, the report may be made either by name or anonymously and either verbally or in writing. Reports of bullying also may be made by using the District's complaint procedures or by calling the Georgia Department of Education's School Safety Hotline at 1-877 SAY-STOP (1-877-729-7867). Any employee to whom bullying is reported must promptly document the report and forward it to the principal or designee. Any employee who witnesses an incident of bullying or who otherwise learns that a student is being bullied must promptly submit a written report to the principal or designee. The principal or designee shall ensure that proper documentation is maintained throughout the investigation and resolution of the matter. If the reporting student or the parent or guardian of the student feels that the school is not taking appropriate steps to investigate or address the problem even after consulting the school principal, the student or the parent or guardian should contact the Superintendent or his or her designee. At an appropriate time during or after an investigation of the bullying report, the parent or guardian of both the accused and the victim must be notified. If, after an investigation, a student is found to be in violation of the Code of Conduct bullying policy, the student shall be disciplined by appropriate measures up to, and including, suspension and expulsion. Students in grades six through twelve found to have committed the offense of bullying for the third time in a school year shall at a minimum be assigned to an alternative school through appropriate due process by the disciplinary hearing officer. Retaliation following a report of bullying is strictly prohibited and may result in strong disciplinary action.



## **COLQUITT COUNTY CODE OF STUDENT CONDUCT AND DISCIPLINE DISCIPLINARY ACTION PLAN**

### **Plan A - Teacher Action**

- Teacher-student conference
- In-class disciplinary action
- PARENT/GUARDIAN contact by teacher
- Teachers will develop their own class discipline plan. The plan will be given to students at the beginning of the school year.

### **Plan B - Teacher Action**

- TEACHER-STUDENT-PARENT conference
- Time-out
- Corporal Punishment or in-class disciplinary action (follows rules of the school)
- Referral to administrator/counselor
- Possible referral to Student Support Team/Team meeting with student
- Conflict Resolution and Peer Mediation

### **Plan C - Administrator Action**

- TEACHER-STUDENT-PARENT-ADMINISTRATOR conference
- Suspension or other alternatives- (School Chores, Detention, Corporal Punishment, Saturday Detention, Student Contract, Suspension until parent conference, ISS for 1-5 days)
- Referral to Student Services- Counselor, Social Worker
- Restitution
- S.T.A.R.
- Peer Mediation

### **Plan D - Administrator Action**

- PARENT/GUARDIAN contract **AND** 5-10 days ISS or Home Suspension
- Possible recommendation for alternative program, (grades 6-12)
- Possible development of individual behavior management plan, or student contract (all grades)
- Referral to community intervention programs
- Restitution
- Recommendation for disciplinary hearing
- S.T.A.R.

### **Plan E - Administrator Action**

- PARENT/GUARDIAN-ADMINISTRATOR conference **AND** 10 days home suspension and recommendation for disciplinary hearing and referral to law enforcement.

