

# **South Panola School District**

## **Student Handbook**

### **(Grades Pre-k-3)**

**Providing Opportunities for Educational Excellence**



## **Pope School**

### **2017-2018**



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**Pope School**  
**South Panola School District**  
**Parent/Student Handbook**  
**Kindergarten - 3**  
**2017-2018**

*Administration*

**Mr. Tim Wilder, Superintendent**  
**Mr. Chad Spence, Assistant Superintendent**

*Principal*

**Jay Cossey**

*Assistant Principal*

**Tina Moore**

*School Board Members*

<b>Sandra Darby, President</b>	<b>Jerry Cooley, Vice President</b>
<b>Dr. Leigh Taylor Unruh, Secretary</b>	<b>Lygunnah Bean, Member</b>
<b>Kenny Hopper, Member</b>	

**1110 Main Street**  
**Pope, Mississippi 38658**  
**Phone: (662) 563-3732**  
**Fax: (662) 563-0895**  
**Website: [www.spsd.k12.ms.us](http://www.spsd.k12.ms.us)**



# Pope School

**South Panola School District**

**1110 Main Street \* P.O. Box 59 \* Pope, MS 38658**

**Phone (662) 563-3732/Fax (662) 563-0895**

**Web Site: [www.southpanola.k12.ms.us](http://www.southpanola.k12.ms.us)-**

**Jay Cossey, Principal**

**Tina Moore, Assistant Principal**

Dear Pope Family,

As we enter this new school year together, I am excited to be a part of the Pope Family. Our students, staff, and parents are all integral parts required to help our students achieve to their fullest potential. Our goal is to INVEST in the Pope Family in order to see this achievement. To INVEST is much more than merely teaching and supervising our students, these elements reach far beyond.

**I- Innovative**  
**N- Needs Aware**  
**V- Values Driven**  
**E- Every one Engaged, Every day in Excellence**  
**S- Significance over success**  
**T- Time**

In seeking to INVEST in one another, Pope and its staff will continue to utilize the Mississippi College and Career Readiness Standards. These standards align with the high expectations that have been firmly rooted in the tradition of excellence at Pope for years. Our students and teachers are well prepared for this challenge.

Lastly, I look forward to serving our students, staff, parents, and community as the principal. This opportunity comes with great responsibility to ensure the needs are known and being met. I will continue a tradition of having an “Open Door” to you, as our partnership in this investment is vital. Please feel free to let me know of ways we can serve you and our students more effectively.

As we say here at Pope, “Love like family, work like a team”.

Proud to be a Pope Bulldog,

Jay Cossey  
Principal

## FOREWORD

The administrative procedures contained within this handbook are designed to help and guide you through the year.

Please retain this handbook and place all future bulletins in it for your reference.

## EDUCATIONAL PHILOSOPHY/MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the South Panola School District and Pope School is to provide opportunities for educational excellence for all students.

We believe that the purpose of education is to provide all students with the basic skills, habits, values and attitudes necessary to exercise their civic responsibilities more effectively in our democratic society; to increase their economic potential in industry, the professions, or other vocational endeavors; and to improve the quality of life available to them.

We strive to provide a variety of teaching methods, so each child might develop a healthy self-concept and be prepared to meet the challenges that lie ahead.

To accomplish the above, the district sets forth these objectives:

1. To provide a safe, orderly environment conducive to teaching and learning.
2. To recognize and serve individual intellectual differences.
3. To guide each child in developing skills and attitudes conducive to self-fulfillment and social responsibility.
4. To cultivate moral and ethical values by teaching courtesy, cooperation, fairness, honesty and good citizenship.
5. To promote the democratic way of life and its responsibilities in the home, school and community.
6. To emphasize the importance of physical development through personal health, hygiene and self-discipline.

## DISTRICT GOALS

- I. Provide high quality curriculum and instruction to improve student achievement
  - By meeting the AYP requirements of No Child Left Behind (NCLB) in all sub groups at all schools in the district.
  - By achieving a level of successful or higher in the Mississippi School Accountability Model at all schools in the district.
- II. Increase the graduation rate to 90% or greater.
- III. Increase the yearly average attendance to 97% or greater.

### **Pre-Kindergarten Philosophy and Goals**

The Pre-kindergarten program as outlined in this document is built on scientifically-based child development principles. These principles shall be embodied in the curriculum design and general learning environment. The instructional delivery is to be organized around learning centers and responsive interactions with adults where opportunities are provided for children to acquire skills and concepts involving problem-solving, decision-making, questioning, evaluating, and discovering.

#### **The realistic goals for pre-kindergarten education are as follows:**

- To help the child develop a positive self-concept;
- To help the child achieve intellectual growth;
- To help the child enlarge his/her world of people, experiences, ideas and things;
- To help the child increase competencies and skills in oral language, literacy, writing, listening, and thinking;
- To help the child increase the skills involved in physical coordination, both gross and fine motor skills;
- To help the child increase competence in dealing with emotional feelings and social situations;
- To help the child increase competence in self-direction and independence;
- To help the child develop cooperative, trusting relationships;
- To help the child develop his/her natural curiosity and his/her creative potential;
- To help the child develop self-discipline; and
- To help the child develop a love of learning.

### **Pre-Kindergarten Organizational Procedures**

- The teacher-child ratio should be 1:10 maximum. If an assistant teacher is assigned to the four year old classroom, the teacher-child ratio shall not exceed 2:20.
- The school day programs located in public schools should be a minimum of several hours.
- The school term for programs located in public schools should be the same as that for the other grades of the school unless the four year old program is part of the school's extended year. If the program is located in a center not affiliated with a public school, the length of the school term should conform to center policy.
- Children may engage in 60 to 90 minutes of quiet/rest time daily. Activities during quiet/rest time should include opportunities for individual activities (e.g. *listening to books on tape, listening to music, and drawing*) in addition to resting as appropriate for each individual child.
- Children will engage in a minimum of 60 minutes of indoor/outdoor physical activities during the day for seven-hour or eight-hour programs.

### **Kindergarten Philosophy and Goals**

The kindergarten program shall reflect an understanding of child development principles. These principles shall be embodied in the curriculum design and general learning environment. The instructional delivery is to be organized around learning centers where opportunities are provided for children to acquire skills and concepts that include problem-solving, decision-making, questioning, evaluating, and discovering.

#### **The realistic goals for kindergarten education are as follows:**

- Develop a positive self-concept.
- Achieve intellectual growth.
- Enlarge student's world of people, experiences, ideas, and things.
- Increase competence and skills in reading, writing, listening, thinking, and speaking

- Increase the skills involved in physical coordination.
- Increase competence in dealing with emotional feelings and social situations.
- Increase competence in self-direction and independence.
- Develop cooperative trusting relationships.
- Develop natural curiosity and creative potential.

#### **Kindergarten Organizational Procedures and Staff**

- Required Ratio: The teacher-pupil ratio shall be 1:22 maximum. If a full-time assistant teacher is assigned to the kindergarten classroom, the teacher-pupil ratio shall not exceed 1:27.
- Required Length of School Day and Term: The length of the school day and school term shall be the same as that of the other grades of the elementary school.
- Required Physical Activity Time: Students shall participate in physical activity for a minimum of 30 minutes during the school day, in accordance with MS Code 37-13-134.

#### **Pre-Kindergarten and Kindergarten Policy**

##### **Section I. Requirements for Enrollment of Children in Public Schools**

###### **A. Entrance Age:**

Required Age: A kindergarten pupil shall have reached the age of five years on or before September 1. A Pre-Kindergarten pupil shall have reached the age of four years on or before September 1.

Required Documentation: A birth certificate, social security card, and immunization record are required for all pre-kindergarten and kindergarten students and shall be presented to the proper school authority.

#### ***Providing Opportunities for Educational Excellence***

Batesville Elementary School  
110 College Street

Phone: 662-563-4596

Batesville Intermediate School  
200 College Street

Phone: 662-563-7834

Pope School K-3  
1110 Main Street  
Pope, MS

Phone: 662-563-3732

The school day for students begins at 7:50 a.m. and ends at 3:10 p.m. Students should arrive no earlier than **7:15 a.m.** or no later than 7:50 a.m. Neither rooms nor school buildings will be open before 7:15 a.m., thus proper supervision will not be available. Students will not be permitted to loiter near buildings, cars or streets after arriving on campus before or after school.

Walkers will be dismissed at 3:03 p.m. each day.

Students who ride buses will be dismissed at:

3:05: K-2

3:07: 3-5

3:10: 6-8

## **STUDENT DROP-OFF/PICK UP**

- In order to reduce distractions to our students, we ask parents or other persons dropping off or picking up students please do so outside the buildings and not proceed into the hallways or classrooms. **Please remain in your car if you are waiting in the traffic line. It is also very important that you AVOID picking up your children before the dismissal bell. Often their homework assignment is given at the end of the day and by having to leave early they miss this crucial information. Remember, student checkouts are not allowed after 2:45 unless an emergency. Students will need to go to the car rider line. The office will instruct him/her to do so. If the student is already on the bus, a student will not be taken off.**

There will be NO PARKING IN FRONT OF THE SCHOOL BETWEEN 7:15 a.m. and 2:45 p.m. to allow for emergency vehicles.

- Dropping off students on the street or in designated no parking/standing zones is NOT permitted.
- Students may NOT be dropped off at school earlier than 7:15 a.m. or dropped off by the office before 7:50.

Students may not be picked up by the office after dismissal has started except for students who walk to and from school. These students must walk and not be picked up by the office in a vehicle.

- **Please refrain from using cellular devices in the car rider line in order to provide a safe environment during dismissal.**

## **Traffic Pattern for Student Pickup/Drop-off**

1. Parents may not, under any circumstances, park and get out of their vehicle to wait for their children at dismissal. An adult staff member will direct your child to your vehicle during dismissal.
2. Students may be given a car rider sign to place in your window or a walker card to present when picking up your child.
3. Please observe safe speeds while on campus (5 mph).
4. Pull up behind the last car in line.
5. Stay in one lane. NEVER CROSS OVER LANES OR GET OUT OF LINE. NEVER CALL STUDENTS TO YOUR CAR.

## **Day Care**

If you wish for your child to ride a day-care van, please come by the office and complete the appropriate form.

## **STUDENT CHECKOUT INFORMATION**

A Checkout card will be sent home at the beginning of the year and should be returned promptly to the school. This card will be provided for parents to designate any other person(s) who may checkout his/her child. If a person's name is listed on the emergency form, please be sure that the person has a valid telephone number and transportation to pick up your child. If the courts have given one parent custody of the child and the other biological parent has no custodial rights, a copy of the court order denying them the right to the child must be sent to school. The name of a doctor, who practices in Batesville, must be provided and permissions granted for your child to be taken to the doctor in case of an emergency.

Please do not ask to check your child out during the day or call them to the office unless there is an emergency or serious reason. Research shows **that each time a class is interrupted, eight minutes of instructional time is lost.** Checking your child out early is detrimental to the learning process for all of our students. **PLEASE COOPERATE** with us by not checking your

child out early or disrupting the class during the day. Students can't be checked out after 2:45 unless it is an emergency situation.

Only individuals on the student's check out list are allowed to check out the student. Photo identification is required. Keys are to be left with the office staff.

