

Student Handbook



BARTON SCHOOL DISTRICT

Serving the communities of Barton, Lakeview, Lexa and Oneida.

2025-2026 STUDENT HANDBOOK

Grades K-12

Dr. Bruce Guthrie, Superintendent

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District Website: www.bartonsd.org

Vision Statement

Preparing today's learners for college and/or careers by personalizing their education

Mission Statement

Barton School District graduates will reflect the following principles for success:

- College and/or career ready
- Responsible citizens with moral character
- Technological awareness
- Life skills
- Health and Safety skills
- Diversity

Date Adopted: 06/16/16
Last Revised: 05/20/19

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Letter from the Superintendent

Dear Parents, Students, and Patrons:

I want to personally welcome everyone back for the school year. Our teachers and staff are ready to provide the best educational opportunities they can to meet the needs of all our students in our district. We sincerely hope that each parent or guardian remains involved in their child's educational process throughout their public school experience.

The student handbook covers rules and regulations to ensure the efficient operation of this school. If there are any additions or deletions during this school year in the handbook, an insert will be provided showing the changes. Please be advised that if you should have any questions or concerns relating to the handbook, you should contact the principal's office for further information.

I hope each of you exhibit the Barton Pride and Tradition that has become so prominent over the past several decades. Go Bears Go!

Yours in Education,
Dr. Bruce Guthrie
Superintendent
P.O. Box 97
Barton, AR 72312
Telephone: (870) 572-7294
bguthrie@bartonsd.org

2025-2026 District Calendar

2025-2026

Barton School District

Alternate Calendar
174 Days = 1123.18 Hours
Board Approved 12/10/24

July 2025	August 2025	September 2025
Su M Tu W Th F Sa 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	Su M Tu W Th F Sa 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	Su M Tu W Th F Sa 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30
October 2025	November 2025	December 2025
Su M Tu W Th F Sa 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	Su M Tu W Th F Sa 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30	Su M Tu W Th F Sa 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31
January 2026	February 2026	March 2026
Su M Tu W Th F Sa 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	Su M Tu W Th F Sa 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28	Su M Tu W Th F Sa 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31
April 2026	May 2026	June 2026
Su M Tu W Th F Sa 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30	Su M Tu W Th F Sa 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	Su M Tu W Th F Sa 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30

Flex PD Days	Required PD
1st Day of QTR	Last Day of QTR
No School	Early Dismiss
Progress Reports	Parent/Teacher Conferences

Date	Event or Holiday
July 29-Aug 1	Professional Development Flex Days
July 30-31	PD REQUIRED FOR NEW HIRES
Aug 4-15	Required Professional Development
Aug 07	Open House (2:00-6:00)
Aug 18	First day of Classes
Sept 1	Labor Day- No School
Sept 16	Progress Reports
Oct 13	Fall Break
Oct 15	End of 1st Qtr (263.9 Hours=41 Days)
Oct 16	1st Day of 2nd Qtr
Oct 21	Dismiss at 2:00
Oct 21	Parent/Teacher Conf. 2:30-6:30 (Double Day)
Nov 18	Progress Reports
Nov 24-28	Thanksgiving Break
Dec 17	Odd Period Sem Test
Dec 18	Dismiss at 1:30 Even Period Sem Test
Dec 19	Dismiss at 1:30 Make Up Sem Test
Dec 19	End of 2nd Qtr (268.14 Hours=42 Days)
Dec 22-Jan 2	Christmas Break (16 Days)
Jan 05	Classes Resume- 1st Day of 3rd Qtr
Jan 19	Martin Luther King Jr. Day- No School
Feb 03	Progress Reports
Feb 16	President's Day- No School
March 6	End of 3rd Qtr (276.9 Hours=43 Days)
March 9	1st Day of 4th Qtr
March 12	Dismiss at 2:00
March 12	Parent/Teacher Conf. 2:30-6:30 (Double Day)
March 23-27	Spring Break
Apr 03	Good Friday- No School
Apr 14	Progress Reports
April 27	Testing Break- No School
May 20	Odd Period Sem Test
May 21	Dismiss at 1:30 Even Period Sem Test
May 22	Dismiss at 1:30 Make Up Sem Test
May 22	Last Day- End of 4th Qtr (306.96 Hours=48 Days)