### **Plan F - Hearing**

- Suspension Pending a hearing

<b>RULE</b>	<b>OFFENSE</b>	<b>PLANS</b>
<b>Rule 1</b>	<b>DISRUPTION AND INTERFERENCE WITH SCHOOL</b>	
	No student shall:	Plan A,B,C, or D
	a. Block any entrance, occupy any school building, prevent any school class or function from taking place, prevent any student, guest, or employee from using any normal pedestrian or vehicular traffic path or otherwise deprive others of free access to, or use of, any facility, program, or activity associated with the Colquitt County Schools.	
	b. Set fire to or in any school building or property. 1. Cause false fire alarm.	Plan E Plan D or E
	c. Possess, discharge, or otherwise threateningly use any explosives or fireworks. (1) on the school grounds at any time; (2) at any school activity function or event; (3) en route to and from school functions, activities, or events.	Plan D or E
	d. Continuously and intentionally make noise or act in any other manner so as to interfere seriously with the teacher's ability to conduct class.	Plan A,B,C or D
	e. In any other manner, by the use of violence, force, noise, coercion, threat, intimidation, fear, misrepresentation of the truth, passive resistance, or any other conduct, intentionally cause the disruption of any lawful mission, process, or function of the school, or engage in any such conduct for the purpose of causing the disruption or obstruction of any such lawful mission, process, or function.	Plan B,C or D
	f. Refuse to identify oneself or give false identity upon request of any teacher, principal, Superintendent, school bus driver, or other authorized school personnel.	Plan C
	g. Urge, encourage, or counsel other students to violate any of the preceding paragraphs of this rule.	Plan B,C or D
	h. Threaten, assault, or commit battery on a person either employed or not employed by the school system as a result of a pattern of criminal gang activity.	Plan E
	i. Commit act(s) of bullying against other student(s) that is so severe, persistent, or pervasive that it creates an intimidating or threatening educational environment or has the effect of substantially disrupting the orderly operation of the school.	Plan C, D, or E
<b>Rule 2</b>	<b>VANDALISM, TRESPASSING, DAMAGE OR DESTRUCTION OF PROPERTY</b>	
	A student shall not willfully and/or maliciously destroy, damage or deface public or private property, real or personal, without the consent of the owner or the person having control of it. In addition, no student shall enter or remain on a public school campus or School Board Facility without authorization or invitation and with no lawful purpose for entry.	Plan C,D or E
<b>Rule 3</b>	<b>DAMAGE, DESTRUCTION, THEFT, EXTORTION, BURGLARY, LARCENY/THEFT OR ROBBERY OF PRIVATE OR PUBLIC PROPERTY</b>	
	A student shall not cause or attempt to cause damage or destruction to property, shall not burglarize, shall not commit larceny/theft or robbery, either on school grounds or during a school activity, function or event off school grounds or while under school supervision. This also includes theft or attempted theft of a motor vehicle.	Plan C,D or E
<b>Rule 4</b>	<b>VERBAL AND/OR PHYSICAL ASSAULT AND/OR PHYSICAL VIOLENCE ON A PERSON EMPLOYED BY THE SCHOOL</b>	
	a. A student shall not threaten to cause physical injury or behave in such a way as could reasonably cause physical injury to a school employee on the school grounds or while the school employee is engaged in the performance of his/her official duties at a school related function. This includes touching, striking, pushing, or threatening bodily or psychological harm to any school employee.	Plan E
	b. A student shall not commit any act of physical violence against a teacher, school bus driver, or other school official or employee while the school employee is engaged in the performance of his/her official duties at a school related function.	Plan E
<b>Rule 5</b>	<b>VERBAL AND/OR PHYSICAL ASSAULT AND/OR BATTERY AND/OR BULLYING ON A PERSON NOT EMPLOYED BY THE SCHOOL</b>	
	a. No student shall threaten, intimidate, harass or bully another with or without physical contact on or off school grounds or at school related function or by use of data or software that is accessed through a computer, computer system or computer network or through other electronic technology of a local school system.	Plan B,C, D or E

