Cleveland Early College

High School

Student Handbook



We are CREW, not passengers!

2026-2027

Cleveland Early College High School

2026-2027 Calendar

RESPECT

JULY

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
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AUGUST

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RESPECT

SEPTEMBER

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RESPONSIBILITY

OCTOBER

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GOOD CITIZENSHIP

NOVEMBER

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SERVICE TO OTHERS / KINDNESS

DECEMBER

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Planning Days	July 27 - July 31
First Day of School	August 3
Early Release	August 4-7 & 10-11
First Day for CCC	August 12
Progress Reports	September 3
Labor Day Holiday	September 7
Planning Day	September 25
Early Release	September 29-30
Early Release	October 1
End of 1st Quarter	October 9
Planning Day	October 12
Report Cards Distributed	October 21
Progress Reports	November 10
Fall Student Led Conferences	November 10
Veteran's Day Holiday	November 11
Annual Leave Day	November 25
Thanksgiving Holidays	November 26-27
Last Day for CCC	December 11
Early Release	December 14-15
End of 2nd Quarter	December 16
Planning Days	December 17-18 & 21
Annual Leave Days	December 22-23
Christmas Holidays	December 24-25 & 28
Annual Leave Days	December 29-31
New Year's Day Holiday	January 1
Planning Days	January 4
Early Release	January 5-8
Report Cards Distributed	January 13
Martin Luther King Holiday	January 18
Progress Reports	February 4
Planning Day	February 12
Early Release	February 23
End of 3rd Quarter	March 11
Planning Day	March 12
Spring Student Led Conferences	March 23
Report Cards Distributed	March 24
Good Friday and Easter Holiday	March 26 & 29
Annual Leave Days	March 30-31
Annual Leave Days	April 1-2
Progress Reports	April 15
Planning Day	April 30
Early Release	May 12-14 & 17-18
Last Day Of School	May 19
Planning Days	May 20-21

Calendar Key

- Planning Day
- Mandatory Planning Day
- Early Release
- Holiday
- Annual Leave Day
- Report Cards Distributed
- Progress Reports
- End of 9 Wks

Please note students do NOT attend school on days marked in blue.

Snow Make-up Days
The first 5 days will be forgiven based on accumulated hours. February 12 and March 12 may also be converted to student days for snow make-up as needed.

Report Card and Progress Report dates are subject to change because of days missed due to inclement weather.

SELF-DISCIPLINE

JANUARY

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COURAGE

FEBRUARY

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HONESTY/INTEGRITY

MARCH

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GOOD JUDGEMENT

APRIL

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PERSEVERANCE

MAY

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JUNE

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$CECHS Staff Roster

phone 704.476.8232 | fax 704.476.8233

Name	Position	Email
Bradley, Katy	Science Teacher	cbradley@clevelandcountyschools.org
Beaver, Dylan	College & Career Coach (Liaison)	beaverd633@clevelandcc.edu dabeaver@clevelandcountyschools.org
Branch, Rhonda	Driver's Education Instructor	rhbranch@clevelandcountyschools.org
Carpenter, Michael	Instructional Technology Facilitator & Coach	mscarpenter@clevelandcountyschools.org
Dobbins, Emily	Social Worker	ecdobbins@clevelandcountyschools.org
Elliott, Dennis	Math Teacher	dlelliott@clevelandcountyschools.org
Faucett, Molly	Science Teacher	mofaucett@clevelandcountyschools.org
Floyd, Tabatha	School Nurse	tnfloyd@clevelandcountyschools.org
Fuller, Akeia	Data Manager	amfuller@clevelandcountyschools.org
Greenlee, Edie	Career Coach/English Teacher	esgreenlee@clevelandcountyschools.org
Hux, Juls	School Counselor	jhux@clevelandcountyschools.org
Johnson, Amy	Exceptional Children's Teacher	aljohnson@clevelandcountyschools.org
Kalmbach, Leslie	English Teacher	lakalmbach@clevelandcountyschools.org
Kratzer, Amy	English Teacher	askratzer@clevelandcountyschools.org
Mitchell, Laura	Bookkeeper & Receptionist	lwmitchell@clevelandcountyschools.org
Phillips, Claudia	Teacher Assistant	crphillips@clevelandcountyschools.org
Julieta Tabieros	Math Teacher	jmtabieros@clevelandcountyschools.org
Tipton, Matthew	Principal	mwtipton@clevelandcountyschools.org
Willis, Jordan	Social Studies Teacher	jcwillis@clevelandcountyschools.org
Ramsey, Dean	Custodian	ddramsey@clevelandcountyschools.org

Student Handbook Information

The policies and information contained within the pages of the CECHS Student Handbook serve as a guide for students, but should not be considered all-inclusive. In addition to the expectations and guidelines contained in our CECHS Student Handbook, the Cleveland County Schools publishes a CCS Student Code of Conduct, which outlines school board policies related to student conduct both on and off school grounds. Included in the CCS Student Code of Conduct are the expectations, policies, guidelines, and appeals procedures of the school system. A copy of the CCS Student Code of Conduct is available on the Cleveland County Schools website. Students and parents should read and familiarize themselves with the information contained in both the CECHS Student Handbook and the CCS Student Code of Conduct. As situations arise, changes in school policies may be made during the school year at the discretion of the principal.

CECHS Mission

The mission of CECHS is to provide an environment where students become effective learners who display courage and responsibility, act with integrity, empathy, and respect, and improve their community through service and awareness.

CECHS Vision

The vision of CECHS is to guide students to be effective learners, ethical people, and contributors to a better world.

Equal Educational Opportunity

All courses at CECHS are offered without regard to race, color, national origin, sex, or handicap. If anyone feels that discrimination (described above) has occurred, contact the Cleveland County Schools administrative office at 476-8000.

Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act

CCS Policy for Student Release of Records & Information

School Food Service Guidelines

Breakfast and lunch will be prepared off campus by School Food Service and delivered daily for students who wish to purchase breakfast and lunch. **The Yeti Café is off limits to CECHS freshmen & sophomores.** Yeti Café privileges ARE extended to juniors who have submitted parent permission forms and possess a Junior Blue Card. Seniors will be granted the privilege to eat lunch off campus pending the return of a signed "Request for Off-Campus Lunch Permission" form. Juniors and Seniors who leave campus without parental permission will be subject to disciplinary actions.

- **All CECHS students will receive FREE breakfast and lunch**

CECHS Lunch Guidelines

During lunch, students are expected to eat lunch in one of two places. Students may eat lunch in either the CECHS Multipurpose Room or at the picnic area outside closest to the flag poles. Students **ARE NOT** allowed to eat lunch in the hallways, labs, or classrooms, unless given permission by CECHS Administration.

Lunches being dropped off: Students may only have lunch brought to them by an approved parent or guardian. Food must be delivered no later than 15 minutes after the beginning of their lunch period. This will ensure that students have enough time to eat before going to class. **All food must be delivered to the front office. Please do not deliver on the LeGrand side; you will be asked to drive around to the front of the school. Meal delivery services are not allowed on campus.**

CECHS Policies and Procedures

Academic Day: The building is open for students at 7:45 am. In the event of inclement weather, students may be permitted to enter the alcove area between 7:30 and 7:45 am; however, supervision of students is not provided before the 7:45 am drop-off time. Students are to report to the multipurpose room until they are released to classes at 8:20 am. Students must remain seated until 8:20 am. Students are not to be in the hallways before 8:20 am. When college classes are not in session, CECHS dismisses students at 2:00 pm. When college classes are in session, CECHS dismisses at 3:45 pm. Afternoon supervision of students is only provided for 30 minutes beyond our dismissal time for car riders. Supervision will be until 4:15 on 3:45 dismissal days and 2:30 on Fridays and other early release days.

Backpacks: Students are expected to leave their backpacks in their lockers during the school day until dismissed for college.

Cell Phone and Electronic Device Policy: Students are expected to follow the Cleveland County Schools Board Policy on cell phones and wireless communication devices. Students are prohibited from wearing wireless earbuds and are only allowed to wear wired headphones in the classroom for instructional purposes. Wired headphones must be plugged into a student's computer.

Classrooms: Students should respect other students' property and space as well as the teacher's materials and space. Students should have expressed permission and staff supervision to use classrooms outside of designated core class times.