Teacher Day Information
Teaching Days- 174
Professional Development- 10
PD Flex Days- 4
Parent/Teacher Conference- 2
Days for Certified Staff- 190
Teacher Work Day: 7:30-3:30

Student Day Information
174 Student Days at 6.47 hours each=1,125.78 hrs (7:50-3:18)
2 Early Dismissal at 2:00 1 hr 18 minutes=2.6 hours
Sem Exam Early Dismiss at 1:30 (4 days)=7.2 hours
Total Instructional Hours= 1115.98 hours
State Required Hours= 1068
In calendar Banked Hours= 47.98 hours (State Min.=30 hrs)
Student School Day: 7:50-3:18

School Times

1st bell rings at 7:45 a.m.

Tardy bell rings at 7:50 a.m.

Dismissal bell rings at 3:18 p.m.

Date Adopted: 1/9/24

4.11—EQUAL EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITY

The District is required by Title IV and Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Title IX of Education Amendments of 1972, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the Americans with Disabilities Act, and the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, as amended, as well as Board policy not to discriminate in such a manner.

This is to certify that the district's civil rights coordinator is:

Name: Michael Burchett
Telephone: (870) 572-7294 ext. 3201
Address: P.O. Box 97
Barton, AR 72312

Reporting Child Abuse

To report child abuse or neglect in Arkansas, you must call the Child Abuse Hotline at 1-800-482-5964 (TDD: 1-800-843-6349). You can make a report to the hotline without giving your personal information. Please give as much information about the incident, the victim, and the alleged perpetrator as possible.

More Information:

[Arkansas Department of Human Services- Child Maltreatment](#)

[Arkansas Division of Elementary & Secondary Education- Child Maltreatment](#)

Legal References: A.C.A. § 6-18-712

DISTRICT POLICIES

**P.O. Box 97
Barton, AR 72312**

**5995 Hwy 49
Lexa, AR 72355**

Phone: 870-572-7294 ext 7294

Superintendent: Dr. Bruce Guthrie
bguthrie@bartonsd.org

Secretary: Mrs. Cyndi Slane
cslane@bartonsd.org

School Board Members

Donna Dunlap, President
Rosetta Crawford, Vice-President
Anthony Arnold, Secretary
Kim Ford
Lita Moore-Johnson
Jamie Pryor
Jaret King

District Contacts

Section 504: 870-572-7294 ext. 4727 504@bartonsd.org

Title IX: 870-572-7294 ext 4747 titleix@bartonsd.org

Title VI: 870-572-7294 ext 4705 titlevi@bartonsd.org

Transportation: 870-572-7294 ext 4709 sginn@bartonsd.org

Nurse: 870-572-7294 ext 4730 mbond@bartonsd.org

Technology: 870-572-7294 ext 4718 shardy@bartonsd.org

Barton ILEA: 870-572-7294 ext 4703 dharvey@bartonsd.org

Food Services: 870-572-7294 ext 4728 sreynolds@bartonsd.org

Mental Health Crisis Interventionist 870-572-7294 ext 4706 mentalcrisishelp@bartonsd.org

Parent, Family, and Community Engagement: 870-572-7294 ext 2905 cthomas@bartonsd.org

Student Policies

4.1—RESIDENCE REQUIREMENTS

4.2—ENTRANCE REQUIREMENTS

4.3—COMPULSORY ATTENDANCE REQUIREMENTS

4.4—STUDENT TRANSFERS

4.5—SCHOOL CHOICE

4.6—HOMESCHOOLING

4.7—ABSENCES

In addition to policy 4.7, parents/guardians may write an excuse for a student. Parents can only excuse 3 days total during a semester. 11th and 12th grade students may use two days as College/Career visits. Students must return to school with the completed documentation from the college or workforce to have the missed day(s) excused.

A written statement or doctor's note presented for an absence having occurred more than five (5) school days prior to its presentation will not be accepted.