	b. Fight: Physical abuse or injury to any person on school grounds during, immediately before, or immediately after school hours; at any other time when the school is being used for a school function; en route to and from school.	Plan C,D or E
<b>Rule 6</b>	<b>POSSESSION OF A WEAPON ON SCHOOL PROPERTY OR AT SCHOOL FUNCTIONS</b> (policy JCDAB)	
	A student shall not carry, possess, or have under control any weapon on school property, at a school function, on a bus or any other transportation furnished by the school. The term "weapon" means and includes any pistol, revolver, gun, or any object assumed to be a gun, or any weapon designed or intended to propel a missile of any kind, or any dirk, bowie knife, switchblade knife, ballistic knife or other knife, straightedge razor, spring stick, metal knucks, blackjack, any bat, club, or other bludgeon-type weapon or flailing instrument consisting of two or more rigid parts connected in such a way to allow them to swing freely, which may be known as a nun chuck, fighting chain, throwing star, oriental dart, or any article which is designed for other purposes, but which easily could be used to inflict injury (for example, a pencil, comb, or compass) if used in an aggressive or belligerent manner. Baseball bats, hockey sticks, or other sports equipment possessed by competitors for legitimate athletic purposes shall not apply.	Plan E
<b>Rule 7</b>	<b>NARCOTICS, ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES, AND STIMULANT DRUGS, OR ANY OTHER CONTROLLED SUBSTANCE</b>	
	a. *A student shall not possess, sell, use, transmit, or be under the influence of any narcotic drug, hallucinogenic drug, amphetamine, barbiturate, marijuana, any drugs requiring a prescription controlled by the Georgia State Board of Pharmacy (unless lawfully prescribed for use by such student), while on the school grounds or during a school activity, function, or event off school grounds or while under school supervision.	Plan D or E
	b. *A student shall not possess, sell, use, transmit, or be under the influence of any alcoholic beverage or intoxicant of any kind while on the school grounds or during a school activity, function, or event off school grounds while under school supervision.	Plan D or E
	c. *A student shall deposit in the principal's office (or other location determined by the principal) all lawfully prescribed drugs when he/she arrives at school. A student shall not sell or transmit any medication (prescription or non-prescription )to another student while on school grounds or during a school activity, function, or event off school grounds or while under school supervision. A student shall not possess or use non-prescription drugs at school without the permission of the school nurse or administration.	Plan C, D, or E
	d. Possession and/or use of drug paraphernalia in any form is prohibited on campus, on school buses, and at school activities and functions.	Plan D or E
	* A student shall not possess, sell, or transmit any substance represented to be one of the prohibited substances in Rule 7a, 7b, or 7c while on school grounds or during a school activity, function, or event off school grounds or while under school supervision.	
<b>Rule 8</b>	<b>DISREGARD OF DIRECTIONS OR COMMANDS</b>	
	A student shall not fail to comply with reasonable directions or commands of teachers, teacher aides, principals, school bus drivers, or other authorized personnel when on the school grounds or during a school activity, function, or event off school grounds or while under school supervision.	Plan A,B or C
<b>Rule 9</b>	<b>ATTENDANCE</b>	
	a. Truancy: Skipping all day.	Plan C or D
	b. Skipping class or required in-school activity: Any student who is more than 25 minutes late to class without a note is considered to be skipping. Also applies to Saturday Detention.	Plan C or D
	c. Leaving campus without permission.	Plan C or D
	d. Skipping/misbehaving in detention or Saturday Detention	Plan C or D
	e. Tardiness: Students who are late up to 10 minutes for class are tardy. Attendance: (in grades 9-12) Tardy 3 times equals 1 absence.	Plan A
	f. Tardy repeatedly shows a failure to follow class rules, and a referral to a school administrator will be made.	Plan C

<b>Rule 10</b>	<b>DRESS AND GROOMING</b>	
	A student shall not dress, groom, or wear or use emblems, insignias, badges or other symbols where the effect thereof is to distract unreasonably the attention of other students or otherwise to cause disruption or interference with the operation of the school. Apparel which advertises illegal and/or controlled substances is considered distracting. The principal or other duly authorized school official shall determine whether any particular mode of dress, apparel, grooming, or use of emblems, insignias, badges, or other symbols results in such interference or distraction as to violate this rule, and shall give notice of such interference or disruption, and its cause, to all students by announcement or posting at the school. Obscene pictures or symbols or laws, profane, or suggestive language shall not appear on clothing. Hats, headbands, hair rollers, and visors are not considered appropriate attire inside the building.	Plan B or C
<b>Rule 11</b>	<b>PARKING AND TRAFFIC VIOLATION ON CAMPUS</b>	
	Abuse of school parking regulations or operation of a motor vehicle in such a way as to cause damage to public or private property located on school grounds or in such a way as to endanger life or limb of persons utilizing school facilities, driveways, or parking areas. Student parking by permit only.	Restriction of parking privilege. Possible referral to Police Dept.
<b>Rule 12</b>	<b>USE OF PROFANE, VULGAR, OR OBSCENE WORDS, OR OTHER ACTIONS WHICH DISRUPT SCHOOL SYSTEM OPERATIONS</b>	
	a. Directed toward a staff member, bus driver, or any other school or school-related employee.	Plan C or D
	b. Directed toward a student.	Plan A,B or C
	c. In general conversation.	Plan B,C or D plus restriction
<b>Rule 13</b>	<b>GAMBLING ON SCHOOL PROPERTY OR AT A SCHOOL FUNCTION</b>	
	Gambling on school property or at a school function.	Plan B,C, or D Confiscation of proceeds and paraphernalia
<b>Rule 14</b>	<b>MISBEHAVIOR ON BUS</b>	
	Conduct on Bus: Refer to Policy JCDAD/EDCB. The age of the child and the severity of the offense will be taken into consideration in the administration of disciplinary action.	School Bus Behavior Contract or Administrative Conference
<b>Rule 15</b>	<b>CRIMINAL LAW VIOLATIONS</b>	
	A student who could be or is formally charged with violation of the criminal law off campus and whose presence on the school campus may endanger the safety of other students and/or cause substantial disruption to school operations.	Plan D - will be implemented according to administrative discretion
<b>Rule 16</b>	<b>SEXUAL HARASSMENT/ MISCONDUCT</b>	
	a. Sexual harassment may include: teasing, jokes, remarks, or questions, pressures for dates, denial of benefits, or opportunities for advancement or achievement if a sexual advance is rejected; leering; touching; pinching; commenting about someone's body, writing suggestive notes, drawing offensive pictures, making obscene gestures, or possession of offensive literature on school property, during school functions, or under school supervision.	Plan D
	b. Sexual misconduct may include: molesting another student, indecent exposure, rape, or any other overt heterosexual or homosexual act on school property, during school functions, or under school supervision.	Plan D or E
<b>Rule 17</b>	<b>RUDE OR DISRESPECTFUL BEHAVIOR</b>	