CECHS CREW Behavior Matrix: Please adhere to the behavior expectations in the various common areas as outlined in **THIS** matrix.

Discipline: Due to the size of our staff, CECHS does not have in-school suspension (ISS) or detention. Major disciplinary infractions usually result in out-of-school suspension (OSS). If a student is suspended from school, he/she will also miss college classes. Discipline for minor disciplinary infractions includes but is not limited to: parent conference, administrative conference, assignment to accountability room during Friday activities, on-site community service, etc. Students with excessive disciplinary infractions may have their admission rescinded.

Dress Code: Students in violation of the dress code policy may have parents/guardians contacted to request a change of attire. Minimal interruption in instructional time is the goal. The Cleveland County Board of Education adopted a dress code to create a positive learning environment, teach good grooming and hygiene, instill discipline, avoid safety hazards, and teach respect for authority. Clothing that is disruptive, provocative, revealing, profane, vulgar, offensive, or obscene, or which endangers the health or safety of the student or others, is prohibited. ***The student's dress is the responsibility of the student and his/her parents***. The school administration and staff will determine if the attire violates the dress code.
Inappropriate Dress includes, but is not limited to:

- Caps, hats, bandanas, sweatbands, and other head coverings
- Sunglasses except by prescription OR permission for school-related activities
- Tops: see-through blouses, crop-tops, spaghetti straps, or racer back tank tops
- Shorts, skirts, and holes in jeans **must be** below the pocket area (mid-thigh)
- Undergarments must not be exposed
- Any wording or message appearing on the seat of pants
- Messages, imagery or advertisements on clothing, book bags, or jewelry that promote or encourage the use of tobacco, alcohol, or illegal drugs, depict violence, are of lewd, obscene, vulgar, or sexual nature, or disruptive, ***as determined by administrators, faculty or staff of the school***
- Sleepwear or bedroom shoes

Fees: Students are expected to pay their grade-level fees each year. Students will receive payment plan options on the first day of school.

	Technology Fee	**Activity Fee**	**Senior Fee**	**Total**
Freshman	$20.00	$120.00		$140.00
Sophomore	$20.00	$100.00		$120.00
Junior	$20.00	$100.00		$120.00
Senior	$20.00		$30.00	$50..00

- Chromebook Repair Fees - Students will pay the following fees for any Chromebook repairs, including physical damage, loss, or loss of charger. **Students who intentionally damage or lose their Chromebook will be charged the full price of replacement.** Fees will reset each school year.
    - First Damage - $10.00
    - Second Damage - $20.00
    - Third Damage - $30.00
    - Lost Charger - $20.00
- Online payments can be made by going to the CECHS homepage. A small convenience fee will be applied to any online payments.
- **Refund Information:** Should a student be eligible for a refund due to the cancellation of an event, before issuing a refund check, if the student has any other outstanding fees with the school, the refund money will go towards that balance. If the student has no other outstanding fees, the parent may request, by email, that the refund amount be used towards the next year's fees or request a refund check. The school does not have cash on hand, and all refunds must be in the form of a check and written to the parent.
- CHECKRedi Payment Services

Medication Form: Students may not possess any prescription or non-prescription medication at school. Students with health concerns, such as allergies, emotional difficulties, heart conditions, etc., who require taking medicine at school are required to have written permission. Parents and their doctor will be asked to sign a form authorizing the student to take any medicine. In addition, students are NOT permitted to share medications of any kind with other students.

Nurse: Mrs. Tabatha Floyd is our school nurse this year. She is not located on our campus but is on-call if any urgent need arises.

Public Displays of Affection: Are not allowed on campus at any time! Students are expected to keep their hands, hips, and lips to themselves **at all times**!

PDA includes but is not limited to:

- Kissing
- Hugging that is deemed intimate in any way ("Catch & Release" only)
- Hand-holding
- Standing or sitting between another person's legs, or sitting on another person's lap, or leaning on another person.

Shuttle Bus Guidelines: Bus transportation will be provided in a **limited format**. Students will be given the opportunity to use the shuttle bus system. Students wishing to take advantage of the shuttle bus system will be transported to CECHS on the campus of Cleveland Community College by way of a non-stop direct shuttle run from each of the four district high schools. In the morning, each student will be responsible for getting to the shuttle site by way of personal vehicle or the traditional school bus system when CCS is in session. The shuttle bus will leave each of the campuses at or about 8:00 am. In the afternoon, students will have the opportunity to ride the return shuttle to their shuttle site; however, it will be the responsibility of the parents to meet the shuttle bus in a timely manner at or about 4:15 pm. Of course, parents will have the option of providing their own transportation to and from CECHS for their students. **CECHS students are not allowed to enter the zone high school buildings at their shuttle sites. They are not allowed to loiter on the shuttle site campuses in the mornings or afternoons.** On days when CECHS will be in session while Cleveland County Schools is not, the

shuttle bus system will provide transportation from the shuttle sites to CECHS in the morning and a return shuttle from CECHS to the shuttle sites only; however, the students must find alternative transportation to and from the district zone high schools.

SHUTTLE ONLY DAYS: August 3rd- August 11th, 2026

Please make the necessary transportation arrangements for those school days.

Sign In/Sign Out: Students who arrive at school after 8:30 AM are required to sign in at the front office. ALL students are required to have prior parent/guardian permission to sign out from school. Parents/guardians of non-driving students must come in to the front office to sign out their student.

Student Drivers: Students must register their vehicle, complete a student parking application, and pay a $10.00 parking fee. Student drivers will be given the opportunity to select their parking spot, they will receive a parking hanger that corresponds with their parking space. The signed and submitted student parking application seals the agreement that students will abide by all CECHS and CCC student driver and parking guidelines, rules, and regulations. **Students cannot drive from the CECHS campus to another building on the CCC campus. Students leaving for the day are not allowed to drop off other students at another building on the CCC campus.**

Technology: Cleveland County Schools provides all high school students with a Chromebook and charger. Students are expected to use these devices for their school work. **Only school-issued devices are allowed to be used on the CECHS campus.** Student headphones/earbuds are NOT allowed to be worn while in classes or attending school functions/intensives. Headphones/earbuds are allowed during lunch.

Transportation Changes: Any transportation changes, i.e., a car rider needs to ride the bus, must be made by 2:15 PM each day before students go to college.

Visitors: All visitors must enter through the front office to register, gain approval, and receive a visitor's pass before visiting within the building or on school grounds. Students are not to bring guests or visitors to school without permission.

Weather Policy: If any of the four county attendance zones are closed because of inclement weather, CECHS will close. Decisions concerning closings and delays will be available by 6:00 am and will be posted on the Cleveland County Schools website or by viewing our social media page. Closing information will be available from local and regional media outlets. In the event that inclement weather creates a school delay situation that creates an overlap in CECHS and CCC college classes, CECHS students are expected to prioritize and attend their college classes. If CECHS is not in session, students ARE NOT expected to attend CCC classes.

Attendance

For a complete list of Attendance Guidelines**,** reference the CCS Board Policy found on the Cleveland County Schools website Policy 4400.

Attendance Guidelines: Attendance is central to educational achievement and school success. ***Poor attendance may result in termination from CECHS.***

Cleveland Community College Access: CECHS students over 16 are allowed to walk to the CCC library after school. CECHS students under the age of 16 must have written parental permission to walk to the library. The CCC library closes at 2 on Fridays, no student will be allowed to go on Fridays after dismissal. Parental permission notes are required, and must include the student's full name and the semester or school year the parent approves for them to go after school hours. All CECHS students are expected to follow the Code of Conduct for Cleveland County Schools and Cleveland Community College.

Throughout the school year, CCC has evening sporting and community events after CECHS dismissal. CECHS who stay on campus after dismissal to attend one of these events will need to turn in a parent permission letter for the specific event. Written parental permission is needed only if your child is under 16.

CECHS students also have access to the CCC gym and workout facility. All students, regardless of age, must complete a CCC information and waiver form. Should your student want to do this after school, turn in a written parental permission letter. Written parental permission is needed only if your child is under 16.