Students may be rewarded for perfect attendance by 9 weeks, semester, or entire school year. Students that have been absent, excused absence, tardy, or out of school suspension will not qualify for perfect attendance. College/Career visits not exceeding 2 days per school year and required documentation has been provided will not count against a student for perfect attendance.

4.8—MAKE-UP WORK

4.9—TARDIES

See each campus' tardy rules in the sections below.

4.10—CLOSED CAMPUS

Lunch may not be delivered and you may not leave campus. All deliveries should be kept to an emergency situation only. Students who leave the campus with administrative approval or who arrive late to school may not bring food or drink when returning to school.

4.11—EQUAL EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITY

4.12—STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS/EQUAL ACCESS

4.14—STUDENT MEDIA AND THE DISTRIBUTION OF LITERATURE

4.15—CONTACT WITH STUDENTS WHILE AT SCHOOL

4.16—STUDENT VISITORS

4.17—STUDENT DISCIPLINE

4.18—PROHIBITED CONDUCT

Consequences are at the administrator's discretion which can result in a minimum of a reprimand to a maximum of expulsion.

4.19—CONDUCT TO AND FROM SCHOOL AND TRANSPORTATION ELIGIBILITY

4.23—TOBACCO, ELECTRONIC NICOTINE DELIVERY SYSTEMS, AND RELATED PRODUCTS

4.24—DRUGS AND ALCOHOL

4.25—STUDENT DRESS AND GROOMING

In order to enhance high standards in our school, we must encourage neatness, cleanliness, and decency in the personal dress and appearance of all students. In view of this, all students will be expected to be dressed and groomed so as to present an image in keeping with current style and good taste.

General Guidelines

- All garments must be worn in the manner for which they are designed and must provide modesty and decency.
- Any clothing, bandannas, tattoos, or other designs on the body which advertise or display emblems, insignias, badges, or other symbols which identify a student as being part of a group (other than a school-sanctioned group) is unacceptable. Gang clothing, paraphernalia, insignias, bandannas, do-rags, hand signals, or caps not worn straight forward will not be tolerated.
- Any clothing or accessories which advertises alcoholic beverages, tobacco products, gambling, bars or anything illegal for teenagers is unacceptable.
- No words or suggestive figures may be displayed on the posterior.

Clothing

- Upper body clothing must have sleeves and may not be see-through.
- Class shirts, club shirts, prom shirts, senior shirts, etc. must be approved by the principal. School shirts must reflect only positive values.

- Pants, jeans, dresses, skirts or shorts must be in good clean repair; holes will be allowed but must follow the “fingertip rule.” If there are holes above the fingertip line, outer garments must be worn to cover these holes, or leggings can be worn underneath to cover skin above the “fingertip rule.” Holes are defined as rips, tears, or tatters in which skin is visible. The “fingertip rule” means clothing must be longer than the tips of the fingers when arms are extended down and shoulders are relaxed.
- When leggings, jeggings or similar garments are worn, another garment such as a shirt, sweater, blouse, dress, shorts, or skirt must be worn over them that conceal the form of the buttocks and crotch area.
- Sagging and/or excessively loose clothing will not be tolerated. Undergarments may not show. The waistband of jeans, joggers, and short pants must be no lower than the top of the hip bone.
- No pajamas, houseshoes, or blankets are allowed.

Footwear

- Shoes must be worn.
- No Heelys or any other footwear with wheels will be allowed.
- No house shoes are allowed.

Headwear:

- Hats, hoods, beanies, wraps, or turbans may not be worn inside buildings during school hours.
- Bandannas, do-rags, wave caps, or bonnets are not permitted on campus during the school day or at school sponsored events.

Accessories:

- Any clothing accessory, i.e., billfold chain, hair rake/comb, etc. that can be used to inflict physical injury will not be allowed.
- Sunglasses may not be worn in the student’s hair or around the neck in any manner.
- No clothing, jewelry, or other attire that has lights, bells, or noise-making devices will be allowed.

Hair

- A student’s hair should be neat, clean, and well-groomed.
- Hair styles which are distracting to a student’s learning or which need constant attention are not acceptable.
- Hairstyles may not impair vision or prevent eye contact with staff members and others.
- Extreme hair or clothing that may cause a disturbance or disruptions will not be permitted.