	No student shall curse, talk back, "sass", or intentionally argue in a demanding or disruptive manner with any teacher, administrator, student, or other school personnel.	Plan B,C, or D
<b>Rule 18 USE OR POSSESSION OF TOBACCO</b>		
	Possession and/or use of tobacco in any form is prohibited on campus, on school buses, and at school activities and functions. This includes lighters, matches, and any tobacco paraphernalia.	Plan D
<b>Rule 19 CHEATING</b>		
<b>Rule 20 DISTURBANCE DEVICES</b>		
	a. Includes, but is not limited to: radios, cassette players.	Plan B or C
	b. Use of beepers, mobile phones during school hours	Plan B or C (confiscation/ return to parents)
<b>Rule 21 RACIAL HARASSMENT</b>		
	No student shall harass another student or students or any employee through racially disparaging conduct or communications. Racial harassment may include:	Plan A,B,C or D
	1. Oral or written statements having demeaning implications made or sent to an individual.	
	2. Gestures or conduct rooted in racial prejudice or racial factors or considerations that signal contempt toward others of any race.	
<b>Rule 22 CUMULATIVE OFFENSES</b>		
	Students who have repeatedly violated the rules of the Student Code of Conduct and Discipline over a period of time will be considered Cumulative Offenders.	At any point in the discipline process, a school committee will meet to review the behaviors and make recommendations for appropriate disciplinary action. (Legal Ref: .C.G.A.20-2-764, 1999)
<b>Rule 23 VIOLATIONS OF STRICT PROBATION</b>		
	A student shall not fail to comply with strict probation imposed by a Hearing Officer or the Board of Education.	Plan C, D, or E
<b>Rule 24 TECHNOLOGY FRAUD, ABUSE, OR MISUSE</b>		
	Willful or intentional unauthorized access to alter, damage, destroy, or attempt to destroy any computer, computer system, computer network software, program or data. The transmission of any material by e-mail or file transfer that violates state or federal regulations is prohibited.	Plan C,D, or E

#### **SUPPORT MATERIALS FOR COLQUITT COUNTY CODE OF STUDENT CONDUCT**

- Policy JBD: Attendance Policy
- Policy JCAB: Students Interrogations and Searches
- Policy JCDAAB/C: Student Tobacco, Alcohol/Drug Abuse
- Policy JCDAG: Bullying
- Policy JCDAD/EDCB: Bus Conduct
- Policy JCDB: Student Dress Code
- Policy JCE: Complaints and Grievances

## EQUITY COMPLIANCE

Federal Law prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color, or national origin (Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964); (Title IX of the Educational Amendments of 1972 and the Carl D. Perkins Vocational and Applied Technology Act of 1990); or disability (Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990) in educational programs or activities receiving federal financial assistance. Employees, students and the general public are hereby notified that the Colquitt County Board of Education does not discriminate in any educational programs or activities or in employment policies. The Colquitt County Board of Education recognizes the model rights and procedural safeguards of the Georgia Department of Education regarding parent rights under Section 504.