Class Attendance: To be counted present in high school courses, a student must be in attendance at least one-half of the class period. Attendance is recorded per high school class. **Students who arrive at school after the school day begins must report to the office to sign in.**

Excused Absences: ***Excused absences are still considered absences.*** Parents may submit notes for absences within two days of the student's absence to be considered excused for the first 10 absences incurred in a school year. After the student's 10th absence, a note from the physician's office is required for the absence to be considered excused. Students are allowed up to 2 college visits during their junior/senior year(s). These will be coded as Educational Opportunities (1G).

Unexcused Absences: An absence will be deemed unexcused unless the student's parent/guardian or custodian provides written documentation of the reason(s) within two (2) school days of the student's return to school. Three unexcused tardies or three unexcused early dismissals constitute an unexcused absence (4400-R).

Excessive Absences: Class attendance and participation are critical elements of the educational process. Cleveland County Schools policy allows students to have 6 absences (excused and unexcused) in a semester course and 12 absences (excused and unexcused) in a yearlong course. Students with excessive absences will have the opportunity to apply for an attendance waiver and may be required to complete an academic intensive in order to receive credit.

Notification of Excessive Unexcused Absences: The principal or designee shall notify the parent/guardian or custodian of the child's excessive unexcused absences in accordance with G.S. 115C-378 as follows:

- After the third unexcused absence, the principal or designee shall notify the parent/guardian or custodian by mail.
- After not more than six (6) accumulated unexcused absences, the principal or designee shall notify the parent/guardian or custodian by mail that the parent/guardian or custodian may be in violation of the North Carolina Compulsory Attendance Law and may be prosecuted if the absences cannot be justified as excused under the standards stated in the section entitled "Excused Absences." A copy of the notice may be directed to the social worker, counselor, or other appropriate school personnel, who will work with the student and family to improve attendance.
- After ten (10) accumulated unexcused absences in a school year, the principal or designee shall notify the parent/guardian or custodian by certified mail of the student's excessive number of unexcused absences. The principal also shall review any reports or investigation prepared pursuant to G.S. 115C-381 and shall, if possible, confer with the student and the student's parent/guardian or custodian to determine whether the parent/guardian or custodian received notification pursuant to the requirements of this policy and the Compulsory Attendance Law and made a good faith effort to comply with the law. Where the parent/guardian or custodian has made a good faith effort, the principal may file a complaint with the juvenile court counselor pursuant to Ch. 7B of the General Statutes that the child is habitually absent from school without a valid excuse.

  LEGAL REF: G.S. 115C-36, -307(f), -378 to -381, -391; 16 N.C.A.C.6E.0101 to 6E.0104 | Adopted: July 12, 2004

Hospital/Homebound: If a student is unable to attend school and is receiving hospital/homebound instruction from CECHS, the student will not be counted absent for those days covered by the hospital/homebound instruction. Homebound services are applicable only to high school courses. An academic advisory committee will review college course options, which may include withdrawal. **If hospital/homebound instruction is needed for more than one semester, a student may be referred to a traditional or online school.**

Make-Up Work: When any absence occurs, whether excused or unexcused, the student is expected to make up missed work. Each teacher will establish his/her own procedure for making up absences/work in core courses.

CCC Absences: College absences and attendance policies are referenced in each instructor's syllabus. CCC instructors may drop a student from their course due to excessive absences.

Academics

Academic Guidelines: The following academic course of study provides specific courses that are required for high school graduation. Students are dually enrolled in college courses, making them eligible to graduate with a college associate's degree or certificate.

NC Course of Study Graduation Requirements:

CONTENT AREA	FUTURE-READY CORE
English	4 Units Required: English I, II, III, and IV
Mathematics	4 Units Required: NC Math 1, 2, 3, and a 4th math (approved college course or NC Math 4)
Science	3 Units Required: Earth/Environmental Science, Biology, and Chemistry
Social Studies	4 Units Required: World History, American History, Economics/Personal Finance and Civic Literacy
Foreign Language	2 Units Recommended: SPA 111 & SPA 112
Health & PE	1 Unit Required: PED 110 and HEA 110
Electives	10 Units Required: College Associate Degree Requirements
TOTAL	**28 COURSE UNITS**

CECHS is committed to all students excelling in the classroom and mastering the content of all subject areas. Student work that does not meet the standard set forth by the classroom teacher may be returned to the student for significant improvement.

Class Rank and GPA: The official class rank shall be calculated using the weighted grade point average in which quality points are provided for passing grades in high school and college-level courses. Schools may recalculate class rank for the determination of valedictorian, salutatorian, and other graduation honors. Honor graduates may be recognized during the graduation process.

High School Weighted Grading Scale:

Numerical Grade	Letter	Honors Courses (quality points)	CCC Courses (quality points)
90 – 100	A	4.5	5.0
80 – 89	B	3.5	4.0
70 – 79	C	2.5	3.0

60 – 69	D	1.5	2.0
0 – 59	F	0	0

Honors and college courses require a deeper understanding of content, a faster pace, and more rigorous coursework. Parents must understand that honors and college courses will indeed require more from the students.

Honor Roll: Academic recognition is given to students each nine weeks through the Honor Rolls. Each Honor Roll is unweighted. The requirements for each Honor Roll are as follows:

- A Honor Roll-no grade lower than an A
- A/B Honor Roll-no grade lower than a B

CCC Academic Honors: Students who receive a 4.0 grade point average at the end of either the Fall or Spring semester and are enrolled full-time at CCC will be on the President's List for that semester. Students who receive a 3.5 to 3.99 grade point average at the end of the semester and are enrolled full-time at CCC will be on the Dean's List for that semester.

Criteria for students who completed the following courses in middle school:

Math 1	Students will be required to demonstrate content mastery in Math 1 to continue with Math II Honors in high school. Content mastery is demonstrated with an achievement level of 4 or higher on the Math 1 EOC at the end of the year and a final course grade of B or higher. Students who did not demonstrate content mastery will be required to repeat this course in high school.
Earth & Environmental Science	Students will be required to demonstrate content mastery in this course by earning a course grade of B or higher. Students who did not demonstrate content mastery will be required to repeat this course in high school.
World History	Students will be required to demonstrate content mastery in this course by earning a course grade of B or higher. Students who did not demonstrate content mastery will be required to repeat this course in high school.

Note: This is a guideline, not a district policy; therefore, the decision to make a student retake a high school course is up to the principal.

CECHS Course Progression

9th Grade	
HIGH SCHOOL	**COLLEGE**
World History (Yearlong)	PED 111 (1 credit hr / HS REQ)
Math 1 (Yearlong)	HEA 110 (3 credit hrs / HS REQ)
English I (Yearlong)	HUM 110 or CIS 110 (3 credit hrs)
Seminar (Yearlong)	COM 110 or COM 120 (3 credit hrs)
Math 2 (if Math 1 credit from MS)	Optional online CCC course for those with WH credit from 8th grade

10th Grade	
HIGH SCHOOL	**COLLEGE (at least 4 CCC core classes)**
Math 2 (Semester)	COM 231 Public Speaking (ALL sophomores)
Math 3 (Semester)	SOC 210
English II (Yearlong)	PSY 150
Biology (Yearlong)	POL 120
Seminar (Yearlong)	ART 111
	*MAT 143 for those meeting placement criteria

11th Grade	
HIGH SCHOOL	**COLLEGE (at least 5 CCC core classes)**
English III (Semester)	ENG 111 (3)
Earth & Environmental Science (Semester)	ENG 112 (3)
Chemistry (Semester)	SPA 111/181 (4)
American History (Semester)	SPA 112/182 (4)
Economics & Personal Finance (Semester)	MAT 143 (3) or MAT 171 (4)
Seminar (Yearlong)	PSY 150, SOC 210, POL 120, HIS 111, ART 111, MUS 110
ACT Prep (Semester)	CTE (BUS 110, BUS 137, CJC 111, CJC 121, CJC 141)

12th Grade	
HIGH SCHOOL	**COLLEGE** ***(remaining AA/AS/CTE classes, ideally no more than 12-13 CCC credit hours per semester)***
English IV (Semester)	BIO 111 (4) BIO 112 (4) if Associate of Science
Civic Literacy (Semester)	MAT 172 (4) if Associate of Science
HS "Enrolled" Seminar (Semester)	PSY 150, SOC 210, POL 120, HIS 111, ART 111, MUS 110
CCP Seminar Support 1Q	CTE and other elective courses

* STUDENTS ARE EXPECTED TO GRADUATE IN FOUR (4) YEARS WITH A HS Diploma and a CCC DEGREE OR CERTIFICATE.