When in P.E. class, all students must wear tennis/athletic shoes. T-shirts and shorts must meet all other requirements of the dress code. Elementary students must wear tennis shoes for Physical Education.

Exceptions to the above rules and regulations may be approved for special occasions by the administration. Students who do not comply with these guidelines will receive appropriate disciplinary action. Since styles, fashions, and fads change, the administration may make decisions regarding other modes of dress that are considered inappropriate. If a student’s teacher is concerned with the possible violations of the guidelines, this concern must be addressed with the appropriate administrator for consultation and possible disciplinary action.

Students who attend school dressed in violation of the dress code must correct their attire. Failure to comply may result in corporal punishment, BLA, or ultimately suspension. Any class time missed for this reason will be considered an unexcused absence.

Final decision of apparel will be at the discretion of the administration.

Date Adopted: 6/10/14

Last Revised: 7/15/24

4.27—STUDENT SEXUAL HARASSMENT

More Title IX Information can be found at: <https://www.bartonsd.org/page/title-ix>

Grievance Procedures for Complaints of Sex Discrimination (§ 106.45)

4.28—LASER POINTERS

4.29—INTERNET SAFETY and ELECTRONIC DEVICE USE POLICY

4.30—SUSPENSION FROM SCHOOL

4.31—EXPULSION

4.32—SEARCH, SEIZURE, AND INTERROGATIONS

A DRUG/FIREARM DOG WILL RANDOMLY SEARCH ALL AREAS OF THE CAMPUS. IF THE DRUG DOG ALERTS, SCHOOL OFFICIALS WILL BE NOTIFIED IF A STUDENT, STUDENT PROPERTY, LOCKER, OR AUTOMOBILE IS INVOLVED. THE PRINCIPAL (OR HIS DESIGNEE) WILL BE NOTIFIED AND A THOROUGH SEARCH OF THE AREA OR PROPERTY WILL BE CONDUCTED. IF ANY ILLEGAL OR UNAUTHORIZED DRUGS ARE FOUND, THE STUDENT WILL BE ARRESTED AND SUSPENDED FOR AT LEAST 10 DAYS AND RECOMMENDED FOR EXPULSION FOR THE REMAINDER OF THE SEMESTER OR LONGER.

4.34—COMMUNICABLE DISEASES AND PARASITES

4.35—STUDENT MEDICATIONS

4.37—EMERGENCY DRILLS

Fire Drill—Student Procedure

1. The fire alarm will consist of one continuous signal from the fire alarm system.
2. Upon hearing the alarm bell, students should follow these procedures in evacuating the building;
 - a. Walk (no running or horseplay) in an orderly manner to the designated fire exit for your room. The teacher will follow the last student.
 - b. If your exit is blocked, proceed to the nearest exit in an orderly manner. If you are in the restroom or hallway, proceed to the nearest exit and locate your teacher.
 - c. Students are to leave all books and project materials in the classroom.
 - d. If a room door is blocked by fire, the teacher will open a window for the safe exit of all students. This procedure will be followed only in extreme emergencies.
 - e. After having cleared the building, remain in a single file line until your teacher takes an official roll count.
3. Following a fire drill, the teachers will notify students of an “all-clear” signal, which is a long ring of the bells. Students are to return to their classes and resume regular work.

Tornado Drill—Student Procedures

1. The tornado alarm/ severe weather alert will be on the intercom.
2. Upon hearing the alarm bell, students should follow these procedures in going to a place of safety:
 - a. Walk (no running or horseplay) in an orderly manner to the designated place of safety for your room. The teacher will follow the last student from the room. Building instructions are to be posted in each classroom.
 - b. Students are to leave all books and project materials in the classroom.
 - c. A normal ring of the bell will be the signal to return to class.