## **STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES**

- **Participate fully in the learning process.** Students must be at school and class on time with needed supplies. Students must pay attention to instruction, complete assignments to the best of their abilities, and ask for help when needed.
- **Avoid behaviors that impair the educational achievement of themselves or others.** Students must follow school rules, maintain school property, and cooperate with others.
- **Show respect for the knowledge and authority of teachers, administrators, and other school employees.** Students must obey reasonable directions, use acceptable and courteous language and behavior, and follow school rules and procedures.
- **Recognize and respect the rights of other students.** All students should show concern for and encourage the educational achievements of others.

## **PARENT/GUARDIAN RESPONSIBILITIES**

The residential parent is considered the primary parent contact by the school.

- Read both the student handbook and the Code of Conduct with your child.
- Have children at school on time and prepared for a full day.
- Provide a time and place for homework.
- Report to the front office with proper identification when coming on campus.
- Follow traffic flow patterns when driving on campus.
- Pick-up and drop-off students in the car rider line only.
- Join the Booster Club.
- Be a volunteer.
- Accept major responsibility for the proper conduct of your child at school and take appropriate action.
- Work together with the school to assist in your child's success here at South Panola Schools.

**All statements in this publication are announcements of present policies only and are subject to change at any time by proper authority without prior notice.**

## **ATTENDANCE**

### **STUDENTS MUST COME TO SCHOOL EVERY DAY!**

While we know that there are times that our students are absent, every opportunity must be taken to come to school every day. If our students are not in our classrooms, they cannot benefit and learn from our teachers. Regular and punctual attendance of all classes is required in compliance with Mississippi law and district policy. South Panola Schools recognizes excused absences in the following categories:

1. Doctor's excuse
2. Court proceedings



3. Death of family member (must have published obituary)
4. The discretion of the principal
5. Head lice will be excused for one (1) day with a maximum of three (3) days per school year.
6. Parent note (only four [4] parent notes will be accepted per school year)

**\*\* Absences not included in the excuses listed above shall be unexcused.**

The written excuse must be turned in to the office within three (3) days. Absences are recorded on the report card and on permanent records. Students who skip school or skip classes are subject to disciplinary action. **Absences while on bus suspension will be unexcused.**

**All excuses must include the following:**

1. Date the excuse was written
2. The first and last name of the person writing the excuse along with their address and phone number
3. First and Last name of student
4. Date on which the student is requesting to be excused
5. The reason why the student was absent

### **Attendance Law**

The School Attendance Law requires that the school report to the School Attendance Officer all unexcused absences. The Compulsory Attendance Officer will contact the parent by telephone, letter or home visit after five (5) unexcused absences to encourage attendance and to help with the problem of nonattendance.

Parents found in non-compliance with the law, which allows for no more than twelve (12) unexcused absences for the year, are subject to having a petition filed with the appropriate court for child educational neglect and subject to a fine of up to \$1,000 or up to one year in jail or both and/or the student may fail for the year. A child over ten (10) years of age can be declared a delinquent if he/she refuses to attend school.

If there are any questions contact Mrs. Amy Brassell, Compulsory Attendance Officer at 662-563-6029.

### **Consequences for excessive absences, tardies, and/or early sign-out**

Attendance is part of the criteria for promotion; a student with excessive absences may be in jeopardy of being retained for nonattendance.

- A child is considered “*excessively absent*” if the student has five (5) days or more unexcused absences.
- A child is considered “*habitually truant*” if the student has twelve (12) or more unexcused absences in a 90-day calendar period and will be reported to the attendance officer.

### **Tardy/Early Sign-Out**

- When students arrive tardy to school (**7:51 A.M. or later**), they must sign in at the main office **with a parent.**
- Once students arrive on school grounds, they are under school supervision. No student will leave school grounds without a parent/guardian checking them out in the main office.

- When parents pick up students at any time during the school day, they must sign the child out in the main office, and proper identification may be required.
- Signing out a student early will count as a “tardy”. When possible, medical and dental appointments should be made outside of school hours.
- Tardies will be excused for the same reasons as absences, with the same required documentation. All other reasons (i.e. car problems, lost keys, overslept, ran out of gas, etc.) will be unexcused.
- Please reference Section 11 of the Student Conduct Code for more information about school attendance.

Students may not be checked out after 2:45 except for emergency situations.

### **TARDY POLICY**

Students should be in the classroom in an orderly fashion when the bell rings.

1 <sup>st</sup> & 2 <sup>nd</sup> tardy	Verbal warning
3 <sup>rd</sup> tardy	Phone Call/Conference with Administration
5th tardy	Official Letter from School
6th & Following Tardy	Face to Face Conference with Administration

Tardies are cumulative. Tardies will be reset to zero at the end of each semester.

### **SCHOOL MAKE-UP WORK POLICY**

• Make-up work should be requested by the student on the day he/she returns to school. The student will have the same number of days to complete the make-up work as the number of excused absences.

e.g. – If a student has three (3) excused days then he/she has three (3) days to complete missed assignments. If the absences are unexcused, the student will have one (1) day to complete missed assignments.

### **VIDEO/PICTURE/NEWSPAPER/INTERNET**

Throughout the school year, activities with pictures are published in the local newspaper. Videos are sometimes made of activities and events. Students and teachers sometimes surf the net to explore and research. Students are supervised while on the net, and we make every effort to make sure no student is exposed to anything that is in bad taste. If your child can participate in these activities, please sign and return **the Acceptable Computer, Network Resources and Internet Use Policy found in the back of the handbook.**

### **SCHOOL INSURANCE**

Parents are encouraged to purchase the school accident insurance coverage for their children. This policy has rate for school-time and 24-hour coverage.

## **SCHOOL PROPERTY**

No unauthorized use of school property after school hours such as skateboarding, rollerblading, bike riding, using playground equipment, etc. is allowed.

## **CHECKS**

Checks should be made payable to Pope School. Individual checks must be made for each child in school. Checks will no longer be accepted after a check has been returned for insufficient funds. Future payments must then be made in cash.

## **TECHNOLOGICAL DISASTER**

Should it become necessary to evacuate the school, the following procedure will be used. Teachers will check roll being sure all students are present. Teachers will walk students out of the building down Mimosa Street. Students will walk on both street right-of-ways, staying out of the street until they reach Pope Baptist Church. Teachers will immediately take roll. Teachers will keep records of students released to parents or other authorized persons.

## **DELAYED SCHOOL OPENING PROCEDURES**

- **1 Hour Delay**

Buses run their normal routes, beginning one hour later than usual. Parents should anticipate that their children will board the bus an hour later than they normally do. This may vary given the weather conditions and logistical issues.

Each building will be prepared to receive students who are dropped off by parents beginning at 7:30 even though buses will not arrive until nearly 9:00.

- **2 Hour Delay**

Buses run their normal routes, beginning two hours later than usual. Parents should anticipate that their children will board the bus 2 hours later than they normally do. This may vary given the weather conditions and other logistical issues.

Each building will be prepared to receive students who are dropped off by parents beginning at 7:30 even though buses will not arrive until nearly 10:00.

## **RESIDENCY POLICY**

Proofs of residence must be presented to your child's school in order to finalize the registration process. Proofs must be in the parent/guardian's name. Residency must be filed yearly and with each child inside the South Panola School District

Parent(s) or legal guardian(s) of students enrolled or seeking to enroll must provide this district with at least two of the items (a) through (k) below as verification of their address, except that a document with a post office box as an address will not be accepted.

- a. Filed Homestead Exemption Application Form
- b. Mortgage Documents or property deed

- c. Apartment or home lease
- d. Utility Bills
- e. Voter Precinct Identification Card
- f. Automobile registration
- g. Affidavit of Residency
- h. Driver's License
- i. Cellphone Bill or Telephone Bill
- j. Any other documentation that will objectively and unequivocally establish that the parent or guardian resides within the school district
- k. Certified copy of filed petition for guardianship if pending and final decree when granted

In addition to the residency proofs, Parents/Legal Guardians of students entering South Panola Schools for the first time will have to provide:

- a. Student's final report card and a transcript of courses completed if the student is in high school
- b. Certified Birth Certificate
- c. Record of Immunizations transferred to a Mississippi 121 Form (Can be obtained from the Health Department)
- d. Students from schools or programs (including correspondence, tutorial, or home study) that are not accredited by a state or regional agency must undergo standardized achievement tests and/or teacher-made special tests to determine; (1) the grade level to which the elementary transfer student should be assigned or (2) the number and validity of the Carnegie units the secondary transfer student has earned.

**Please Note: If any of the requested proofs of residency are not available for any reason, a separate affidavit must be completed, notarized, and presented to the school. The affidavit must be accompanied by separate alternative proofs deemed acceptable. Failure to complete these requirements prior to the date assigned by the administration of the district will result in your child not being issued a schedule or assigned a teacher.**

## **THE SCHOOL WILL NOT ACCEPT INCOMPLETE PACKETS OF PROOFS**

### **Enrollment Requirements**

Terminology: Parent – Biological or adoptive parent

Guardian – Legal guardian as documented through court proceeding

Custodian – Appointed by a court or governmental agency

A biological or adoptive parent may enroll a child with two (2) proofs of residency for the SPSD. If a custody agreement exists from a divorce, only the custodial parent may enroll the student. In the case of parenthood with no marriage or custody agreement in which both parents are listed on the birth certificate, each has parental rights to enroll a child.

A legal guardian of a child is only recognized when a court order exists naming the guardian for the minor child. Notarized personal statements are not legal guardian documents.

A person may register a child if he/she has been appointed the custodian of a child by a court or governmental agency. Custodial arrangements will be considered involving parent(s) who are deployed for military service.

The overlying goal is to make sure that there is a responsible adult with authority concerning the welfare of children in the South Panola School District.

Any questions regarding residency situations should be forwarded to the Department of Personnel and Pupil Services at the district office.

### **WITHDRAWING A STUDENT**

If parents decide that their child will withdraw from South Panola Schools, the following things should be done:

- Student must return all books
- Student must clear any debts
- Notify the guidance office of the withdrawal and the new school's name and location
- Parents may pick up copies of medical documentation, etc., with a 24-hour prior notice

**A withdrawal from the South Panola School District must be completed before enrolling in another school district. Please note that transcripts can be held until all books and fines are returned and paid. This includes cafeteria fines.**

### **BUS TRANSPORTATION**

*School bus riders shall conduct themselves in a respectful manner at all times. The safety and security of our students is of utmost importance to South Panola Schools; therefore, video cameras (with audio) are utilized to ensure the safety of this environment. Because school bus passengers' behavior can directly affect their safety and the safety of others, the following regulations apply at all times when students are riding a school bus, including school activity trips.*

1. Bus riders are expected to be respectful, responsible, and peaceful at all times.
2. The bus driver is responsible for safety of his/her passengers.
3. The student shall be at the designated loading point nearest his/her home before the school bus arrives. Students will be notified of the approximate pick-up time.
4. Eating and drinking are prohibited on the bus.
5. Respectful communications among and between riders shall be observed at all times.
6. Riders shall remain silent when the bus is approaching and crossing railroad tracks.
7. Students must wait for the bus on the shoulder of the road or in the space designated as the pickup area.
8. Any student who must cross the roadway to board or depart from the bus shall pass in front of the bus (no closer than 10 feet), look in both directions, and proceed to cross the highway only upon signal from the driver.
9. All students shall be received and discharged through the right front entrance door of the school bus. The EMERGENCY door will be used for EMERGENCY SITUATIONS ONLY.