CCC Math/English Course Placement:

- Benchmark Eligibility:
  - PSAT Math score of 510 and PSAT Evidence-Based Reading/Writing score of 460
  - PreACT/ACT Math score of 22, English score of 18, and Reading score of 22
  - Combination of benchmark scores from PSAT/PreACT/ACT
  - Level 4 or 5 on the Math 3 EOC
- GPA Eligibility:
  - Juniors and Seniors may place with an unweighted GPA of at least 2.8.
  - As and Bs help you attain this GPA criteria.

CCC Course Credit: Students must score a "C" or higher in all college courses to earn credit. If a student earns a grade below "C" he/she may be required to recover that course before he/she is eligible to graduate. ***Please be advised that if a student fails to successfully complete two or more college courses for college credit, re-enrollment at a traditional school may be recommended.*** Students on CCC Academic Probation or Suspension may be subject to re-enrollment at their zone school.

CCC Withdrawals: All withdrawal requests by a student, an instructor, or the academic advisory committee must be approved by the principal with consideration for the following criteria:

- Student shall have no evidence of attendance issues
- Student must provide evidence of consistent correspondence with the college course instructor, the College Liaison, and CECHS School Counselor
- Student must provide evidence that they have actively sought and taken advantage of tutoring and available academic support services: ACE Lab, Viking Success, etc.
- Student must notify the high school counselor and college liaison in person or via email, explaining why they want to drop the course and submit a withdrawal request form.

Consequences for Withdrawing from College Courses:

- Student will receive a WF on their high school/college transcript.
- The principal will initiate a conversation with parents to see if CECHS is the best fit for the student.
- The student may be required to take summer college courses in which the parent may be responsible for paying any applicable fees.

Junior Marshals: The top students in the Junior class as determined by weighted GPA at the end of the student's sophomore year, will be selected to serve as Junior Marshals for graduation. The number of Junior Marshals may vary depending on the graduation class size and the number of students with the same GPA. Students who have received OSS or have exhibited unsatisfactory qualities of character during high school will not be qualified for this honor.

NC High School Diploma Endorsements

North Carolina students may receive one or more endorsements on their high school diploma. These endorsements indicate that students have completed specific course concentrations preparing them to be ready for college or careers. Please refer to the NCDPI website for more information for diploma endorsements.

- **NC Academic Scholars Endorsement** indicates students have completed a balanced and academically rigorous high school program preparing them for post-secondary education with the completion of Future-Ready core mathematics requirements, three units of science (Earth/Environmental, Biology, and Chemistry or Physics) four course credits of social studies, two units of a world language (other than English), four elective credits in one subject area (CTE, add-on certificate), and an unweighted GPA of at least 3.5.

Scholarships: Students are encouraged to research scholarship opportunities through various search tools and resources. Students should research specific university and organizational scholarships that may be applicable to their post-graduate plans and eligibility. A scholarship list is posted on the CECHS Counselor Connection web page with application, eligibility, and deadline information for locally sponsored scholarships as well as some state/national opportunities. Several senior scholarships are due in the fall of the senior year: Morehead-Cain (UNC), Park (NCSU), and Levine Scholars (UNC Charlotte). A. Mickey Church Scholarships are awarded through the CCS Educational Foundations to the top 20% of graduating seniors with at least a weighted 4.0 GPA.

Summer College Courses are online and optional for students based on the following criteria:

1. Rising juniors and seniors with an unweighted GPA of 3.0 or better.
2. Students who earned a D or an F in a college class and desire to retake the course for college credit.
3. All registrations are subject to CECHS/CCC Summer Guidelines and availability.

Testing: Students will be expected to take final exams at the end of each high school and college course. In addition, students will take other assessments designed to improve their preparation for education, training, and work after high school.

Grade Level	Content Area and Standardized Testing
9th	Math 1 EOC, Math 3 EOC
10th	English II EOC, Biology EOC, Math 3 EOC, PreACT
11th	PSAT and ACT, ASVAB if applicable

Although all juniors take the ACT in the spring semester, students who are planning to enroll at a 4-year college/university are encouraged to register for additional college entrance exam opportunities (SAT/ACT)

prior to the fall of their senior year. Students who are eligible for ACT/SAT Testing Fee Waivers are required to submit a signed release to the School Counselor for processing.

Textbook purchasing guidelines: CECHS will only purchase textbooks/access codes for courses that satisfy the approved associate degree (Associate of Arts or Associate of Science) program of study. Textbook and/or access code ordering and fees for additional courses beyond the AA/AS or beyond our typical course offerings may be the responsibility of the student. Students may submit an "Additional Fee Agreement" during the registration process. If a student is required to repeat a college course for credit, the access code fees may be the responsibility of the student.

Academic Integrity

The following offenses constitute violations of the CECHS academic integrity code. For CCC Academic Integrity violations, please refer to Procedure 5.3.2.1 – Discipline and Appeals for Academic Violations of the CCC Student Handbook.

Cheating (Individual or Collusive): Sharing email account passwords, giving, taking, or presenting information or material that unethically or fraudulently aids self or others on any work to be considered in the determination of a grade or the completion of an academic requirement or the enhancement of one's record or academic career; to practice or attempt to practice dishonesty or deception in the taking of tests or in the preparation or submission of academic work purporting to be one's own; to copy or attempt to copy another person's test, paper, or other graded work in a course; to use or to provide any notes or other prepared materials that a student is not permitted to consult during a testing period or to bring those materials into the testing area with the intent to use; to submit identical or near identical papers or coursework for credit in more than one course without permission of the instructor; to steal, deface, or destroy any research materials or technology that may deprive others of their use; to obstruct or interfere with another student's academic work; to retain, possess, or circulate previously used exams, copies of blank tests, or other assignments without the instructor's permission; to allow another person to copy tests, papers, or other graded course work; to provide assistance to others in the preparation of graded course work without the express consent of the instructor. Questions related to homework or other assignments should be directed to the instructor. Failing to report that another student has used your work or another's work, with or without consent is a violation of academic integrity.

Lying: Committing a forgery or giving a statement known to be false or dishonest, orally or in writing, for the purpose of, or having the effect of, protecting or improving one's grades in a course, one's academic record, or one's academic standing.

Plagiarizing: The act of willfully copying a sentence, several sentences, or a significant part of a sentence from any source, including internet sites, that has been written by someone other than the person submitting the paper, and then neglecting to indicate that the material has been copied; also, copying from another writer by changing one or two words in the sentence, or to rearrange the order of the wording, or to paraphrase, or to summarize information and then neglect to furnish documentation. For all assignments, especially team or collaborative assignments, check with the teacher to find out what level of cooperation and/or sharing is permitted.

Consequences for committing acts of academic dishonesty:

1st Offense	Student may receive a zero on the assignment, parent contact, receive a written reprimand, and/or may be assigned an alternative assignment.
2nd Offense	Student may receive an "F" in the course or be assigned alternative assignments to rectify the failing grade or possibly be assigned online Credit Recovery. **Student may also lose the privilege of being recognized with honors by any organization sponsored by the school.**
3rd Offense	**Student will lose the privilege of being recognized with honors by any organization sponsored by the school.** NOTE: Depending upon the severity of the violation, additional consequences may be determined by the principal and CCS district administration.

Academic & Service Clubs

Beta Club: Membership in the National Beta Club is offered to rising 10th, 11th, and 12th graders who attain and maintain a minimum unweighted 3.5 GPA and complete 20 community service hours per year. This club promotes the ideals of academic achievement, character, service, and leadership among high school students. Student members are required to attend meetings, participate in service projects, and other organization activities.

National Honor Society: Membership in the National Honor Society represents the highest honor and trust that can be bestowed upon high school students in the junior or senior year of high school. The National Honor Society recognizes students for outstanding scholarship, leadership, character, and service. Membership in the society is indicative that the student has attained and is demonstrating and promoting all of these qualities and is exerting an effort to improve the conditions of the school and community. For membership in the CECHS chapter of the National Honor Society, students must attain and maintain a 3.75 unweighted GPA and complete a minimum of 8 (Juniors) or 10 (Seniors) community service hours per semester. Selection for membership is by a faculty review committee and is based on outstanding scholarship, character, leadership, and service. Once selected, members have the responsibility to continue to demonstrate these qualities.