4.39—CORPORAL PUNISHMENT

4.41—PHYSICAL EXAMINATIONS OR SCREENINGS

4.43—BULLYING

4.46—PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE AND MOMENT OF SILENCE

4.47— POSSESSION AND USE OF PERSONAL ELECTRONIC DEVICES

- 1st Offense: Device confiscated; returned only to parent/guardian. Student receives documented written warning and parent notified.
- 2nd Offense: Device confiscated; parent must retrieve. Student receives corporal punishment (if parental consent is on file) or 3 days In-School Suspension (ISS).
- 3rd Offense: Out-of-School Suspension (OSS) for 5 days. Student banned from all extracurricular activities for the remainder of the semester. Phone/devices must be checked in at the building office and may be picked up at the end of the day
- 4th Offense: OSS for 10 days, possible disciplinary hearing of expulsion, and referral to the district for additional consequences under insubordination or habitual rule violation. No phone/devices allowed on campus.

Refusal to surrender a device when requested by a staff member is considered gross insubordination and results in immediate 10 day OSS regardless of offense count.

4.53— PLACEMENT OF MULTIPLE BIRTH SIBLINGS

4.54 - STUDENT ACCELERATION

4.55—STUDENT PROMOTION AND RETENTION

4.57—IMMUNIZATIONS

4.59—ACADEMIC COURSE ATTENDANCE BY PRIVATE SCHOOL AND HOME SCHOOLED STUDENTS

4.60—STUDENT BEHAVIORAL INTERVENTION AND RESTRAINT

4.61—STUDENT USE OF MULTIPLE OCCUPANCY ROOM

4.62—STUDENT NAME, TITLE, OR PRONOUN

4.63—STUDENT RELIGIOUS EXPRESSION

4.64—STUDENT USE OF ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

This policy is designed to guide the responsible and ethical use of Artificial Intelligence (AI) programs, such as ChatGPT, across all educational activities within the school. While AI can significantly enhance the educational experience by supporting learning and creativity, its improper use may undermine academic integrity and learning objectives. This policy ensures that the use of AI tools aligns with our educational values and standards.

Policy Guidelines

- A. Approval and Oversight:
 - a. The use of AI programs for any school-related activity must receive prior approval from the relevant authority (teacher, department head, or administrator). This ensures that the integration of AI tools into the curriculum or administrative tasks is pedagogically sound and meets our educational objectives.
- B. Responsible and Ethical Use:
 - a. AI programs should be used to supplement and enhance learning, not to replace student effort or traditional learning methods. Users must engage with these tools ethically, respecting copyright and privacy laws.
- C. Originality and Attribution:
 - a. Work produced with the aid of AI must be original and include proper attribution when AI-generated content is used. The school does not tolerate plagiarism, regardless of whether the content is generated by AI or obtained through other means.
- D. Academic Integrity:
 - a. Students and staff must maintain the highest levels of academic integrity when using AI tools. This includes honesty in how AI-generated work is presented and used within the school's academic and administrative frameworks.
- E. Privacy and Data Security:
 - a. Users must respect privacy and data security guidelines when using AI programs, ensuring that sensitive information is protected and that AI tools are used in compliance with data protection regulations.
- F. Educational Enhancement:
 - a. AI should serve as an educational tool to assist learning and understanding, not as a substitute for critical thinking or personal academic effort. It's crucial that the use of AI remains aligned with the educational goals.
- G. Verification and Accountability:
 - a. Assignments or projects created with the assistance of AI are subject to review. Students may be required to verbally explain their work and the extent of AI's role in it to ensure understanding and original contribution.

Consequences for Policy Violation

Violations of this policy will be taken seriously and may result in disciplinary action, including but not limited to:

- First Offense: Warning and mandatory educational session on ethical AI use.
- Second Offense: Loss of AI tool access privileges for a specified period, parent/guardian notification, and a reflective assignment on the importance of academic integrity.
- Repeated Offenses: More severe disciplinary actions can result in a minimum of a reprimand to a maximum of expulsion. Academic penalties may also apply, including grade reduction or failure for the related assignment or course.

Date Adopted: 7/15/24

4.65—ANTISEMITISM PROHIBITED

4.66—ARKANSAS DIRECT ADMISSIONS PROGRAM

5.29—Wellness Policy

6.5—VISITORS TO THE SCHOOLS

Parents, grandparents, legal guardians, business, and community members are welcome and encouraged to visit District schools. To minimize the potential for disruption of the learning environment, visitors, for a purpose other than to attend an activity open to the general public, are required to first report to the school's main office and receive authorization from the building principal or the principal's designee before the individual may enter the school proper. No one shall be exempt from this requirement. Visitors who are Level 3 or Level 4 sex offenders may only enter a school campus under the provisions listed in Policy 6.10.