10. A student will depart from the bus at the designated point nearest his/her home.
11. The bus driver can assign each student to a seat.
12. Riders shall remain in a normal, seated position while the bus is in motion. Books and other belongings shall be kept out of the aisles.
13. Students must properly identify themselves when asked to do so.
14. Permission to open windows must be obtained from the driver. All articles and objects shall remain within the bus until the student departs.
15. Waste containers are provided on all buses and are to be used.
16. Quiet talk and subdued laughter at all times will help prevent the diversion of the driver's attention, thereby averting the possibility of a serious accident.
17. A student who damages seats or other equipment on the school bus will be expected to pay the cost for the repairs or replacement.
18. Gang-related actions that take place while students are riding the bus will be reported to the building administration and will be dealt with appropriately.
19. Any personal items left on the bus are not the responsibility of the district.
20. Students must travel to and from school on the bus to which they are assigned. In order to ride an alternate bus, or go to an alternate location, student must have a signed note with approval from the principal or his/her designee.

### **Authority of the Driver**

Pupils transported in a school bus or in a school pupil activity bus shall be under the authority of and responsible directly to the driver of the bus, and the driver shall be held responsible for the orderly conduct of the pupils while they are on the bus or being escorted across a street, highway, or road. Continued disorderly conduct or persistent refusal to submit to the authority of the driver shall be sufficient reason for a pupil to be denied transportation. A bus driver shall not require any pupil to leave the bus en-route between home and school or other destinations. Rules shall include, but not be limited to, specific administration procedures relating to suspension of riding privileges and shall be made available to parents, pupils, teachers, and other interested parties.

### **Written Bus Referrals**

#### **Minor Infractions:**

- 1: Obey driver; show proper courtesy and respect
- 2: Keep hands, arms, and objects inside the bus at all times
- 3: Keep hands, arms, and objects to yourself; do not touch others
- 4: Remain seated while the bus is in motion
- 5: Keep voice levels low

#### **Disciplinary Actions for Minor Infractions:**

- 1<sup>st</sup> offense: Administrator warning; call parent
- 2<sup>nd</sup> offense: Administrator warning; bus suspension until parent contact/conference
- 3<sup>rd</sup> offense: Parent contact and one (1) day bus suspension
- 4<sup>th</sup> offense: Parent contact and two (2) days bus suspension
- 5<sup>th</sup> and subsequent offenses: Parent contact and three (3) days bus suspension

#### **Major Infractions:**

- 1: Do not throw objects

- 2: Fighting/Play fighting/tussling
- 3: Use or possession of weapons
- 4: Smoking or use of tobacco
- 5: Use or possession of drugs/alcohol
- 6: Vulgar/obscene/profane language
- 7: Harassment/bullying
- 8: Vandalism/destruction of property

#### Disciplinary Actions for Major Infractions:

- \*1<sup>st</sup> offense: Parent contact and three (3) days bus suspension
- \*2<sup>nd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> offenses: Parent contact and five (5) days bus suspension
- \*6<sup>th</sup> and subsequent offenses: Parent contact and ten (10) days bus suspension; may result in loss of bus privileges for the remainder of the school year

**\*Any major infractions may result in a disciplinary hearing.\***

**\*\*Fighting on the bus will result in OSS\*\***

### **CAFETERIA POLICIES**

- Students are asked to pay for meals in advance. Students are asked to pay before school in the cafeteria. It is encouraged that students pay for their meals a week or a month at a time.
- At any time parents may complete a new lunch form. Call the main office or the cafeteria for a form, and it will be sent home the next day.
- **Parents are responsible for all charges that occur before a student's status is changed to free or reduced.**
- Students are able to carry over their lunch status from last year for thirty (30) days into the new school year. It is important that the new lunch form be completed as quickly as possible.
- It is expected that students will utilize good manners.
- Students will not be allowed to share food for health reasons.
- Breakfast and lunch must be eaten in the cafeteria, whether it is purchased at school or brought from home. All food and drinks bought in the cafeteria must be consumed there before leaving the cafeteria.
- It is important that students bring their lunch cards and/or memorize their student number. They will use this number to get their lunch and breakfast daily.
- Bringing food from outside of the cafeteria is discouraged. If it is brought to school, it should be placed in a plain container. No local commercial restaurant meals are allowed.

### **MEAL PRICES**

Breakfast = \$1.35

Reduced Breakfast = \$.30

Lunch = \$2.35

Reduced Lunch = \$0.40

Extra Milk = \$0.50

### **CLASSROOM, BUILDING, AND CAMPUS CONDUCT**

It is the parent's responsibility to send his/her child to school prepared to learn and act respectfully. Parents must accept the major responsibility for the proper conduct of their child at school and take appropriate action for any misbehavior. It is the student's responsibility to know and follow school rules. Successful students will come to class prepared, actively participate, and exhibit good behavior. Those who cannot abide by the simple rules of good behavior should expect to receive appropriate disciplinary action. It is the school's responsibility to provide a safe environment with

a sound curriculum. The teachers and/or school administrators determine consequences of inappropriate behaviors.

### **STUDENTS MUST BEHAVE!**

1. Students are expected to obey the rules of the classroom as set forth by the teacher.
2. Students are expected to be respectful of adults and to those who are in authority.
3. Students are expected to assume an individual responsibility for their behavior, conduct, and classroom performance.
4. Students are not permitted to fight or engage in scuffles or horseplay while on campus.
5. Students are expected to refrain from making loud and excessive noise whenever on campus.
6. Students (for safety reasons) are expected to walk at all times while moving throughout the building.

South Panola Schools' students know how to behave properly at school. It is important to show courtesy and respect to classmates and adults at all times. Everyone at a South Panola school is expected to show pride in him/herself, fellow students, teachers, and school buildings and grounds. Appropriate conduct will be enforced at school and at all school-sponsored activities. Disrupting the educational process, extreme noise, running, pushing, shoving, fighting, threatening to harm, or infringing on the rights of others by inappropriate language or actions are not acceptable behaviors at a South Panola school.

Students are to tell an adult if there is a problem before doing something that may make the situation worse. Teachers, guidance counselors, the Assistant Principal, or the Principal can all help if students have a problem with someone.

Cell phones, radios, compact disc players, electronic games or devices, tape players, tapes, cameras, toys, laser pointers, trading cards, and cigarette lighters are not allowed at school and will be confiscated by staff members. The school is not responsible for lost or stolen items that are prohibited from school. Aside from money needed for lunches or school supplies, do not bring cash to school. The school is not responsible for lost or stolen items. Students may not buy, sell, or trade any items at school or on the bus.

### **Electronic Devices Policy**

Includes but is not limited to cellphones, MP3 players, iPods, etc.

- *1<sup>st</sup> Offense* – Verbal warning and parent can pick up device
- *2<sup>nd</sup> offense* – Corporal punishment or one (1) day ISD and parent/guardian must pick up device
- *3<sup>rd</sup> and subsequent offense* – Three (3) days ISD and a parent/guardian conference and parent must pick up device

Students who refuse to give up electronic devices will be in ISD for three (3) days.

\*\*Devices must be picked up between 3:30 and 4:00 by parents and/or guardians.

\*\*\*Devices are not to be used unless approved by administration.



## **OFFICE REFERRALS (See Appendix D)**

When a student's behavior dictates the need for an office referral, the administration will refer to the following procedures. Be aware that where appropriate and/or allowable per district and state policies, alternative consequences or other behavior modification methods may/and can be applied.

## **In-School Detention (ISD)**

Students may be assigned to in-school detention for a period of time depending on the situation. This is a very structured and supervised program. Parents will be notified if a student is placed in ISD. All class work completed and turned in on time while a student is assigned to in school detention will receive full credit. Lunch will be delivered to students in ISD. Students who check-out of school when assigned ISD will make up the time not done. This includes missing days.

## **Conditional Suspension/Required Parent Conference (RPC)**

When necessary, students will be suspended from school until parents come in for a conference to discuss the student's misconduct.

## **Suspension (OSS)**

A student may be suspended from school by the Assistant Principal or Principal for up to ten (10) consecutive days for conduct violations, and the Superintendent and the student's parents will be notified of the suspension. A conference may be requested. Suspension out of school is an unexcused absence. While suspended out of school a student may receive classwork at the sole discretion of the principal.

## **Expulsion**

Upon the recommendation of the school and the superintendent, a student may be expelled by resolution of the Board for any serious breach of conduct including, but not limited to, willful disobedience, open defiance of authority, violence against persons or property, or any other act which substantially disrupts the orderly conduct of the school.

## **Corporal Punishment (CP)**

The South Panola School District policy allows corporal punishment under certain conditions. Contact your school for an opt-out form for you to sign if you choose not to have your child paddled.

## **Alternative Placement**

- Any student who is placed in an alternative educational environment for disciplinary reasons will not be allowed to attend any South Panola School District extra-curricular function.
- Any student that ends the school year in the Alternative School will not be allowed to participate or attend graduation ceremonies.
- Prior to consideration of returning the student to his/her home school, the alternative school administrative staff, along with the home school's administrative staff, shall evaluate the student's behavior, attendance, and academic progress.
- All assigned work must be satisfactorily completed and returned to the student's home school. If the evaluation is not satisfactory, the student shall remain in alternative school until more favorable progress is made

## **SOUTH PANOLA STUDENT CONDUCT CODE**

This policy is adopted for the purpose of setting disciplinary guidelines for conduct of students of the South Panola School District and administrative punishment for the violation of conduct requirements stated.

### **Section 1: WEAPONS**

No student will enter the educational property of South Panola School District or will attend any function sponsored by the said school district that has on his/her person or in his/her possession any item which could reasonably be expected to be used to inflict harm on others. Prohibited items include but are not limited to knives of any kind, guns, rifles, pistols, blackjacks, slapjacks, razors, explosive devices (including firecrackers), and all other items which are not normally used in connection with school work and school activities which might reasonably be expected to be used to inflict harm on others.

- Toy guns of any kind are prohibited. Students found with toy guns will be disciplined as appropriate by the administration.

Any student found to be in violation of this Section of the Student Code may be expelled for not more than twelve (12) calendar months and will be subject to disposition according to the Mississippi Code – Section 37-11-18 and 97-37-17.

### **Section 2: FIGHTING OR PROVOKING A FIGHT**

No student will fight or will provoke a fight. Any student found to be in violation of this Section of the Student Code will be suspended for not less than three (3) school days and may be expelled for up to twelve (12) calendar months. Appropriate authorities may be notified in accordance with state laws. This applies to all SPSD grounds, property, and events. Videoing a fight may be treated as provoking a fight.

### **Section 3: STEALING**

No student will steal property of another or public property. Any student found to be in violation of this Section of the Student Code will be placed in ISD for three (3) days/possible suspension for not less than three (3) school days and may be expelled for up to twelve (12) calendar months. Authorities may be notified in appropriate instances.

### **Section 4A: ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES**

No student will possess, consume, or in any way use any alcoholic beverage. No student will attend any school function or enter on school property while under the influence of any alcoholic beverage. Any student found to be in violation of this Section of the Student Code may be expelled for up to twelve (12) calendar months and local, state, and federal alcohol and drug control agents will be notified.