Junior Civitans: Membership to this community service organization is open to all students. Junior Civitan members seek to meet the needs of our world and promote progress in a world of change.

Student Ambassadors: The mission of the Student Ambassador program at Cleveland Early College High School is to grow student leaders who will represent and promote CECHS to prospective students, current students, and the community by creating and leading school-wide events and activities. Student Ambassadors are appointed by the CECHS leadership team.

Friday Activities

On Fridays from 12:30-1:40 pm, 9th, 10th, and 11th grade students participate in a variety of activities. Students can sign up for activities on a weekly basis. Yearbook is an enrichment club that students must apply to participate in, and are required to meet until the book is completed (March). Activities include but are not limited to:

- Art
- Arcade
- Games
- Quiet Room
- Sports
- Yearbook (August - March)
- Youth Action Committee (by application)
- Volunteer Initiative opportunity for Juniors and service clubs

NCDPI Comprehensive and Innovative High School Design Principles

What is the NCDPI Comprehensive Innovative High Schools partnership?

The North Carolina Department of Public Instruction has partnered with 134 Comprehensive Innovative High Schools to facilitate the transformation of high schools to become academically rigorous and focused institutions that succeed in graduating all students prepared for college and work.

Design Principles: Each child in every school is entitled to achieve high equitable academic and effective outcomes. To that end, the following six design principles for High School Innovation Projects are non-negotiable for all involved in leading high school transformations:

- **Future Ready Graduates:** All CIHS staff members commit to ensuring every student graduates prepared and credentialed to succeed in post-secondary education and careers as an engaged and productive citizen. All staff collaborate to design and sustain a powerful school culture where the whole child is nurtured, developed, challenged, and supported to succeed in their chosen pathway of study.
- **Collaborative Partnerships:** Each CIHS is established and sustained through a foundational partnership with one school district and one IHE. A highly effective partnership is essential to the success of CIHS students. School district and college partners work collaboratively to support student learning in this innovative learning environment. CIHS programs also develop meaningful partnerships with business, industry, and community partners, and collaborate with other schools in their districts to promote innovation and the success of all students.
- **Innovative Instructional Practice:** All CIHS staff commit to ensuring every student is actively engaged, challenged, and supported in all classes, every day, to succeed in rigorous coursework and graduate having completed the post-secondary outcomes described above. All staff members commit to deep inquiry and consistent collaboration to design, facilitate, assess, and redesign learning activities that ensure successful student outcomes.

- **Personalized Student Supports:** All CIHS staff commit to ensuring that every student is known, respected, and cared for by the adults in the school. Every student is supported to develop their full potential through a variety of intentional ways. Staff leverage strong personal relationships with students to build their curiosity, persistence, and intrinsic motivation, as well as their support of each other, to succeed in rigorous coursework, innovative opportunities, and in college and careers.
- **Leadership and Professionalism:** All staff commit to a shared responsibility for the success of every student and professionally lead in areas appropriate to their roles and expertise. Embedded and ongoing staff development sustains a supportive and professional school culture that promotes inquiry and the ongoing design work of innovative secondary education.
- **Innovative Design and Operations:** CIHS are designed to partner with an IHE to blend secondary and post-secondary experiences in innovative ways. CIHS enables students to obtain a high school diploma and work towards an associate degree program, master a certificate or career-ready pathway, or earn up to two years of college credit within five years. CIHS leaders and staff commit to a design process of continuous improvement to ensure the ongoing successful implementation of the other CIHS Design Elements described in this Guide.

Expeditionary Learning

What is Expeditionary Learning? Expeditionary Learning is a school model that emphasizes high achievement through active learning, character growth, and teamwork. Expeditionary Learning emphasizes **five core practices** that support teaching and learning in its schools.

The Core Practices:

- **Learning Expeditions:** These studies are the curriculum units in Expeditionary Learning schools. Learning Expeditions support literacy (reading, writing, math) and address required grade-level academic content and skills. Final projects assess student learning.
- **Active Learning:** Teachers help students to become active and collaborative learners: to make connections, to experiment, and to develop empathy and understanding for events, people, and subjects. Students learn by doing.
- **School Culture and Character:** Expeditionary Learning provides a school culture that is characterized by a climate of physical and emotional safety, an ethic of service and responsibility, and a commitment to high-quality work.
- **Leadership and School Improvement:** Leaders in Expeditionary Learning schools create a professional community that focuses on curriculum and instruction as the primary vehicles for improving student achievement and school culture.
- **School Structures:** Expeditionary Learning schools use flexible scheduling during the school day so students can complete quality projects, use community resources, and do fieldwork (authentic field trips connected to the learning expedition).

Other components of Expeditionary Learning in high schools:

- **Crew Structure:** Crews are similar to advisories: a small group of less than 20 students is assigned to a faculty member. Crews meet at least 3 times per week. In addition to supporting the academic careers of each student, crews build teamwork, character, and community through team projects, adventure, and service.

- **Seminar:** A time for students to extend their knowledge, skills, and abilities both in the classroom and in the real world
- **School-wide Portfolio Culture:** All students maintain digital portfolios of their progress and achievements. Students reflect on their learning, needs, and goals through student-led conferences.
- **College-Ready:** The school expects that all students are capable of high-level work and will prepare all students for college. An active program of connecting students to higher education -- counseling, school visits, assistance with portfolio preparation and career planning, help in the application process -- is a part of every student's academic life.
- **Service and Adventure:** The school promotes service and adventure as part of student life in two ways. Firstly, daily practices such as maintaining the school facility and culture instill a service ethic in students. Secondly, students are provided with service learning opportunities that connect to their academic learning. Adventure is also integrated into the curriculum to build character, teamwork, and community.
- **Fieldwork and Internships:** Fieldwork is a regular part of curricular studies. Students ground their learning in the real world, not just through visits, but through academic work that engages them in real-world settings. Internships and intensives are a part of the school experience.

What is Crew?

In Expeditionary Learning Schools, each student is well known by at least one adult within the school. One structure for developing this relationship is Crew. A crew comprises a body of people who work at a common activity, toward a common goal, generally in a structured organization. The word has particular nautical references to the tasks involved in operating a ship.

At CECHS, Crew is:

- Building positive relationships
- Building a sense of community and belonging
- Providing academic monitoring and support
- Developing a unique school culture
- Building self-esteem and developing personal growth
- Ensuring high school success and college readiness
- Developing 21st Century Skills
- Developing healthy habits
- Developing a culture of service
- Developing leadership skills

Fieldwork and Intensives: Students in 9th, 10th, and 11th grade participate in a variety of off-campus field work experiences related to our interdisciplinary intensives. These experiences are an important part of our high school program, and participation is expected and required. Some of our fieldwork experiences may require students to participate in off-campus, overnight trips. All trips have an adventure skill to give our students an opportunity to experience a variety of outdoor activities before they graduate from high school. Typically, these field work experiences/trips occur when students will not miss college courses. The activity fee covers all expenses related to our field work experiences.

Grade Level Presentations:

- **Student Led Conferences:** Students put together a digital portfolio of their work and then present it to their parents in a Student-led Conference format. The students are able to showcase areas of academic strength as well as areas for growth to communicate how well they have met content-specific and

grade-level learning targets. Student-led conferences are scheduled twice each year, once in the fall and once in the spring. A parent/guardian is expected to attend each SLC.

- **Mock Interviews:** Create, critique, and present resumes and personal portfolios, and then participate in Mock Interviews. Every CECHS junior will have an opportunity to experience a professional interview before a panel of CCC college instructors and professionals from the Cleveland County community.
- **Viking Vision Night:** VVN offers informational tables for representatives to display college options and career opportunities or highlight community resources. Students and parents will have the flexibility throughout the evening to visit informational tables and participate in help sessions on topics: College Admissions Essay TIPS, the importance of ACT scores, FAFSA help sessions, four-year planning guide, and other topics. ALL students/parents are invited. **Junior and Senior students are required to attend as a seminar class requirement.**
- **12th grade Senior Talks:** Senior Talks are hosted **during the semester seniors are enrolled in English IV**. Seniors produce and present a 7 to 10-minute presentation to an audience of peers and/or staff based on their SLC portfolio.