The following individuals have been designated as the employees responsible for coordinating the Board's efforts to implement this nondiscriminatory policy:

Perkins Act	Tim Hobbs, Director of Vocational Education
Title VI	James Harrell, Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources
Title IX Gender Equity	Dr. Irma Townsend, Assistant Superintendent of Student Services
Section 504	Dr. Irma Townsend, Assistant Superintendent of Student Services
ADA	Amanda Horne, Director of Program for Exceptional Children

Inquiries concerning the application of the Perkins Act, Title VI, Title IX, Section 504 or ADA to the policies and practices of the Board may be addressed to the persons listed above at the following address:

Colquitt County Board of Education  
PO Box 2708  
Moultrie, GA., 31776;

Concerns may also be addressed at the following locations:

Regional Office for Civil Rights  
Atlanta, GA., 30323

Director, Office of Civil Rights  
Education Department  
Washington DC, 20201.

## Competitive Interscholastic Activities, Grades 6-8

### Policy      Descriptor Code: IDE(2)

#### **NO PASS/ NO PARTICIPATE**

#### **I. PURPOSE**

The Board of Education supports the offering of competitive interscholastic activities subject to reasonable rules and regulations that prevent any participation from interfering with the academic achievement of students.

#### **II. DEFINITIONS**

- a. Competitive Interscholastic Activities - function held under the auspices or sponsorship of a school that involves its students in competition between individuals or groups representing two or more schools.
- b. School Day - the period of time between the time students are required to report and the time of dismissal as specified by the Board of Education policy.\

#### **III. REQUIREMENTS**

The Board of Education is responsible for regulating competitive interscholastic activities in grades 6-8, and therefore adopts the following requirements as to student eligibility, physical examinations, time restrictions, seasonal practice, special provisions and appeals.

The Superintendent is directed to ensure that each school principal properly regulates competitive activities in his or her school and that all staff members adhere to the requirements set forth in this policy.

#### **A. Student Eligibility**

1. The grading period shall be a semester as specified by Board of Education policy. The same period shall also be the minimum length of the ineligibility period.
2. Students participating in competitive interscholastic activities shall fail no more than two subjects carrying credit toward grade promotion in the grading period immediately preceding participation.
  - a. Students initially enrolling in the first quarter or semester of the sixth grade are exempt from this requirement.
  - b. Exploratory subjects taken during the same quarter or semester are averaged to count as one subject for eligibility.
3. Students participating in any competitive interscholastic activity shall be enrolled full time in the system's public schools and shall take a minimum of five subjects carrying credit toward grade promotion during the preceding semester.
4. Student eligibility shall be determined on the first school day of a semester. A student is eligible to practice/condition for first semester activities if the student fails no more than two subjects carrying credit toward grade promotion during the preceding semester.
  - a. A maximum of two subjects taken in summer school and carrying credit toward grade promotion may be counted for eligibility purposes or participation in first semester activities. If a student receives an incomplete for a subject that will be used to establish eligibility, he/she may complete make-up work that will change the incomplete to a grade provided this opportunity is available to all students.
  - b. To participate in first semester competitive activities, the student shall complete all make-up work within 14 calendar days from the end of the previous second semester.
  - c. To participate during the second semester the student shall complete all make-up work within 14 calendar days from the first day of the respective semester.
  - d. A student is ineligible until make-up work is completed and the required passing grade(s) is/are recorded in the student's permanent record.
5. Independent study courses credit taken in summer school may not be used to gain eligibility.

6. Summer school credits earned in nonaccredited home study programs or nonaccredited private schools may not be used to gain eligibility. For summer school credits to be accepted for eligibility purposes from either private schools or home study programs, the credits must have been earned in programs approved by the accrediting agency recognized by the State Board of Education in accordance with Rule 160-5-1-.15 Acceptance of Transfer Credit and/or grades.

7. Effective August 2010, once a student is enrolled in the seventh grade, he/she shall have four semesters of athletic eligibility for interscholastic athletic competition in grades seven and eight.