### **Section 4B: UNLAWFUL DRUGS**

No student will possess or in any way use an unlawful drug. No student will attend any school function or enter school property while under the influence of any unlawful drug. Any student found in violation of this Section of the Student Code may be expelled for up to twelve (12) calendar months and local, state, and federal alcohol and drug control agents will be notified. Any

material possessed, consumed, or in any way used that is represented as drugs or suspected to be drugs will be treated in the same way as stated above.

### **Section 5: TOBACCO**

No student will use or have in his or her possession tobacco in any form, including electronic cigarettes. Any student found to be in violation of this Section of the Student Code will serve ISD for one (1) day up to three (3) days.

### **Section 6: VULGARITY, PROFANITY AND OBSCENITY**

No student will speak or write words that are vulgar, profane, or obscene; no student will act in a vulgar, profane, or obscene manner, and no student will use vulgar or obscene signs, or possess materials that are vulgar. Any student found to be in violation of the Section of the Student Code may be placed in ISD for not less than three (3) school days/possible suspension and may be expelled for up to twelve (12) calendar months.

### **Section 7: WILLFUL DEFACING OR DESTRUCTION OF PROPERTY**

No student will willfully destroy, cut, deface, damage, or injure any property belonging to another person or to the school district. Any student found to be in violation of this Section of the Student Code will be placed in ISD for not less than three (3) school days/possible suspension and may be expelled for up to twelve (12) calendar months. In the event said property is school property, the parents or guardian shall be liable for all damages. Mississippi Code – Section 37-11-19

### **Section 8: BREAKING AND ENTERING SCHOOL PROPERTY**

No student will break and enter any school property. Any student found to be in violation of this Section of the Student Code may be expelled for up to twelve (12) calendar months and appropriate authorities will be notified.

### **Section 9: DISRUPTION OF THE NORMAL OPERATION OF THE SCHOOL**

No student will by his/her conduct disrupt the normal operation of the school or any activity of the school. No student will incite others to disrupt the normal operation of the school; furthermore, any indicated gang activity is considered disruptive. Any student found to be in violation of this Section of the Student Code will be placed in ISD for no less than (3) school days/possible suspension and may be expelled for up to twelve (12) calendar months.

### **Section 10: GAMBLING**

No student will conduct or participate in any gambling game or device. Any student found to be in violation of this Section of the Student Code will be placed in ISD for not less than one (1) school day/possible suspension and may be expelled for up to twelve (12) calendar months.

### **Section 11: SCHOOL ATTENDANCE**

On behalf of the South Panola School District, I want to inform you of the effects that House Bill 1530 could possibly have on your child's attendance. House Bill 1530 is an act to amend section 37-13-91, Mississippi code of 1972, to provide that a compulsory-school-age child who is absent

more than thirty-seven (37%) of the instructional day must be considered absent the entire day. Therefore, for the purpose of determining and reporting attendance, pupils must be present for **at least sixty-three percent (63%) of their individual instructional day** to be considered present the entire school day. The instructional day for each school and/or student will be fixed by the school district. For further information, please refer to MS Code 37-13-91 and School Board Policy JBD.

### **Section 12: CLASS ABSENCE WITHOUT PERMISSION**

No student will leave a school activity without permission. Any student found to be in violation of this section of the Student Conduct Code may be placed in ISD for one (1) to five (5) days.

### **Section 13: STUDENT OPERATED VEHICLES**

Not Applicable to Elementary Students

### **Section 14: FALSE INFORMATION**

No student will give to any school official false information concerning any school related matter. Any student found to be in violation of this Section of the Student Code will be placed in ISD for one (1) to three (3) school days/possible suspension and may be expelled for up to twelve (12) calendar months.

### **Section 15: STUDENT DRESS**

**Refer to the Dress Code Section for acceptable clothing options.**

### **Section 16: REPETITIVE VIOLATIONS**

Any student who is found to be guilty of two (2) or more violations to this code, said violations not arising out of the same incidence, may receive additional punishment for repetitive violations. Each violation in excess of one (1) may be punished by three (3) school days' suspension in addition to that set forth by the section violated. A student found to be a chronic violator of the provisions of this Code may be expelled for the remainder of the academic year. Any student found guilty of more than three (3) non-related violations of the Student Code may be expelled for the remainder of the academic year.

### **Section 17: EFFECT OF SUSPENSION**

Suspension or expulsions imposed under the provisions of this Code will be considered an unexcused absence. Credit for makeup work may be considered.

### **Section 18: JURISDICTION**

Students will be subject to the provisions of this Code at all times they are on school property or are in any way participating in school-related activities sponsored by the South Panola School District or any other public school in the State of Mississippi.

### **Section 19: ENFORCEMENT**

The duly elected and serving principals and their designated representatives are delegated and charged with the enforcement of the provisions of this Code.

## **Section 20: FAIR HEARING**

Any student who is accused of a violation of this Code will be disciplined subject to this Code and will be fully informed of the rights afforded the student by the law and by the policies of the South Panola School District.

Students who chronically violate school or district policy, are deemed to be disruptive to the learning process, and/or are deemed to be dangerous to others, may be deprived of the opportunity to attend school. However, before students' rights to a free and appropriate education may be denied, the State of Mississippi requires that the student's case be heard by a fair and impartial hearing authority. Administrators designated by the Superintendent act along with the Hearing Officer as South Panola Schools' impartial Hearing Authority. The Student Discipline Committee attempts to ensure that students' rights to attend school have not been violated related to suspensions or expulsions.

For more information regarding applicable laws and regulations, refer to the Mississippi Code Annotated, the South Panola Schools Board Policy Manual and the Student Conduct Code found in the student handbook.

*Any student who is removed from school for disciplinary reasons for eleven (11) days or more is considered to be an expelled student. All expulsions may be appealed.*

### **Expulsion and Appeals Procedures**

1. The Parents/Guardians of the expelled student are informed about the appeals process by an administrator from the expelling school.
2. Parents/legal guardians and students complete a Notice of Appeal Form and submit it to the Hearing Officer at the District Office within five (5) days of the date of the suspension. A hearing before the DHC shall be scheduled no later than the tenth school day following the date of the written notice of the principal's recommendation. A hearing is held in which the Student Discipline Committee makes a decision to uphold, modify, or overturn the expulsion.
3. Parents/ legal guardians who disagree with the discipline committee's decision have the right to ask for a review of that decision by the Superintendent.
4. Parents/ legal guardians who disagree with the Superintendent's opinion have the right to ask for an appeal before the Board of Trustees. A written notice must be filed within five (5) days with the Superintendent to request a Board Hearing. The decision of the Board will be given to parents/legal guardians within seventy-two (72) hours by the Superintendent.

### **Suspensions**

Parents/legal guardians also have the option of appealing school suspensions that require the student to miss between five (5) and ten (10) school days. Those wishing to appeal must contact the Hearing Officer for a review. There is no further appeal after the decision of the Student Discipline Committee. There is NO appeal of an ISD assignment (though parents/legal guardians may request a review by the school principal).

## **Section 21: SEXUAL HARASSMENT/HARASSMENT**

Students in the South Panola School District are protected from sexual discrimination, including sexual harassment, under Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 to the Civil Rights Act. Student complaints in regard to sexual harassment shall be handled in compliance with district policy JB and JB-P.

No student shall harass or threaten any other student, teacher, or staff member either verbally, physically, electronically, in written form, with hand gestures, or any other means. Any student found to be in violation of this Section of the Code may be suspended for not less than one (1) day and may be expelled for up to twelve (12) calendar months. Appropriate authorities shall be notified in accordance with the same law.

## **Section 22: INSUBORDINATION**

No student shall refuse to comply to rules or instructions or shall they be rude or disrespectful to staff or fellow students. Any student found to be in violation of this Section of the Student Code will be placed in ISD for one (1) to five (5) days.

## **CHAIN OF COMMAND FOR PARENTS**

Parents who have a concern about their student should follow the chain of command:

***Teacher>Counselor>School Administrator>District Administration or  
Coach>Athletic Director>School Administrator>District Administration***

The complaint should be expressed within five (5) days of the incident. If the parent is not satisfied, then he/she should take his concern to the next level. If the complaint cannot be solved, then the parent should put it in writing to the Superintendent.

## **LOST OR STOLEN ITEMS**

The school is not responsible for lost or stolen items that are prohibited from school. Aside from money needed for lunches or school supplies, students should not bring cash to school. The school is not responsible for lost or stolen items. Students may not sell or trade any items at school or on the bus.

## **THINGS TO LEAVE AT HOME**

1. Knives or any other weapons as described in School Board Policy. Violation may result in expulsion.
2. Tobacco products (including electronic cigarettes, cigarette lighters)
3. Dolls and toys (including computerized toys, trading cards, games)
4. Pets or any live animal
5. Large amounts of money
6. Sports equipment is provided for activities planned by the school. For safety and accounting reasons, it is recommended that students not bring their personal equipment.
7. CDs, DVDs, computer games, cameras, radios, I-Pods, MP3 players, or cell phones
8. Excessive amounts of jewelry or clothing accessories that distract students' attention
9. Candy and gum

## **DRESS CODE**

The board believes that proper etiquette, social customs, and good grooming are a definite part of the educational process. It is expected that students wear to school or school functions neat and clean appropriate clothing that meets the standards of this educational environment. It is not the intention of these guidelines to usurp the authority of parents by determining what is appropriate attire and grooming for their children in accordance with the age and grade of students. The school will work with parents in encouraging our young people to assume this responsibility and to execute it sensibly as they mature. The purpose of the home and school working together should be to help students accept and cooperate with the guidelines. In view of this statement, the following **acceptable** clothing will be in effect in all elementary and intermediate schools:

- Undergarments must be covered at all times
- Appropriately groomed hair
- Garments with appropriate and acceptable graphics
- Tops should be appropriate and cover the midriff
- Clothing should be appropriately sized and worn appropriately as determined by the administration.
- Shorts and skirts of an appropriate length (mid-thigh area)
- Appropriate shoes must be worn (NO Heelies)
- Garments must be secured at the waist
- All males' shirt tails that extend below the bottom of the zipper must be tucked in.
- Head gear only by permission of school administration
- Jeans/pants with rips, holes, or frays above the knee are not permitted.
- Leggings/Jeggings, and tights may only be worn with a shirt or blouse that comes to the mid-thigh area.
- Earrings should only be worn in the ear.

Regulations in reference to grooming and dress for special activities such as athletics and physical education will be governed by the immediate person in charge of these activities under the direction of the principal. The individual schools will assume responsibility for ruling on specific items of clothing and general appearance for reasons of safety and health, or for the order, well-being, and general welfare of students. **Styles and fads are forever changing; therefore the principal or his/her designee shall reserve the right to alter this code at any time throughout the year.** The Board authorizes school administrators to employ appropriate disciplinary procedures to carry out and enforce this policy.

These are minimum standards that will be enforced at each school. Schools have the right to set higher standards based on administrative procedures. Certain events require special dress. Teachers will recommend appropriate clothing for field trips, special events or campus dances. The administration may set other dress standards as the need arises.

## **FIELD TRIPS**

Throughout the school year field trips may be offered on a first come, first serve basis. Please make sure that you submit all of your child's paperwork and any fees in a timely manner to

ensure his/her attendance. Please contact your child's teacher if there are any extenuating circumstances.