NC HIGH SCHOOL FUTURE-READY CORE COURSE OF STUDY

ENGLISH: 4 credits

English I

English II

English III

English IV

SOCIAL STUDIES: 4 credits

World History

American History

Economics & Personal Finance

Civic Literacy

MATHEMATICS: 4 credits

Math 1

Math 2

Math 3

MAT 143 (CCC) or other approved Math

SCIENCE: 3 credits

Earth & Environmental Science

Biology

Chemistry

HEALTH & PHYSCIAL EDUCATION: 1 credit

Combine CCC HEA 110 & PED 111

WORLD/FOREIGN LANGUAGES*

2 recommended credits for UNC system colleges

(SPA 111/181 & SPA 112/182)

ELECTIVES: 12 Credits (Seminars, CCC Courses)

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____
7. _____
8. _____
9. _____
10. _____
11. _____
12. _____

Unweighted GPA	Weighted GPA

TESTING BENCHMARKS & RESULTS:

PreACT (10th)	Student's Scores
18 English 22 Reading 22 Math	____ English ____ Composite ____ Reading ____ Math

ACT (11th)	Student's Scores
18 English 22 Reading 22 Math	____ English ____ Reading ____ Math

PSAT (11th)	Student's Scores
460 EBRW 510 Math	____ EBRW ____ Math

SAT	Student's Scores
480 ERW 530 Math	____ EBRW ____ Math

3 HIGH SCHOOL

"A" Level Offenses

Expectation 1 – Acceptable Use

All students are expected to exercise good judgment, use the computer resources in an appropriate manner and adhere to policy 3350, Student Acceptable Use, and all applicable laws and regulations. Individual users of the Internet are expected to abide by the generally accepted rules of network etiquette. Student use of electronic information resources is expected to be related to educational goals and objectives. Failure to comply with the Student Acceptable Use policy for Cleveland County Schools shall be a violation of this expectation.

1st offense –	Up to one day suspension.
2nd offense –	Up to two days suspension and loss of privileges.
3rd offense –	Up to five days suspension and loss of privileges.

Expectation 2 – Compliance with School Personnel/Insubordination

All students enrolled in Cleveland County Schools shall be respectful and comply with all directions given by principals, teachers, substitute teachers, teacher assistants, bus drivers, school resource officers, and all other school personnel who are authorized to give such directions.

Students are expected to comply without delay to the directives of all school personnel at all times while a student is at school or involved in a school related activity.

Students who fail to comply with the directions of any school personnel anytime during the school day, during extra-curricular activities or during any period that the school personnel has authority, have violated this policy.

1st offense –	Up to three days suspension.
2nd offense –	Up to five days suspension.
3rd offense –	Up to ten days suspension.

Expectation 3 – Conduct on a School Bus

Cleveland County Schools desires to offer a school transportation system that supports the mission and vision of the school system and provides a safe, efficient, and effective way to school for students. It is important to note that school transportation is a privilege and not a student right. At all times, students should obey the directions of the school bus driver, school personnel associated with the bus, or any driver of a school vehicle. If a student fails to comply with the directions of the driver or school personnel, the student may lose the privilege of riding the school bus. Behaviors on the school bus that violate other expectations outlined in the Code of Conduct may also result in suspension from school.

- Students should follow directions given by the school bus driver or administrator.
- Students should remain in his/her assigned seat until the bus reaches the student's particular stop and the bus has come to a complete stop.
- Students should not eat or drink on the school bus.
- Students should be sure to take all of their belongings with them when exiting the school bus.
- Students should not bring contraband on the school bus. This includes any item that is a distraction to the bus driver.
- Students should not tamper with the bus, video cameras, or any other part of the school bus.
- Students should only get off at their assigned stops.

- Students should only board their assigned bus. Permission must be granted from the school administration for students to change the bus they are riding.
- Students should not willfully delay the bus schedule.
- Students should follow all expectations as defined in the Code of Conduct. All expectations for student behavior apply at the school, on the school bus, at the school bus stop, on any school grounds, and on any school associated function.

Additional referrals may result in suspension from the school bus for the remainder of the school year.

**A violation of a Level B or C offense on the school bus will also result in a minimum of a forty-five day suspension off the school bus along with the appropriate stated consequence for the offense.

A student may be removed from the bus at any time for the remainder of the school year for a serious violation.

1st offense – Up to five days suspension from the school bus.
2nd offense – Up to ten days suspension from the school bus.
3rd offense – Up to twenty days suspension from the school bus.
4th offense – Up to forty-five days suspension from the school bus.

Expectation 4 – Damage to School Property up to $1,000

Cleveland County Schools encourages respect for the property of the school and/or school system at all times. Students involved in intentionally damaging or vandalizing, attempting to damage or vandalize, or defacing school property or private property while under school jurisdiction shall be responsible for the cost of replacement, repair, or restoration of the property. Along with the financial responsibility assumed with the damage, students shall also be subject to the following consequences and possible criminal charges.

1st offense – Up to three days suspension and responsibility of cost.
2nd offense – Up to five days suspension and responsibility of cost.
3rd offense – Up to ten days suspension and responsibility of cost.
Damage to property that exceeds $1,000 will be considered a Level B offense. See Expectation 17.

Expectation 5 – Disruption of School

To fulfill the mission of Cleveland County Schools and to effectively teach all of our students in the best learning environment possible, it is essential that our schools be free from unnecessary disruptions, obstructions, or interference.

With this in mind, students will be expected to respect themselves, others, property, and the teaching and learning process. Student behavior that involves passive resistance, noise, threat, fear, intimidation, coercion, force, violence, or any other form of conduct that causes a disruption to any school function, mission, or process is in violation of this expectation. Urging of other students to engage in such conduct is also a violation.

1st offense – Up to one day suspension.
2nd offense – Up to three days suspension.
3rd offense – Up to five days suspension.

Expectation 6 – Obscene literature/language/profanity/gestures

Students will be expected to express themselves appropriately and in accordance to the mission and vision of Cleveland County Schools and their respective schools. Any expression spoken, written, or otherwise portrayed in any manner should be appropriate for the educational setting.

Possessing or distributing literature or illustrations that are obscene or disruptive, profanity, or vulgar or obscene language or gestures that significantly disrupt the educational environment will not be tolerated.

1st offense – Up to one day suspension.
2nd offense – Up to three days suspension.
3rd offense – Up to five days suspension.

Expectation 7 – Dress Code

Students are expected to adhere to standards of dress and appearance that are compatible with a safe and effective learning environment. The Cleveland County Board of Education adopts a dress code to create a positive learning environment, teach good grooming and hygiene, instill discipline, prevent disruption, avoid safety hazards, and teach respect for authority. Presenting a bodily appearance or wearing clothing which is disruptive, provocative, revealing, profane, vulgar, offensive or obscene, or which endangers the health or safety of the student or others, is prohibited.

Students will comply with the Student Dress Code policy for Cleveland County Schools, policy 4316.

1st offense – In school disciplinary action and correct the dress code violation.
2nd offense – Up to one day suspension and correct the dress code violation.
3rd offense – Up to three days suspension and correct the dress code violation.
Continued – Up to three days suspension offenses and correct dress code violation.

Expectation 8 – Peer Relations

Students are expected to engage in positive and appropriate relationships with their peers. Students should refrain from acts of bullying/ intimidation, extortion, threats, harassment, discrimination, rough play, and inappropriate displays of affection.

Bullying/Intimidation – Repeatedly inflicting or threatening to inflict physical or psychological harm, by an individual or group.

Threats – Making any threat or false threat through written or verbal language, sign or act which conveys an expression of intent to cause harm or violence or to disrupt school activities.

Extortion – Extorting or obtaining money, property, statements, or any related objects by the use of threats of force.

Harassment/Discrimination – Using abusive or offensive gestures, language or remarks that interfere with an individual's educational environment. Examples of harassment and discrimination include but are not limited to: abusive jokes, insults, slurs, name-calling, threats, insulting signs or actions, or intimidation. Students will comply with policies 4015 and 4021, Harassment.