Parents and legal guardians are encouraged to participate in regularly scheduled visitation events such as school open houses and parent/teacher conferences. Additional conferences are best when scheduled in advance. Conferences shall be scheduled at a time and place to accommodate those participating in the conference. Visits to individual classrooms during class time are permitted on a limited basis with the principal's prior approval and the teacher's knowledge.

Visitors, including parents, wishing to speak with students during the school day shall register first with the office.

Visitors to the school are directed to not use a device to:

- Record audio or video or to take photographs in areas where a general expectation of personal privacy exists, including but not limited to locker rooms and bathrooms; or
- Create, send, share, capture, or post audio, video, or photographs of District students unless the visitor:
 - Has received permission to do so by someone authorized to grant such permission on behalf of the student or the student if the student is eighteen (18 years old);
 - Received authorization from the District to do so on behalf of the District; or
 - Is required to do so as part of the individual's job duties, including as a member of the media.

The District has the right to ask disruptive visitors to leave its school campuses. Principals are authorized to seek the assistance of law enforcement officers in removing any disruptive visitors who refuse to leave school property when requested to do so.

Cross References: For non-adult visitors see Policy 4.16—STUDENT VISITORS
 For Level 3 and Level 4 sex offenders see Policy 6.10—SEX OFFENDERS ON CAMPUS (MEGAN'S LAW)

Legal References: A.C.A. § 6-21-606
 A.C.A. § 6-21-607

Date Adopted: 7/5/04
Last Revised: 7/15/24

6.10—SEX OFFENDERS ON CAMPUS (MEGAN'S LAW)

The Barton School District shall work with area law enforcement in a manner consistent with applicable state law and Division of Elementary and Secondary Education Rules to communicate the presence of a sexual offender. When necessary, law enforcement may contact building principals to provide information concerning registered sex offenders. The decision regarding the school principals to be notified rests solely with law enforcement officials; law enforcement officials use a rating system to determine who needs to be notified, which is according to the sex offender's dangerousness to the community.

In turn, building principals should notify any employee who is regularly in a position to observe unauthorized persons on or near the school's property in the ordinary course of their employment. Employees notified could include any of the following: aides, bus drivers, coaches, maintenance staff, professional support staff, school level administrative staff, security personnel, teachers' assistants, and teachers.

It is important that school personnel who receive sex offender notifications understand that they are receiving the sex offender notifications in their official capacity and are not to disseminate information about an offender to anyone outside the school. If school personnel are asked about notification information by an organization using school facilities, the organization should be referred to the area law enforcement agency that issued the notice.

Persons not to be notified, except at the specific discretion of area law enforcement officials, include: members of parent-teacher organizations, other schools, organizations using school facilities, students, parents or guardians of students, and the press. District personnel may inform the press about procedures that have been put in place and other general topics, but may not reveal the name or any other specifics regarding an offender.

A parent or guardian who is a Level 1 or Level 2 sex offender shall be allowed to enter the school campus to attend parent-teacher conferences or any other activity that is appropriate for a parent, guardian, or community member.

Level 3 and Level 4 sex offenders may only enter the school campus in the following instances:

1. The offender is a student attending school in the district;
2. To attend a graduation or baccalaureate ceremony;
3. It is a non-student contact day according to the school calendar or no school-sponsored event is taking place on campus;
4. The offender is a parent or guardian of a student enrolled in the district and goes directly to the school office to have school personnel deliver medicine, food, or personal items for the student;
5. The offender is a parent or guardian of a student and enters the school campus where the student is enrolled to attend a scheduled parent-teacher conference and the offender is escorted to and from the conference by a designated school official or employee.

A Level 3, but not a Level 4, sex offender may attend a school sponsored event for which an admission fee is charged or tickets are sold or distributed if the sex offender:

- Is the parent, guardian, great-grandparent, or is related by blood or marriage within the second (2nd) degree of consanguinity to a student enrolled in the public school and
- Notifies the administration of the school in writing at least twenty-four (24) hours before the start of the event that he or she will be attending the event.