### **FIRE DRILLS/ OTHER SAFETY DRILLS**

- Fire drill instructions will be posted in each room for direction to fire exit routes. When the fire alarm is heard, everyone must leave the building. Follow the teacher's instructions immediately. Walk in single file and do not run. There must not be any talking. All persons will remain outside, a safe distance from the building, until the bell sounds for returning to the building.
- There are particular instructions for other drills that occur during the school year. Those drills are Tornado, Earthquake, and Lock-down procedures. Students must follow instructions during drills.

### **GUIDANCE/COUNSELING SERVICES**

Through a comprehensive developmental school counseling program, the school counselor uses a team approach with the school staff, parents, students, and community to help all children achieve success within their academic, personal/social, and career development. Referrals to the school counselor can be made by students, parents, and staff members. Services available through school counselors include:

1. Classroom guidance lessons on a variety of academic, social, and career topics.
2. Individual, solution-focused, grief counseling service
3. Small group counseling services
4. Coordination and explanation of state testing
5. Assistance with family guidance, resources, and support for behavior and academic concerns
6. School-wide programs and activities to enhance school climate
7. Conference with families and teachers to assist in meeting student needs
8. Crisis intervention services
9. Coordination of the academic and behavior intervention process

### **HEALTH CONCERNS**

#### **Student Health**

The school district employs school nurses to assist with the health needs of our students. Parents are required to complete a health card at the beginning of the school year that provides a health history, emergency contact information, and signed consent for the school nurse to carry out first aid and administer medications as listed in the School Health Nurse Standing Orders (standing orders located in handbook). The health card will be kept in the nurse's station. No child will be given medication for headache or other minor ailments without signed consent from parent/guardian. **A student should be free of fever (fever is considered 100 degrees or greater), without the use of fever reducing medications such as Tylenol/Motrin and/or exhibit no vomiting or diarrhea for 24 hours before returning to school.**

#### **Medication**

If it becomes necessary for the student to take any form of medication on a routine basis at school, a **Permission for Medication Form** must be completed by a parent/guardian at the time the medication is brought in. This form can be obtained in the school office. Medication must be provided in the labeled bottle obtained at the pharmacy with the prescribing information. No



medication will be administered if not in labeled bottle with correct student information. Medication that is prescribed three times a day (such as antibiotics) should be given at home unless otherwise stated by physician. Any student requiring the use of inhalers or Epi-pens will be allowed to have access to these based on doctor's orders. If your child requires an inhaler or other asthma medication, please notify the school nurse to obtain the appropriate forms to be completed. It is the responsibility of the parent/guardian to notify the school of any medication changes and submit a doctor's order for such changes.

**Possession and/or administration of any drugs or other controlled substance(s) on school grounds by students or others may constitute violation of the law.**

## Head Lice

For any student who has had head lice on three (3) consecutive occasions during one (1) school year, the principal shall notify the county health department of the recurring problem of head lice with that student. The student shall not be allowed to attend school until proof of treatment is obtained. '41-7921 (1999)

## SCHOOL HEALTH NURSE STANDING ORDERS

Condition	Treatment	Medication
Bites/Stings	Remove stinger if easy. Apply ice for 5 minutes.	Topical analgesic. Benadryl-25mg with parent permission.
Burns(minor)	Cold water for 5 minutes.	First Aid Ointment*
Fainting	Lie down with feet elevated.	Aromatic Spirits of Ammonia
Fever	For temperature <101, call parent.  Send home >101. Child must be free of fever x 24 hours before returning to school.	Acetaminophen -325mg by mouth 1 or 2 tablets ages 12 and up. Less than 12 based on age/weight. One time fever occurrence. Ibuprofen- 200 mg by mouth 1 or 2 tablets ages 12 and up. < 12 based on age/weight. NO ASPIRIN!
Simple Headaches	Bed rest in quiet, low lighted area for 15-20 minutes. Cool compresses to forehead.	Acetaminophen/Ibuprofen as above. Treat once for headache in 24-hour period. Refer if persists.
Cuts/Impetigo	Cleanse with soap and water	Apply antibiotic ointment. Refer if needed.
Menstrual Cramps	Bed rest for 30 minutes	Acetaminophen/Ibuprofen as directed above.
Sore Throat	Temp. <101, gargle with salt water (1 tsp. to 8 oz. water)	Throat Lozenges Acetaminophen/Ibuprofen as directed above.
Toothache	Rinse with warm salt water. Cool compresses to cheek.	Acetaminophen/Ibuprofen as above. Topical Benzocain 20%.
Gastrointestinal (Stomach Ache)	Bed rest 15-20 minutes	Pepto-Bismol, Trial Antacid, Maalox as directed on bottle.
Suspected Ringworm of skin	Rule out ringworm of scalp.	Antifungal cream
Rashes	Rule out allergic reaction. Cool compresses.	Caladryl/Calamine 1% Hydrocortisone- thin coat.
Conjunctival Irritation (eye)	Examine for foreign body. Refer if suspect Pink Eye.	Artificial Tears**single dose. Normal saline for students with contacts. Refer if persistent.
Allergic reaction	Rule out anaphylaxis. Attempt to detect allergen. Contact parent.	Administer Benadryl 12.5-25 mg based on age and weight. Refer to MD if indicated.
Head Lice	Instruct family in treatment and prevention. May return to school after proof of treatment	Over the counter Pediculos (head lice) shampoo.

\*\* Without preservatives / \*\*\* First Aid Ointment should not contain cortisone.

These orders have been approved by a local physician to be followed by the school nurses. You **MUST** complete and **SIGN** the student's health card in order for the nurses to administer any treatment or medications as indicated above. Please list any allergies that your child has on his/her health card.

### **Health Screenings**

The school nurse will screen vision and hearing on all first and fourth graders. Parents will be notified of any failed results requiring follow-up. The school nurse will also screen vision and hearing on students referred by a teacher or by parent request. Screening will be done during the school year as the schedule permits.

### **Illness and First Aid During the School Day**

- In case of illness during the school day, a student should explain to the teacher that he/she is ill. If necessary, the teacher will refer the child to the nurse for further action. Upon students being referred to the nurse, children will be returned to class unless they have a fever or show visible signs of illness. In such cases, parents/guardians will be contacted.
- Care of any injury may be obtained in the school clinic. In case of an emergency, the school should have alternate phone numbers and preference of hospital. Please keep contact cards up to date.

### **PARENT CONFERENCES**

Parents are required to make appointments by writing the teacher a note or telephoning the school office for conferences with teachers, counselors, or the principal. Unscheduled conferences are an interruption and cause the loss of valuable instructional time. Conferences may be scheduled either before/after school or during the teacher's planning time. When a conference is scheduled please make every effort to meet on the scheduled day and time. Teachers may not conference with parents/guardians when other students are present.

### **VISITORS**

#### **ALL VISITORS MUST:**

- ENTER AND EXIT THROUGH THE MAIN OFFICE
- SIGN IN (PHOTO I.D. REQUIRED)
- WEAR A VISITOR'S BADGE

For safety purposes, if you need to go into the classroom buildings, office area, cafeteria, or clinic we will give you a visitor's badge to wear as long as you are on the campus. Please do not go anywhere else on the campus other than your specified visit location. ***Classroom instruction cannot be interrupted during the school day.*** If a parent wishes to have an official conference with the teacher, arrangements must be made with the teacher prior to the visit.

### **PARTIES AND GIFTS**

Birthday parties, and/or surprise parties are generally prohibited in order to prevent disruption of other classes and daily activities. Special events, holidays, and activities that correlate with subject material may be held at the discretion of the administration. Classroom parties are provided on a scheduled basis. Gifts of any kind are prohibited. Cupcakes should be brought to

the office by 7:30 a.m. with prior approval from classroom teacher. Cupcakes during lunch violate state mandates. Parties are to be attended by students only.

### **PHYSICAL EDUCATION**

Physical education is a required program in Mississippi. Students may be excused from participating in P.E. with a signed note from the parent/guardian; however, missing extended periods shall require a note from a doctor. Students shall wear clothing and footwear appropriate to the physical education activities. Shoes should be closed with rubber soles and should allow children to perform to the best of their physical ability. This policy will be enforced due to safety concerns.

### **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Mississippi statute requires that the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag be recited at the beginning of each day in every public elementary and secondary school in the state. Exemption from participation may be granted upon written request of the parent or guardian.

### **MEETINGS AND NOTIFICATIONS OF PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS – CERTIFIED/LICENSED EMPLOYEES**

Meeting of all professional organizations, or programs sponsored by the organizations, such as surveys, insurance presentations, recruitment of members, etc., shall be conducted at a time other than the normal working day of staff members. The meetings or surveys may be held on school premises, but only after prior approval of the Superintendent of Schools. Announcements or other information regarding professional organizations may be made at general faculty meetings or sent through the inter-school mail only with prior approval of the Superintendent of Schools. GBS/MGA

### **BOOSTER CLUB**

Becoming involved in our active Booster Club provides an opportunity to contribute to your child's school. Throughout the year many educational, fun-filled, and money-raising events take place. We look forward to working with you this year!

### **RECORDS AND TRANSFERS**

Your child's records are available for you to review at any time. Parents/guardians may wish to set up an appointment to review the files so adequate time can be given to explain test data or other pertinent information. When transferring to another school, the child's records will be sent as soon as the request is received from the school in which the child is enrolling. Early notification of plans to transfer is always appreciated.

### **REPORT CARDS/PROGRESS REPORTS**

Progress Reports will be sent home midway through each grading period. These reports will be issued to each student in order to report academic progress. Parents should carefully review these reports so that they may assist their children. Report cards will be sent home approximately one (1) week after the end of the nine weeks period.

## **NINE WEEKS DATES**

First Nine Weeks.....October 2-5, 2017  
Second Nine Weeks.....December 11-15, 2017  
Third Nine Weeks..... March 5-9, 2018  
Fourth Nine Weeks.....May 21-25, 2018

**The following GRADING SCALE is used, and is in compliance with our district's Student Progression Plan:**

Kindergarten = <b>E</b> – Excellent	1 <sup>st</sup> – 3 <sup>rd</sup> Grade = <b>A</b> (Excellent) 90 – 100
<b>S</b> – Satisfactory	<b>B</b> (Above Average) 80 – 89
<b>IN</b> – Improvement Needed	<b>C</b> (Average) 70 – 79
<b>U</b> – Unsatisfactory/Still Developing	<b>D</b> (Below Average) 65 - 69
<b>P</b> - Participation	<b>F</b> (Failure) Below 65

**Promotion Policy: The following requirements must be met before a student is to be promoted to the next grade:**

Kindergarten: Promotional decisions will be agreed upon by the teacher and the parent. If the teacher feels that the child is not prepared for first grade, he/she will recommend retention. If the parent is not in agreement, a waiver must be signed by the parent saying the child is to be placed in the next grade. However, the state attorney general has issued an official opinion which states, “the school board has the authority to retain a student in kindergarten for an additional year if the district deems that placement of the student in the first grade would not be the most appropriate educational level.”

1<sup>st</sup> – 2<sup>nd</sup>: An average grade of 65 must be attained in all three (3) major subjects. Major subjects are reading, math, and English.

3<sup>rd</sup>: An average grade of 65 must be attained in all major subjects. All academic subjects are major subjects.