#### **B. Physical Examinations**

All students in grades 6-8 who participate in competitive interscholastic athletics and cheerleading shall have an annual physical examination prior to participation in any tryout, practice or conditioning, whichever comes first.

The physical examination form shall indicate approval for participation and be signed by a doctor of medicine or a doctor of osteopathy. The physical examination form shall include the date that the exam was performed (month, day, and year), the student's name and the physician's signature.

#### **C. Time Restriction for Activities**

1. Competitive interscholastic activities and all individual and group practice for such activities shall be conducted outside the school day.

2. Competitive interscholastic activities and group and individual practice on a day preceding a school day may not begin prior to the end of the school day and must end by no later than four hours after the close of the home team's school day.

3. Every reasonable effort shall be made to ensure that only one day or night each week preceding a school day may be used to schedule a competitive interscholastic activity; tournaments are excluded from this restriction.

4. The number of games scheduled shall not exceed 60 percent of the number of regularly scheduled games played by the high school varsity in any given sport. One tournament, not to exceed four games, may be played in addition to the regular season games.

#### **D. Seasonal Practice**

Spring football practice shall be scheduled so that it does not interfere with other regular season sports, academics, or examinations.

1. If individual players are participating in scheduled league or association playoffs for one sport, these players shall be excused from spring football practice for the duration of the playoffs.

2. Neither school personnel, sponsors nor coaches shall suggest, require, or otherwise attempt to influence students to participate in, practice and/or condition for a competitive interscholastic activity during the school day.

#### **E. Special Provision**

1. Special education students shall meet the same eligibility requirements as regular students, except that the courses passed must be according to the student's IEP. Special Olympics or other athletic programs designed exclusively for students with disabilities are exempt.

2. Students who have not attained ninth grade status but are participating in high school competitive interscholastic activities shall abide by the appropriate grades 6-8 requirements. The principal of grades 6-8 shall be responsible for the compliance of this requirement.

3. Ineligible students are prohibited from dressing out for competitive interscholastic events.

4. The provisions of this rule do not apply to participation in vocational clubs, academic bowls, geography bees, spelling bees, science fairs, math bowls, or specific subject area fairs.

5. The Board of Education authorizes the high school(s) to join leagues or appropriate associations for the purpose of formulating and enforcing uniform rules of eligibility and play. Nothing in this policy shall be deemed to authorize the use of state or local tax dollars for membership in these organizations.



**F. Retention of students for athletic purposes is prohibited**

**Reference Board Policy IHE Promotion and Retention.**

**IV. WAIVERS/VARIANCES**

A. Requests for waiver or variance of provisions in this Rule may be made by a student, or a student's parent or guardian, by school or school system personnel, or by the Board of Education.

B. Such requests shall include the following information.

1. The requirement from which a variance or waiver is requested.
2. The type of action requested.
3. The specific facts of substantial hardship which would justify a variance or waiver for the petitioner, including the alternative standards which the person seeking the variance or waiver agrees to meet and a showing that such alternative standards will afford adequate protection for the public health, safety, and welfare.
4. The reason why the variance or waiver requested would serve the purpose of the rule on competitive activities.
5. The activity involved.
6. Evidence that supports the request, including statements of students and/or parents, school personnel, and doctors (if medical condition is involved); student grade reports; official student transcripts; and any other pertinent information.

**Willie J. Williams Middle School**  
**School-Parent Compact for Achievement**  
**2020-2021**

**What is a School-Parent Compact?**

A School-Parent Compact for Achievement is an agreement that parents, students, and teachers develop together. It explains how parents and teachers will work together to make sure all our students reach grade-level standards.

Effective compacts:

- Link to goals of the school improvement plan
- Focus on student learning
- Describe how teachers will help students develop those skills using high-quality instruction
- Share specific strategies parents can use at home
- Explain how teachers and parents will communicate about student progress
- Describe opportunities for parents to volunteer, observe, and participate in the classroom

**Jointly Developed**

The parents, students, and staff of Willie J. Williams Middle School partnered together to develop this school-parent compact for achievement. Teachers suggested home learning strategies, parents added Input about the types of support they needed, and students told us what would help them learn. Parents are encouraged to attend annual revision meetings held each spring to review the compact and make suggestions based on student needs and school Improvement goals. Parents are also encouraged to participate in the annual Title I parent survey that is also used as a tool to collect parent feedback regarding the current Title I programs and policies.