1st offense – Up to three days suspension.
2nd offense – Up to five days school suspension.
3rd offense – Up to ten days suspension.

Rough Play – Engaging in rough-housing, boisterous activity or horseplay that poses a danger to the participants or others or disrupts school activities.

Displays of Affection – Engaging in behavior that is overly affectionate, disruptive, demeaning, indecent, or of a sexual nature while at school or at a school-sponsored activity.

1st offense – Up to one day suspension
2nd offense – Up to three days school suspension.
3rd offense – Up to five days school suspension.

Expectation 9 – Academic Integrity

Cleveland County Schools believes in and promotes character education including core values such as honesty, truthfulness, and integrity. Students are expected to exhibit these characteristics in their actions and academic work. Violations of academic integrity include but are not limited to cheating, plagiarism, forgery, alteration or falsification of statements and documents, use of false identification, and violation of the copyright laws.

Students who engage in, or assist or encourage others to engage in, these activities are in violation of this policy.

1st offense – In school disciplinary action.
2nd offense – Up to one day suspension.
Continued offenses – Up to three days school suspension.

Violations of this expectation may result in academic penalties.

Expectation 10 – Cell Phones/Wireless Communication Devices

Cell phones and other wireless communication devices may not be turned on, handled, or visible during the instructional day or other school functions without prior approval by the school administration.

1st offense – Up to one day suspension.
2nd offense – Up to three days suspension.
3rd offense – Up to five days suspension.

Expectation 11 – Skipping School

Cleveland County Schools recognizes the importance of school and classroom attendance and holds classroom and instructional time in very high regard.

Students are expected to adhere and comply with the school schedule. Students are expected to arrive on time and remain on campus and in assigned classes or activities unless they have been authorized to leave by school personnel.

Offense - Up to two days suspension.

Expectation 12 – Theft

Cleveland County Schools encourages respect for school property and for personal property of students, school employees and others. Students guilty of stealing, attempting to steal, or knowingly being in possession of stolen property are subject to school consequences as well as possible criminal charges.
Expectation 13 – Tobacco

Cleveland County Schools promotes a safe and healthy environment for all students and staff. Students should not use or possess any form of tobacco product at any time while at school, on school property, involved in school related activities, or being supervised by school personnel. Cleveland County Schools promotes a 100% tobacco free environment for all students, staff, visitors, and community members.

1st offense – Up to three days suspension.
2nd offense – Up to five days suspension.
3rd offense – Up to ten days suspension.

Expectation 13 – Tobacco

Cleveland County Schools promotes a safe and healthy environment for all students and staff. Students should not use or possess any form of tobacco product, including e-cigarettes, at any time while at school, on school property, involved in school related activities, or being supervised by school personnel. Cleveland County Schools promotes a 100% tobacco free environment for all students, staff, visitors, and community members.

1st offense – Up to two days suspension.
2nd offense – Up to three days suspension.
3rd offense – Up to five days suspension.

Expectation 14 – Trespassing

Cleveland County Schools desires to maintain a safe environment for students and staff on all school campuses. In order to provide this environment, students are expected to attend the school to which they are assigned. Unless authorized by personnel at both schools, students should not be on campus at any other school during the school day.

Students who loiter on campus after the school day or after any school activity will be considered trespassing.

Any student that has been suspended from school may be considered trespassing if they appear on the property of any school during the suspension period without the permission of the school principal. Trespassing may also result in criminal prosecution.

1st offense – Up to three days suspension.
2nd offense – Up to five days suspension.
3rd offense – Up to ten days suspension.

"B" Level Offenses

Expectation 15 – Boycott/Protest

Cleveland County Schools believes that all students should participate in the educational environment and activities set forth by the Board of Education and each individual school. Students should embrace the opportunities for enrichment, experiences, and knowledge.

Students will not be permitted to boycott or walk out of any lawful school function in which attendance is required. Furthermore, students shall not engage in any protest, march, picket, or sit-in designed to disrupt the school environment or cause a disruption of any school activity whether on or off any school campus.

1st offense – Up to ten days suspension.
2nd offense – Ten days suspension and possible recommendation for long-term suspension.

Expectation 16 – Fighting/Physical Aggression

Students enrolled in Cleveland County Schools should expect to attend school in a non-threatening environment. Students are expected to refrain from physically aggressive behavior directed toward other students. These behaviors include but are not limited to hitting, shoving, scratching, kicking, biting, stabbing, throwing objects or any behavior intended to or reasonably likely to result in a fight or to cause physical harm. Students involved in or instigating a fight or other physical aggression on school property or at any school sponsored event shall be subject to the following consequences, adjusted as appropriate based on the presence of aggravating or mitigating factors, and may be subject to criminal charges. See Expectation 35 for violations involving serious physical injury.

1st offense – Up to ten days suspension.
2nd offense – Up to ten days suspension and possible recommendation for long-term suspension.
3rd offense – Ten days suspension and possible recommendation for long-term suspension.

Expectation 17 – Damage to School Property Exceeding $1,000

Cleveland County Schools encourages respect for the property of the school and/or school system. Students involved in intentionally damaging or vandalizing, attempting to damage or vandalize, or defacing school property or private property while under school jurisdiction shall be responsible for the cost of replacement, repair, or restoration of the property. Along with the financial responsibility assumed with the damage, students shall also be subject to the following consequences and possible criminal charges.

1st offense – Up to ten days school suspension, payment of the cost of replacement, repair, or restoration of the property, and possible recommendation for long-term suspension.

Expectation 18 – Disruption of School (Major Disruptions)

To fulfill the mission of Cleveland County Schools and to effectively teach all of our students in the best learning environment possible, it is essential that our schools be free from unnecessary disruptions, obstructions, or interference.

With this in mind, students will be expected to respect themselves, others, property, and the teaching and learning process. Student behavior that involves aggressive resistance, extreme noise, threat, fear, intimidation, coercion, force, violence, or any other form of conduct that significantly disrupts any school function, mission or process is in violation of this expectation.

1st offense – Up to ten days suspension and possible recommendation for long-term suspension.
2nd offense – Ten days suspension and possible recommendation for long-term suspension.

Expectation 19 – Fire Alarms

Cleveland County Schools promotes a safe and orderly learning environment for all students. Setting off, attempting to set off, or aiding and abetting anyone in setting off a fire alarm is strictly prohibited. Also prohibited is interfering with or damaging any part of a fire alarm, fire or smoke detection device, or fire extinguishing system.

Expectation 20 – Fireworks, Ammunition

Cleveland County Schools is committed to providing a safe environment for students, staff, and visitors. Possessing, distributing, igniting or using any fireworks or ammunition on school property, in any school vehicle, or at any school sponsored activity or event is strictly prohibited.

1st offense – Up to ten days suspension and possible recommendation for long term suspension.
2nd offense – Ten days suspension and possible recommendation for long-term suspension.

Expectation 21 – Gang Activity

Students enrolled in Cleveland County Schools are expected to engage in positive peer relationships. Students shall not participate in, lead, or encourage others to participate in a gang, gang activity or gang behavior. A gang is defined as any ongoing group, organization or association, whether formal or informal, having as one of its primary purposes or activities the commission of criminal acts and having a common name, identifying sign, colors, symbols, tattoos, attire or other distinguishing characteristics.

1st offense – Up to five days school suspension.
2nd offense – Up to ten days suspension.
3rd offense – Up to ten days suspension and possible recommendation for long-term suspension.

Before being suspended for a first offense of wearing gang-related attire, a student may receive a warning and be allowed to change or remove the attire if the school administration determines that the student did not intend the attire to show gang affiliation.

Expectation 22 – Hazing

Students enrolled in Cleveland County Schools shall be free from physical injury, verbal abuse, or psychological damage as part of an initiation or as a condition of membership in any school group, function or organization. Students who engage in or encourage others to engage in hazing shall be subject to disciplinary action and possible criminal prosecution.

1st offense – Up to five days school suspension.
2nd offense – Up to ten days suspension.
3rd offense – Ten days suspension and possible recommendation for long-term suspension.