## **ACHIEVEMENTS**

Students earning all A's during a grading period will be on the Superintendent's List. Students earning a B or above in each subject will be on the Principal's List. **An unsatisfactory (U) in conduct will disqualify a student for the Superintendent's List or Principal's List. At the end of the year an award will be given to the student in each classroom with the highest average in reading, language arts, math and spelling. Additional awards will be presented in the classrooms.**

**Beginning in the 2014-2015 school year, a student scoring at the lowest achievement level in reading on the established state assessment for 3<sup>rd</sup> grade will not be promoted to 4<sup>th</sup> grade unless the student meets the good cause exceptions for promotion.**

## **SPECIAL EVENTS/EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES (FIELD TRIPS)**

During the school year, special events/educational opportunities may be offered for student participation. These events may be during the school day or during non-school hours, on or off campus. Examples may include, but not be limited to, all extracurricular activities (i.e. clubs), educational tours/visitations, speakers, assembly programs, field trips, etc. **It is at the discretion of the administration and classroom teacher to revoke the privilege of attending field trips.**

## **STUDENT INFORMATION**

It is essential that the school always have current information regarding students. If you change your address, home telephone number, work number, or any other information, please inform the school office personnel at once or send written notification. This is especially important in case of student emergencies.

## **TELEPHONE**

The office may take messages for students when deemed an emergency or essential. Parents wishing to confer with teachers are invited to call the office, and every effort will be made to have the teacher call back when feasible. **Let your children know before they come to school what they are to do at the end of each day. Children participating in after hours' programs, such as P.E. events or chorus should make arrangements with parents before arriving to school.**

## **TEXTBOOKS**

The State of Mississippi provides textbooks that are issued by the teachers. **Students must take care of all textbooks issued to them. They are the responsibility of the student. Textbooks are very expensive to replace or repair.** A fee for excessive wear or damage to textbooks will be charged to students who fail to take proper care of the books. A fee will also be charged for lost textbooks and lost library books. All books must be returned when students are withdrawing from school. Students who find lost textbooks should return them to the office.

## **VOLUNTEERS**

*Plan to chaperone a field trip or to become a school volunteer?* There are many ways that you can help our school and students. Watch for information coming home. Parents and other interested persons may not volunteer until they have completed all requirements from the school in which they wish to volunteer.

## **South Panola School District**

### **Definition of Bullying**

The South Panola School District does not condone and will not tolerate bullying or harassing behavior. Bullying or harassing behavior is any pattern of gestures or written, electronic or verbal communications, or any physical act or any threatening communication, or any act reasonably perceived as being motivated by any actual or perceived differentiating characteristic that (a) places a student, school employee or volunteer in actual and reasonable fear of harm to his/her person or damage to his/her property, or (b) creates or is certain to create a hostile environment by substantially interfering with or impairing a student's educational performance, opportunities, or benefits. A "hostile environment" means that the victim subjectively views the

conduct as bullying or harassing behavior and the conduct is objectively severe or pervasive enough that a reasonable person would agree that it is bullying or harassing behavior. Bullying or harassing behavior will not be condoned or tolerated when it takes place on school property when such conduct, in the determination of the school superintendent or principal, renders the offending person's presence in the classroom a disruption to the educational environment of the school or a detriment to the best interest and welfare of the pupils and teacher of such class as a whole.

The South Panola School District will make every reasonable effort to ensure that no student, school employee, or volunteer is subjected to bullying or harassing behavior by other school employees or students. Likewise, the district will make every reasonable effort to ensure that no person engages in any act of reprisal or retaliation against a victim, witness, or a person with reliable information about an act of bullying or harassing behavior. The district encourages anyone who has witnessed or has reliable information that a student or school employee has been subject to any act of bullying or harassing behavior to report the incident to the appropriate school official.

The school board directs the superintendent or designee to design and implement procedures for reporting, investigating and addressing bullying and harassing behaviors. The procedures should be appropriately placed in district personnel policy handbooks, school handbooks that include discipline policies and procedures and any other policy or procedure that deals with student or employee behavior. The discipline policies and procedures must recognize the fundamental right of every student to take "reasonable actions" as may be necessary to defend himself/herself from an attack by another student who has evidenced menacing or threatening behavior through bullying or harassing. Furthermore, the South Panola School District defines "reasonable action" as promptly reporting the behavior to a teacher, principal, counselor or other school employee when subjected to bullying or harassing behavior.

Ref: SB 2015; Miss. Code Ann. § 37-7-301(e)

## **PROCEDURES FOR COMPLAINTS OF BULLYING OR HARASSING BEHAVIOR**

Any student, school employee or volunteer who feels he/she has been a victim of bullying or harassing behavior, or has witnessed or who has reliable information that a student, school employee or volunteer has been subject to bullying or harassing behavior shall report such conduct to a teacher, principal, counselor or other school official. The report shall be made promptly, but no later than five (5) calendar days after the alleged act or acts occurred. The school official shall complete a "Bullying/Harassing Behavior" complaint form which shall include the name of the reporting person, the specific nature and date of the misconduct, the names of the victim of the misconduct, the names of any witnesses and any other information that would assist in the investigation of the complaint. The report shall be given promptly to the principal or his/her designee, who shall institute an immediate investigation. Complaints against the principal shall be made to the superintendent and complaints against the superintendent shall be made to the Board chairman.

The complaint shall be investigated promptly. Parents will be notified of the nature of any complaint involving their student. The school and/or district official will arrange such meeting as may be necessary with all concerned parties within five (5) working days after initial receipt of the complaint by the District. The parties will have an opportunity to submit evidence and a list of witnesses. All findings related to the complaint will be reduced to writing. The school and/or district official conducting the investigation shall notify the victim and parents as appropriate when the investigation is completed and a decision regarding disciplinary action, as warranted, is determined.

If the victim is not satisfied with the decision of the District official, he/she may submit a written appeal to the superintendent. Such an appeal shall be filed within ten (10) working days after receipt of the results of the initial decision. The superintendent will arrange such meetings with the victim and other affected parties as deemed necessary to discuss the victim's appeal within ten (10) working days.

If the victim is not satisfied with the decision of the superintendent, a written appeal may be filed with the Board. Such an appeal shall be filed within ten (10) working days after the receipt of the decision of the superintendent. The Board shall, within twenty (20) working days, allow the victim and parents as appropriate to appear before the Board to present reasons for dissatisfaction with the decision of the superintendent. The Board shall provide a written decision within ten (10) working days following the victim's appearance before the Board.

## **TITLE IX**

It is the policy of the South Panola Public School District to provide equal opportunity without regard to race, national origin, religion, sex, age, qualified person with disabilities or Veteran, in the educational program and activities. This includes, but is not limited to, admissions, educational services, financial aid and employment. Inquiries concerning application of this policy may be referred to the central office.

LEGAL REF.: Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964; Title IX of the Educational Amendments of 1972; Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973; Title II Americans with Disabilities Act.

As provided under Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, no person in the U.S. shall, on the basis of sex, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of or be subjected to discrimination under any education program or activity receiving federal financial assistance. Standard 2 is as follows: School board policies that comply with state and federal statutes, rules, and regulations serve as the basis of operation for the district, and current copies of school board policies are published and available for public review. Questions or complaints concerning Title IX may be directed to Mr. Chad Spence, 209 Boothe Street, Batesville, MS 38606 or (662) 563-9631.

## **SECTION 504 OF THE REHABILITATION ACT OF 1973**

The South Panola School District will not discriminate on the basis of disability in admission or access to, or treatment or employment in, its program and activities to the extent provided by law. Questions concerning Section 504 may be directed to the Section 504/Americans with Disabilities Act Coordinator as follows: Mrs. Melinda Price, 209 Boothe Street, Batesville, MS 38606 or (662) 563-9361.

## **HARASSMENT PROHIBITED**

This school district affirms the employee rights under Title VI and therefore "shall not tolerate verbal or physical conduct by any employee, male or female, which harasses, disrupts, or interferes with another's work performance or which creates an intimidating, offensive, or hostile environment."

LEGAL REF.: 1964 Civil Rights Act, Title VI; 1964 Civil Rights Act, Title VII;  
Executive Order 11246, as amended; 1972 Education Amendments, Title IX;  
45 CFR, Part 86; 1973 Rehabilitation Act, Section 503; 1973 Rehabilitation Act,  
Section 504; 45 CFR, Part 84; 29 U.S.C.A. 621, *et seq.*

CROSS REF.: Policies GACN – Sexual Harassment      GBD – Professional Personnel Hiring

## **NON-DISCRIMINATION POLICY**

The South Panola School District shall not discriminate on the basis of race, color, sex, age, disability, religion, national origin, or military status with regard to any policy, procedure, or program operation. For inquiries regarding this policy on discrimination contact:

Title IX Coordinator  
Mr. Chad Spence

ADA/504 Coordinator  
Mrs. Melinda Price

South Panola School District  
209 Boothe Street  
Batesville, MS 38606  
662-563-9361

## **Legal Information**

### **SPSD Non-discrimination**

The South Panola School District shall not discriminate on the basis of race, color, sex, age, disability, religion, national origin, or military status with regard to any policy, procedure, or program operation. For inquiries regarding this policy on discrimination contact:

Title IX Coordinator : Mr. Chad Spence,  
ADA/504 Coordinator : Mrs. Melinda Price  
209 Boothe Street, Batesville, MS 38606  
662.563.9361

## **Model Notification of Rights under FERPA for Elementary and Secondary Schools**

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) affords parents and students over 18 years of age ("eligible students") certain rights with respect to the student's education records. These rights are:



- (1) The right to inspect and review the student's education records within forty-five (45) days of the day the School receives a request for access.

Parents or eligible students should submit to the School principal [or appropriate school official] a written request that identifies the record(s) they wish to inspect. The School official will make arrangements for access and notify the parent or eligible student of the time and place where the records may be inspected.

- (2) The right to request the amendment of the student's education records that the parent or eligible student believes are inaccurate.

Parents or eligible students may ask the School to amend a record that they believe is inaccurate. They should write the School principal [or appropriate school official], clearly identify the part of the record they want changed, and specify why it is inaccurate. If the School decides not to amend the record as requested by the parent or eligible student, the School will notify the parent or eligible student of the decision and advise them of their right to a hearing regarding the request for amendment. Additional information regarding the hearing procedures will be provided to the parent or eligible student when notified of the right to a hearing.

- (3) The right to consent to disclosures of personally identifiable information contained in the student's education records, except to the extent that FERPA authorizes disclosure without consent.

One exception, which permits disclosure without consent, is disclosure to school officials with legitimate educational interests. A school official is a person employed by the School as an administrator, supervisor, instructor, or support staff member (including health or medical staff and law enforcement unit personnel); a person serving on the School Board; a person or company with whom the School has contracted to perform a special task (such as an attorney, auditor, medical consultant, or therapist); or a parent or student serving on an official committee, such as a disciplinary or grievance committee, or assisting another school official in performing his or her tasks. A school official has a legitimate educational interest if the official needs to review an education record in order to fulfill his or her professional responsibility.

[Optional] Upon request, the School discloses education records without consent to officials of another school district in which a student seeks or intends to enroll. [NOTE: FERPA requires a school district to make a reasonable attempt to notify the parent or student of the records request unless it states in its annual notification that it intends to forward records on request.]