To understand how working together can benefit your child. It is first important to understand the district's and school's goals for student academic achievement.

**Colquitt County School System Goals:**

- By the end of the 2020-2021 school year, the % of students achieving Proficient and Distinguished Learner levels on the GMAS EOC/EOG tests will increase 3%.
- By the end of the 2020-2021 school year, the CCSS will decrease the achievement gap in proficiency between the lowest performing subgroups and highest as measured by GMAS by 3%.

**Willie J. Williams Middle School Goals:**

- By the end of the 2020-2021 school year, increase student achievement in all academic areas, specifically improving the Student Growth Percentile Level by 3%.
- By the end of the 2020-2021 school year, increase the reading abilities and cognitive skills of our students, which prepares them for junior high and eventually graduation by 3%.

**Our school will focus on the following areas:**

**SAMPLE:**

6th Grade Focus: Use concepts of ratio and rate to solve problems

7th Grade Focus: Use proportional relationships to solve multistep ratio problems

To help your child meet the district and school goals, the school, you, and your child will work together to:

### **SCHOOL/TEACHER RESPONSIBILITIES:**

In the classroom, Teachers will work with students and their families to support students' success in reading and math with a focus on comprehension and fluency in Reading and conceptual understanding and fluency in Math.

- Share benchmark data with parents and tips to improve scores through the year.
- Facilitate Literacy Nights/Days for parents which will teach strategies and activities to parents to support student learning at home
- Send home newsletters or other forms of communication about upcoming reading, math, and writing instruction.
- Provide parents with cross content vocabulary words to review at home with students.
- Recommend to parents educational websites that students can use for additional vocabulary and math practice at home

### **Families**

At home, parents will:

- Encourage students to read 15 minutes daily at home and practice their math skills by accessing iready online.
- Attend literacy workshops to learn strategies to implement at home with their child
- Access reading, math and writing resources provided by the school on the newsletter or other form of communication.
- Assist students in reviewing vocabulary learned in class each evening.
- Utilize recommended educational websites for vocabulary and math practice.

### **Students**

As a student, I will:

- Use their student account to log in and practice their math skills online
- Utilize the literacy strategies at home with my parents
- Review the reading, math and writing resources provided by the school on the newsletter or other form of communication.
- Review vocabulary from core content classes each evening.
- Utilize the websites recommended for vocabulary and math practice

### **Communication about Student Learning**

Willie J. Williams Middle School is committed to frequent two-way communication with families about children's learning. Some of the ways you can expect us to reach you are:

- Parent Portal
- Teacher websites or other web-based communication resource
- Parent-Teacher conferences
- Emails to parents on student's progress
- Text messaging
- Phone calls
- Remind

Do you have questions about your child's progress? Contact your child's teacher by phone at (229)890-6183. Email addresses are the teacher firstname.last name@colquitt.k12.ga.us

**Activities to Build Partnerships:**

Willie J. Williams Middle School offers ongoing events and programs to build partnerships with families.

- Parent-Teacher Conferences
- Parent Workshops
- Curriculum Nights
- Parent Resource Center
- Volunteering / Observing
- Open House

**Please sign and date the form below to acknowledge that you have read, received, and agree to this School-Parent Compact. Once signed, please return the form to your child's teacher. We look forward to our school-parent partnership!**

**Willie J. Williams Middle School**  
**Mr. Jim Horne, Principal**  
950 4<sup>th</sup> Street SW  
Moultrie, GA 31768

**School-Parent Compact**  
***School Year 2020-2021***

Please sign and date below to acknowledge that you have read, received, and agree to this School-Parent Compact. Once signed, ***please return the form to your child's teacher*** and keep the School-Parent Compact as a reminder of your commitment. The School-Parent Compact will be discussed with you throughout the year at different school-family events for all grades and at parent-teacher conferences for elementary school students as we work together to help your child succeed in school. We look forward to our school-parent partnership!

\_\_\_\_\_  
School Representative Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent/Guardian Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Homeroom/Advisory Teacher

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Grade