***Expectation 23 – Possession of Weapons other than Firearms**

Students enrolled in Cleveland County Schools should expect to attend school in an environment free from all weapons. Students shall not possess, handle, transmit, or bring on to school property any items including, but not limited to, knife, BB gun, air rifle, air pistol, sling shot, blackjack, metal knuckles, bludgeon, bowie knife, switchblade, dirk, dagger, leaded cane, stun gun or other electronic shock weapon, pepper spray, razors and razor blades, or any sharp-pointed or edged instrument, or facsimile or other item that could be considered a weapon or dangerous instrument. This policy does not apply to instructional supplies, unaltered nail files and clips, or tools used solely for preparation of food, instruction, or maintenance.

See Expectation 33 for violations involving firearms or destructive devices.

1st offense – Up to ten days suspension and possible recommendation for long term suspension.
2nd offense – Ten days suspension and possible recommendation for long-term suspension.

***Expectation 24 – Possession of Drugs or Alcohol**

Cleveland County Schools believes that all schools should be free from drugs and alcohol. Students enrolled in CCS shall not possess, use or be under the influence of any narcotic drug, hallucinogenic drug, amphetamine, barbiturate, marijuana, anabolic steroid, other controlled substance, any alcoholic beverage, malt beverage, fortified wine, other intoxicating liquor, drug paraphernalia, counterfeit drugs or unauthorized prescription drug, or possess or use any other chemicals or products with the intention of bringing about a state of exhilaration, euphoria, or of otherwise altering the student's mood or behavior. Selling, distributing, possessing with the intent to distribute or sell, or conspiring or attempting to sell or distribute are Level C offenses.

1st offense – Ten days suspension. This suspension may be reduced in half with the student's participation in an approved drug assessment program and the student and parent's participation in an approved drug program.
2nd offense – Ten days suspension and possible recommendation for long-term suspension.

Expectation 25 – Sexual Harassment

Students enrolled in Cleveland County Schools are expected to respect the worth and dignity of all students. Sexual harassment includes but is not limited to deliberate and unwelcome touching, unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors or pressure for sexual activity, and sexual or degrading words used toward an individual. Students must comply with policies 4015 and 4021, Sexual Harassment.

1st offense – Up to ten days suspension and possible recommendation for long-term suspension.
2nd offense - Ten days suspension and possible recommendation for long-term suspension.

Expectation 26 – Threats (towards staff/serious threats towards students)

Cleveland County Schools promotes an environment that is safe and secure for all students, staff, and school personnel. Students, staff, and school volunteers should be able to carry out their responsibilities free from any threatening act. This safe environment is extended

to the entire school campus, school vehicles, and school functions. Students enrolled in CCS shall not communicate threats of death or serious bodily injury toward any student, school employee or school volunteer. This includes threats made verbally, in writing, or in any other form of communication.

1st offense – Up to ten days and possible recommendation for long-term suspension.
2nd offense - Ten days suspension and possible recommendation for long-term suspension.

Expectation 27 – Verbal Abuse of Staff

All employees and volunteers in Cleveland County Schools should be able to perform their duties and work in an environment free from verbal, written, or communicated abuse. Participation in serious and/or persistent verbal or written conduct that prevents an orderly and peaceful learning and teaching environment is prohibited. Students shall not direct insulting, abusive, profane, or obscene words towards employees or volunteers.

1st offense – Up to five days suspension.
2nd offense – Up to ten days suspension and possible recommendation for long-term suspension.
3rd offense – Ten days suspension and possible recommendation for long-term suspension.

"C" Level Offenses

The following conduct is prohibited as outlined below:

***Expectation 28 – Arson**

Burning or attempting to burn any school building or property. Possessing incendiary material including, but not limited to, gasoline, kerosene, or other flammable liquid for the purpose of burning or the attempted burning of school property.

Offense – Ten day suspension and possible recommendation for long-term suspension.

***Expectation 29 –<u>Distribution</u> of Drugs or Alcohol**

Distributing, selling, possessing with intent to distribute or sell, or conspiring or attempting to distribute or sell any narcotic drug, hallucinogenic drug, amphetamine, barbiturate, marijuana, anabolic steroid, other controlled substance, any alcoholic beverage, malt beverage, fortified wine, other intoxicating liquor, drug paraphernalia, counterfeit drugs or unauthorized prescription drug, or other chemicals or products with the intention of bringing about a state of exhilaration, euphoria, or of otherwise altering the student's mood or behavior.

Offense – Ten day suspension and possible recommendation for long-term suspension.

***Expectation 30 – Sexual Assault**

Offensively or forcibly touching another person's private parts, including buttocks or breasts, or forcing or attempting to force another to engage in a sexual act against his or her will.

Offense – Ten day suspension and possible recommendation for long-term suspension.

Engaging in any consensual sexual act while on school property or at a school-sponsored activity or event.

Offense – Ten day suspension and possible recommendation for long-term suspension.

***Expectation 32 – Use of a Weapon**

Using in a threatening or dangerous manner any weapon or other object that can reasonably be considered a weapon or a facsimile of a weapon.

Offense – Ten day suspension and possible recommendation for long-term suspension.

***Expectation 33 – Possession or Use of a Firearm**

Students shall not bring onto school property or possess a firearm or destructive device. A firearm is any weapon, including a starter gun, which will or is designed to or may readily be converted to expel a projectile by the action of an explosive, the frame or receiver of any such weapon, or any firearm muffler or firearm silencer. The definition of firearm under this rule does not include an inoperable antique firearm, a BB gun, stun gun, air rifle, or air pistol.

A destructive device is an explosive, incendiary, or poison gas bomb, grenade, rocket having a propellant charge of more than four ounces, missile having an explosive or incendiary charge or more than one-quarter ounce, mine, or similar device.

Offense – recommendation for a 365 calendar day suspension. This required suspension may be modified by the Superintendent in accordance with G.S. 115C-390.10. The superintendent shall not impose a 365-day suspension if the superintendent determines that the student took or received the firearm or destructive device from another person at school or found the firearm or destructive device at school, provided that the student delivered or reported the firearm or destructive device as soon as practicable to a law enforcement officer or a school employee and had no intent to use such firearm or destructive device in a harmful or threatening way.

***Expectation 34 – Bomb Threat or Hoax**

(a) Communicating by any means to any person or group of persons, a report, knowing or having reason to know the report is false, that there is located on educational property or at a school-sponsored curricular or extracurricular activity off educational property an explosive device or any device, substance or material designed to cause harmful or life-threatening illness or injury to another person; or

(b) With intent to perpetrate a hoax, concealing, placing, or displaying a device, machine, instrument, or artifact on educational property or at a school-sponsored curricular or extracurricular activity off educational property, so as to cause any person reasonably to believe the same to be a bomb or other device capable of causing injury to persons or property.

***Expectation 35 – Assault on a Student**

No student may cause or attempt to cause serious physical injury to another student or intentionally behave in such a manner as could reasonably cause serious physical injury to any student. For the purposes of this policy "serious physical injury" shall refer to any significant or aggravated bodily injury, including but not limited to broken bone(s), loss or chipping of teeth, loss or impairment of vision, loss of consciousness, internal injuries, scarring or other disfigurement, significant bleeding, lacerations resulting in sutures, significant bruising, severe or prolonged pain, any injury requiring hospitalization for any period of time, and/or any injury resulting in medical treatment beyond simple first aid procedures.

Offense – Ten day suspension and possible recommendation for long-term suspension.

***Expectation 36 – Assaults on Teachers or Other School Personnel**

Causing or attempting to cause bodily harm to a teacher, school personnel, volunteer or other adult who is not a student.

Offense – Ten day suspension and possible recommendation for long-term suspension.

***Indicates Reportable Offense as defined by G.S. 115C-288.**

Notice to parents for students who are expelled or suspended for more than 10 school days:

If a student is expelled or suspended for more than ten (10) school days, the superintendent or designee shall give notice to the student's parent/guardian of the student's procedural and appeal rights. Notice shall be in plain language and shall be easily understandable. If English is the second language of the parent or guardian, the notice shall be written in the parent's or guardian's first language when the appropriate foreign language resources are readily available. The notice also shall be provided in English. The notice shall identify the information to be included in the student's official record and the procedure for expunging the information.

Legal Reference: G.S. 115C-390.1 – 390.12, -398; G.S. 14-35, -269.2; Gun Free Schools Act of 1994
Adopted: July 6, 2009
Revised