- (4) The right to file a complaint with the U.S. Department of Education concerning alleged failures by the *School District* to comply with the requirements of FERPA. The name and address of the Office that administers FERPA are:

Family Policy Compliance Office  
U.S. Department of Education  
400 Maryland Avenue, SW  
Washington, DC 20202-5901



# *South Panola School District*

*209 Boothe Street, Batesville, Mississippi 38606*

*Phone (662) 563-9361/Fax (662) 563-6077*

*Web Site: [www.southpanola.k12.ms.us](http://www.southpanola.k12.ms.us)*

*Providing Opportunities for Educational Excellence*

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*Mr. Tim Wilder, Superintendent*

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Dear Parent/Guardian:

The purpose of this letter is to clarify our district policy in regard to the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA).

It is within our district's policy to make available, upon request, certain information known as "Directory Information." This is defined by FERPA as information which is personally identifiable and would not be considered harmful or an invasion of privacy.

"Directory Information" may include, but is not limited to the following:

- name, address and phone number
- date and place of birth
- major field of study
- participation in school activities
- honors and awards
- other information such as alumni associations, height/weight of athletes, honor roll members information and anything else generally found in yearbooks

In accordance to FERPA guidelines, South Panola School District may release this information. However, parents/guardians may refuse to allow the disclosure of any or all "Directory Information" upon written notification to the School's office. The school should receive this written notification within 15 business days of receipt of this letter.

Further information regarding this and other annual notices can be found on the district website at [www.spsd.k12.ms.us](http://www.spsd.k12.ms.us) or by contacting South Panola School District.

Sincerely,

Tim Wilder

Superintendent

## **NCLB – TITLE I**

As required by the No Child Left Behind Act (NCLB) of 2001, Title I Part A, information is available at our school to include but not limited to the following:

1. The School Improvement Plan
2. Qualifications of your child's teacher
  - a. Whether Mississippi has licensed or qualified the teacher for the grades and subjects he or she teaches.
  - b. Whether Mississippi has decided that the teacher can teach in a classroom without being licensed or qualified under state regulations because of special circumstances.
  - c. The teacher's college major; whether the teacher has any advanced degrees and, if so, the subject of the degrees.
  - d. Whether any teachers' aides or paraprofessionals provide services to your child and, if they do, their qualifications.
3. Notification if your child is to be taught for four (4) or more consecutive weeks by a teacher who is not highly qualified.
4. Your child's level of achievement in each statewide academic assessment.
5. Opportunities for parent involvement and input.
6. NCLB/ESEA District and School Report Cards

### **Title I Complaints**

A complaint/concern is a signed written statement that includes allegations or concerns applicable to the Title I Educational Program and information that supports the complaint/concern.

Note: Any parent, teacher, or other concerned individual(s) or organization may file a complaint.

#### **Procedures:**

1. Written complaints may be given to local school principals.
2. Signature of the complainant is required.
3. The written complaint will then be delivered to the LES Superintendent's office by the principal or his/her designee.
4. Upon receipt of the written complaint, the Title I Coordinator will investigate the complaint in a timely manner consulting with the LES Superintendent if necessary.
5. Within a timely manner, a resolution and written decision acknowledging receipt of the complaint/concern will be rendered by the LES Title I Coordinator/designee.

If you have questions, please contact your child's school and we will be glad to provide information.

## **TITLE I POLICY**

It shall be the policy of this school district to provide Title I services to eligible students in accordance with the provisions of the No Child Left Behind Act. The school district shall meet the requirements and comply with all applicable statutory and regulatory provisions under the law. Such assurances

shall remain in effect for the duration of participation under Title I of the No Child Left Behind Act of 1994 (P.L. 103-382).

### **DISTRICT TITLE I PARENT INVOLVEMENT**

The School District will administer the Title I IASA Program in accordance with Federal Regulations of the No Child Left Behind Act.

The School District will enable schools to provide opportunities for children served to acquire the knowledge and skills contained in the challenging State content standards and to meet the challenging State performance standards developed for all children. This shall be accomplished by:

- (1) ensuring high standards for all children and aligning the efforts of state, local educational agencies, and school to help children served under Title I to reach such standards;
- (2) providing children an enriched and accelerated educational program, including, when appropriate, the use of the arts, through school-wide programs or through additional services that increase the amount and quality of instructional time so that children served under Title I receive at least the classroom instruction that other children receive;
- (3) promoting school-wide reform and ensuring access of children (from earliest grades) to effective instructional strategies and challenging academic content that includes intensive complex thinking and problem-solving experiences;
- (4) significantly upgrading the quality of instruction by providing staff in all schools with substantial opportunities for professional development;
- (5) coordinating services under all parts of Title I with each other, with other educational services, and social programs funded from other sources.
- (6) distributing resources, in amounts sufficient to make a difference, to areas and schools where needs are greatest;
- (7) improving accountability, as well as teaching and learning by using State assessment systems designed to measure how well children served under Title I are achieving challenging State student performance standards expected of all children;
- (8) providing greater decision making authority and flexibility to schools and teachers in exchange for greater responsibility for student performance.

The School District will include parents of the District's Title I program, following all requirements of the Title I regulations. The responsibility and accountability for implementing the District-Wide Title I parent involvement procedures will be shared among the District-Wide Title I Office, the local Title I schools, the parents and the community. Activities and procedures shall be planned and implemented using meaningful consultation with parents of the Title I children.

The School District Title I Staff and the Title I Schools will work jointly to ensure effective involvement of parents. They will support partnerships among schools, parents and the communities to improve student achievement. A variety of strategies will be used. Those strategies include School/Parent Involvement Policy, an annual meeting with flexible times and locations, staff and parent training; consultation, communication in a form and language that can be understood, school/parent compacts, parent literacy opportunities, workshops on parenting skills, community and business involvement, surveys, evaluation and other ideas as stated in the School District's Title I Program Plan.

The school district shall be in compliance with Title I regulations requiring parental involvement in the school system's planning and implementation of the Title I compensatory education programs that affect children enrolled in the school district.

Such parental involvement shall include, but is not limited to, conferences between parents and teachers and assisting parents in home training and direct work with their children. A public meeting of the parents involved in Title I shall be held annually and shall meet federal regulations affecting parent participation. In addition, the school shall provide proper information to parents concerning their children and shall keep these parents adequately informed of their children's progress, needs, and individual objectives.

### **POPE SCHOOL TITLE I PARENT INVOLVEMENT POLICY**

Pope School will provide opportunities for educational excellence for all children to acquire the knowledge and skills contained in challenging state content standards and to meet the challenging state performance standards developed for all children. To help accomplish this goal, the administration and staff will follow the parental involvement policy guidelines listed below:

- convene an annual parent meeting to discuss federal programs and revise the parent involvement policy;
- encourage parents to offer suggestions and ideas throughout the school year for improvement and revision of this policy;
- explain the requirements and rights of parents to be involved;
- offer flexible schedule of meetings and conferences;
- provide parents with timely information;
- describe and explain the curriculum to be used;
- provide the forms of academic assessment to be used;
- explain the proficiency levels students are expected to meet;
- provide opportunities for decision-making related to the education of their children;
- provide materials and training on how parents can improve their children's achievement;
- strengthen connections between home and school;
- ensure, to the extent possible, that information sent home is in a language and form parents can understand;
- respond to parent suggestions as soon as practically possible;
- provide a Parent/Student/School Compact; and
- respond in a timely manner to requests for information regarding the professional qualifications (including certification area, years, and type of experience) of classroom teachers. Both verbal and written requests to the administration will be honored with a written response within three school days.
- Explain the importance of making sure their children graduate from school.

This policy will be revised and updated periodically. Parental input is welcomed in this process.

In the event parents find portions of the Schoolwide Plan unsatisfactory, the school shall submit those comments and concerns to the district office (LEA).

### **ASBESTOS & LEAD PAINT INSPECTIONS OF BUILDINGS**

Please be informed by this notice that during the 2016-2017 school year all of the school buildings of the South Panola School District were re-inspected for asbestos and lead paint for a three (3) year period. Management plans were updated and copies stating that the buildings met all requirements were forwarded to the Mississippi State Department of Education where they are on file. The Management Plans will be updated from time to time as the need arises.

A copy of the results of the inspection is contained in a Management Plan Document that is on file in the office of the Director of Maintenance and in the office of the superintendent of schools located at 209 Boothe Street. Any interested party should feel free to go by any of these locations to read these reports.

## SOUTH PANOLA SCHOOL DISTRICT 2017-18 SCHOOL CALENDAR

Professional Development (2 days).....	Prior to July 31, 2017
Faculty Meeting and Staff Development.....	August 1-3, 2017
School Begins For Pupils – Cafeteria Opens .....	August 4, 2017
Labor Day.....	September 4, 2017
Fall Break (Students & Staff) .....	October 6 & 9, 2017
Staff Development (make-up for summer staff development days if required).....	November 20 & 21, 2017
Thanksgiving Holidays .....	November 20-24, 2017
School Resumes .....	November 27, 2017
Christmas Break – (60% day) .....	December 15, 2017
Teacher Work Day .....	January 2, 2018
School Resumes for Pupils.....	January 3, 2018
Martin Luther King Day.....	January 15, 2018
President’s Day .....	February 19, 2018
Spring Holidays.....	March 12-16, 2018
School Resumes .....	March 19, 2018
Good Friday.....	March 30, 2018
Easter Monday.....	April 2, 2018
Last Day for Pupils (60% day) .....	May 25, 2018
Graduation .....	Saturday, May 26, 2018
Memorial Day .....	May 28, 2018
Teacher Work Day .....	May 29, 2018
Total Pupil Days.....	(1 <sup>st</sup> Semester 88)...(2 <sup>nd</sup> Semester 94) ..... 182
Total Teacher Days .....	189

**NOTE: There are two (2) extra days in this calendar to allow for emergency closings. If extra days are not used, the second semester will be shortened by 2 days leaving the state mandated 180 days for students and 187 days for teachers.**

**NOTE: Handbooks will give information for a “One Hour Delay” and a “Two Hour Delay” schedule that may be used to protect the loss of complete school days.**

### NINE WEEKS DATES

First Nine Weeks.....	October 2-5, 2017
Second Nine Weeks.....	December 11-15, 2017
Third Nine Weeks.....	March 5-9, 2018
Fourth Nine Weeks.....	May 21-25, 2018

## **Appendix A**

### **Student-Parent-Teacher Compact**

We believe a cooperative effort can create a quality learning environment in which all children can learn and strive to do their best while being challenged to reach their maximum potential and encouraged to develop into successful and productive citizens. Please join with our staff in working together for the good of our students.

As a Student, I, \_\_\_\_\_, will  
Always try to do my best in my work and in my behavior  
Work cooperatively with my classmates  
Show respect for myself, my school, and other people  
Obey the school and the bus rules  
Take pride in my school  
Come to school prepared with my homework and my supplies  
Believe that I can and will learn

As a Parent/Guardian, I, \_\_\_\_\_, will  
See that my child attends school regularly and on time  
Provide a home environment that encourages my child to learn  
Insist that all homework assignments are completed  
Communicate regularly with my child's teacher  
Support the school in developing positive behaviors  
Talk with my child about his/her school activities everyday  
Encourage my child to read at home and to monitor his/her TV viewing  
Volunteer time at my child's school  
Show respect and support for my child, the teacher, and the school

As a Teacher, I, \_\_\_\_\_, will  
Believe that each student can learn  
Show respect for each child and his/her family  
Come to class prepared to teach  
Provide an environment conducive to learning  
Help each child grow to his/her potential  
Enforce school and classroom rules fairly and consistently  
Maintain open lines of communication with student and his/her parents  
Demonstrate professional behavior and a positive attitude.

As a Principal, I, \_\_\_\_\_, will  
Assure that district policies are followed.  
Provide a safe and drug-free environment.  
Create good communication between parent, community, and school.  
Perform the duties and responsibilities required of a principal.



**Appendix B**  
**South Panola School Board**  
**Acceptable Computer, Network Resources and Internet Use Policy**  
**Revised Fall 2009**

The South Panola School District School Board wishes to make available to all students and staff access to computers, computer networked resources, and Internet Resources. The SPSD Board also desires these computers, networked resources and the Internet be used in ways appropriate for an educational institution. The intent is to make Computers, Network resources and the Internet available to improve the educational process, enhance student achievement and enhance productivity and related responsibilities and tasks where applicable.

Access to the district's computers and network resources entails responsibility. Access is a privilege, not a right. All users are to be held responsible for appropriate behavior while using school computers, network resources and the Internet just as they are during any other school activity. General rules for behavior and communications apply.

Students, Parents, Staff and other network users should be aware that objectionable information may be found on the Internet. Be warned that some material accessible via the Internet may contain items that are illegal, defamatory, objectionable, inaccurate, and / or potentially offensive. While SPSD will make reasonable attempts to filter objectionable material, the district will not be held responsible for inappropriate material.

Parents and guardians of students should impress upon their children the need for the appropriate use of media and information sources available via the Internet. Be advised, that some courses require Internet access and students must adherence to this policy. Failure to agree and comply with this policy may require the loss of network privileges, the removal of a student from the course, and / or other disciplinary and legal action.

**Ownership and Privacy issues for Computers and Network Resources**

South Panola School District affirms ownership of computers and network resources that have been purchased with District funding sources. Network supervision and maintenance may require review and inspection of computers, hard drives, cache engines, routers and other electronic devices. The District reserves the right to record and monitor computer usage, access and review stored files, access and review email, messages and links on Computers and Network Devices within the School District. Courts have ruled that computers, computer hard drives, computer files, email records and other electronic information devices may be subpoenaed, and that appropriate administrators may examine electronic information in order to ascertain compliance with network guidelines for acceptable use.

**Statements and Disclaimers**

South Panola School District will adhere to the Child Internet Protection Act Legislation, and other state and federal laws with reference to school network resources where applicable.

South Panola Schools may post pictures and names of staff and students on the school's web site that are viewable on the World Wide Web. Exclusions to this policy must be written the School Principal requesting that no photos be published for a particular individual. These efforts are being made to give positive exposure to all individuals and related school activities.

This Acceptable use policy will be posted in student handbooks, staff handbooks and on the South Panola Web Site. Signatures of the student handbook which encompasses this policy are to be kept on file in the principal's area.

The School District makes no warranties of any kind, whether expressed or implied, for the service it is providing. The school system will not be responsible for any damages suffered by any user. Use of any information via the Internet is at the risk of the user.

### **General guidelines for using computers, network resources and the Internet**

Individuals will be held responsible for their behavior and communication while accessing network resources and the Internet. Students, Staff and other computer network users are responsible for appropriate behavior on computer networks just as they are in a classroom or a school hallway. Some common issues are discussed below:

Don't use school network resources for illegal purpose. Don't pirate software or violate copyright laws. All software installed on district computers must be licensed. Other than district or state provided software, any additional software to be installed must have prior approval of the principal, technology director or superintendent.

Don't search for, access, display or transmit offensive messages or objectionable materials or inappropriate non educational web sites. Don't access or transmit any material that promotes violence or the destruction of property.

Don't share passwords or access another user's account. Don't change files, desktop settings, screensavers, or other system/network settings that do not belong to you. Don't post chain letters or engage in "Spamming". Don't use, disclose, disseminate, or divulge personal and/or private information about yourself, minors or any others. Don't employ or perform network actions disruptive to the normal operations of school.

In general the computer is not to be used as an entertainment box or radio. Technology is not to be used to download music. PBS, educational recordings and speeches for classroom enhancement is encouraged. But, Internet radio for non-educational use is discouraged. Programs like kazaa, audiolgalaxy, GNutella, napster, Warze, AIM, and Zebra should not be installed. Programs like instant messenger or weather bug that have an always on, constant connection should not be installed. Technology is not to be used to play online games, access chat rooms, dating services, or non-instructional bulletin board messaging sites. Technology resources are not provided as a babysitting device or as a free for all. Just because its lunch or study hall or instruction has finished for the period is not a reason for individuals to play computer games or randomly surf the web.

Violations may result in a loss of access to computers, network resources, the Internet. Violations may also include other disciplinary and / or legal action. Observed abuse of computers, network resources and / or the Internet should be reported to the Teacher, Supervisor, Principal, Technology Director or Superintendent.

### **Signature Information: Student / Parent and staff user agreement**

For anyone to access the district computer network she/he must agree and adhere to this acceptable use policy.

#### **Students and Parents:**

By signing the student handbook; I hereby agree to comply with the South Panola School District Board Policy on acceptable computer, network resources and Internet usage. I understand that my child will be subject to disciplinary action for violations of the Acceptable Use Policy Violations may result in a loss of access to computers, network resources, the Internet. Violations may also include other disciplinary and / or legal action.

#### **Staff:**

By accepting employment with South Panola Schools: I hereby agree to comply with the South Panola School District Board Policy on acceptable computer, network resources and Internet usage. Violations may result in a loss of access to computers, network resources, the Internet. Violations may also include other disciplinary and / or legal action. Therefore: If you do not agree with this policy and choose not to access South Panola School District computers, networked information resources and the Internet, please notify the school Principal, Technology Director or Superintendent in writing.

Guests or any others are required to sign below before using South Panola Network Resources.

---

Name & Signature

---

Date

---

Parent/Guardian Name & Signature (if needed)

---

Date

## Appendix C

### PARENT/GUARDIAN-STUDENT CONTRACT

Dear Parent/Guardian:

It is the intent of the School Administration, faculty, and staff to provide all students a relevant, positive, and smooth flowing educational experience. This handbook was compiled with that intent in mind. It contains information, guidelines, codes of conduct, discipline policies and help to insure that our intended purpose is accomplished.

Please help us accomplish this by doing the following:

- A. Please read and familiarize yourself and your child with its contents.
- B. Please allow us to answer any questions you may have about items contained within.
- C. Please acknowledge your receipt and reading of this handbook by completing and returning the lower portion of this page.

If there are any questions about the information in this book, please contact the principal.

Please detach and return this portion of the page to your child's homeroom teacher.

-----

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Student's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

My child and I have read the South Panola School Handbook. I agree to encourage my child to abide by the information, guidelines, codes of conduct, discipline policies and rules contained within.

We further acknowledge:

Parent-Teacher-Student Compact and our responsibilities  
Notification of Asbestos and Lead Paint Inspections  
Acceptable Use Policy for Technology

Parent/Guardian's Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Student's Signature \_\_\_\_\_

**Appendix D**  
**South Panola School District**  
**Disciplinary Referral**

**Student Name:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Time/Period:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Person Reporting:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Grade:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Location:** \_\_\_\_\_

**DISCIPLINARY INFRACTION**

**Level One:**

- ☐ Tardiness
- ☐ Running/excessive noise
- ☐ Public Display of Affection
- ☐ In an Unauthorized Area
- ☐ Dress Code Violation
- ☐ Electronic Device
- ☐ Loitering in halls, restrooms, etc.
- ☐ Disruptive Behavior
- ☐ Refusing to do classwork

**Level Two:**

- ☐ Skipping Class (did not leave school grounds)
- ☐ Defiance/Insubordination
- ☐ Disrespect
- ☐ Profanity/Vulgarity (minor/indirect)
- ☐ False Information (dishonesty, lying)
- ☐ Gambling
- ☐ Tobacco Use/Possession (including electronic cigarettes)
- ☐ Possession of Cigarette Lighter
- ☐ Minor Defacing School Property (no repairs needed)
- ☐ Abusing the Rights of Others (arguing, pushing, hitting, horse-playing, being confrontational)

**Level Three:**

- ☐ Disruption Of Normal School Day
- ☐ Fighting
- ☐ Provoking a Fight
- ☐ Assault
- ☐ Theft
- ☐ Bullying
- ☐ Violation of No Contact Contract
- ☐ Vandalism (property damage)
- ☐ Gang Activity
- ☐ Leaving Campus w/o Permission
- ☐ Major/Direct Profanity
- ☐ Threatening (verbal, physical or electronic threats)
- ☐ Sexual Harassment/Misconduct
- ☐ Possession/Use of Illegal Drugs or Alcohol
- ☐ Possession of Weapons
- ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_

**Level One Interventions & Date (2 are required):**

- ☐ Conference with Student (Date: \_\_\_\_\_)
- ☐ Changed Seating Assignment (Date: \_\_\_\_\_)
- ☐ Writing Assignment (Date: \_\_\_\_\_)
- ☐ Parent Contact (Date: \_\_\_\_\_)
- ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_

**Description of Infraction/Incident:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Disciplinary Action Taken:**

- ☐ Warning
- ☐ Administrative/Student Conference
- ☐ Referred to Guidance Counselor
- ☐ Parent Conference
- ☐ Detention
- ☐ ISD
- ☐ OSS
- ☐ Conditional Suspension(Required Parent Conference)
- ☐ Corporal Punishment

**Administration Comments:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Witness:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Counselor:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Parent:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Student:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Administrator:** \_\_\_\_\_



# *South Panola School District*

209 Boothe Street, Batesville, Mississippi 38606

Phone (662) 563-9361/Fax (662) 563-6077

Web Site: [www.southpanola.k12.ms.us](http://www.southpanola.k12.ms.us)

*Providing Opportunities for Educational Excellence*

---

Student's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Teacher: \_\_\_\_\_

## ***CORPORAL PUNISHMENT***

### **Pope School**

South Panola School District uses corporal punishment as a means to correct behavior as stated in the 2017-2018 Student Handbook. Please mark below:

\_\_\_\_\_ South Panola School District Administration has my permission to use corporal punishment as a means to correct behavior. Prior to issuing corporal punishment, a phone call will be made to the parent/guardian.

\_\_\_\_\_ South Panola School District does NOT have my permission to use corporal punishment as a means to correct behavior.

Parent's/Guardian's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: Home: \_\_\_\_\_

Work: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_



## Pope School Photo Consent Form

Child's Name \_\_\_\_\_ Grade \_\_\_\_\_

### Photo/ Video

I authorize Pope School (including its related entities) to photograph and/or video my child to use for educational or promotional purposes in school related media. I understand that I will not be paid or rewarded for providing this authorization.

*Mark ONE choice below*

\_\_\_\_\_ Yes, **I do** give authorization for photos and videos for educational purposes.

\_\_\_\_\_ No, I **do not** give authorization for photos and videos for educational purposes.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent's Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

*Please return to the Pope School office.*