A Level 3 and Level 4 sex offender who is the parent or guardian of a child enrolled in the district and who wishes to enter the school campus in which the student is enrolled for any other purpose than those listed above, must give reasonable notice to the school

principal or his/her designee. The principal or designee may allow the sex offender to enter upon the campus provided there is a designated school official or employee to escort and supervise the sex offender while they remain on campus. The sex offender shall not enter upon the school campus until such time as a designated school official or employee is available.

Copies of the notification from law enforcement should be kept in a secure place accessible to teachers and staff, but should not be posted on school bulletin boards or made available to students or members of the community at large.

Legal References: Division of Elementary and Secondary Education Guidelines for "Megan's Law"
A.C.A. § 5-14-132
A.C.A. § 12-12-913 (g)(3)
A.C.A. § 28-9-212

Date Adopted: 7/5/04
Last Revised: 3/14/22

6.11—PARENT, FAMILY, AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT - DISTRICT

Date Adopted: 7/5/04
Last Revised: 6/19/23

Apptegy All Call/SchoolStatus

The Barton School District uses Apptegy All Call and SchoolStatus to notify and remind parents of school activities, test dates, and school holidays. It will also contact parents in the event of emergencies, such as early dismissal due to inclement weather.

To ensure you are on the call list, be sure the office has your home phone number, cell phone number, and email address. You need to fill in only the contact numbers you wish the system to contact and only if you are a new student or your information has changed.

Library Media Center User Policy

1. General Guidelines

- **Respectful Behavior:** Students are expected to maintain a quiet and respectful environment in the library.
- **Food and Drink:** No food or drink is allowed in the library to preserve the condition of books and other materials.
- **Personal Belongings:** Students are responsible for their personal belongings. The library is not responsible for lost or stolen items.

2. Borrowing Books

- **Book Limit:** Pre-school through 2nd grade students may check out one book at a time. Students in 3rd grade and above may check out 2 at a time. Exceptions will be made for class assignments.
- **Loan Period:** Books may be checked out for one week. They must be renewed or returned by the due date.
- **Renewals:** Books can be renewed for an additional week if no other student has requested the book.
- **Returns:** Books must be returned to the designated return area in the library.

3. Special Guidelines for Pre-School, Kindergarten, and 1st-Grade Students

- **Classroom Books:** Pre-school, Kindergarten, and 1st-grade students may check out books, but these books must remain in their classrooms.
- **Teacher Responsibility:** Teachers ensure that books checked out remain in the classroom and are returned on time.

4. Overdue and Missing Books

- **Overdue Books:** Students will be permitted to check out another book once the overdue book is either returned or renewed.
- **Lost or Damaged Books:** If a book is lost or returned in a damaged condition, the student must pay the replacement cost, as determined by the library staff based on the current market price of the book.
- **Account Holds:** Students with overdue books or outstanding replacement fees will have their borrowing privileges suspended until the book is returned or the fee is paid.

5. Library Hours and Access

- **Operating Hours:** The library is open from 8:00 AM to 3:30 PM on school days.
- **Scheduled Classes:** Kindergarten through 6th grade have weekly scheduled library classes.
- **Class Visits:** Pre-K through 12th grade Teachers are encouraged to schedule additional class visits in advance to ensure the library can accommodate all students.
- **Individual Visits (Freeflow):** Students may visit the library individually during designated times with their teacher's permission.

6. Library Resources and Services

- **Computers and Internet:** Students may use library computers for academic purposes. Internet usage must comply with the school's acceptable use policy.
- **Chromebooks:** Chromebooks are available for use in the library. They may only be checked out if a student needs them for an assessment.

7. Conduct and Consequences

- **Appropriate Behavior:** Students are expected to behave appropriately in the library. Disruptive behavior will result in a warning and, if continued, may lead to suspension of library privileges.
- **Respect for Materials:** Students must handle all library materials with care. Intentional damage or defacement of library property will result in disciplinary action.

8. Parental Involvement

- **Communication:** Parents are encouraged to support their child's library use and ensure books are returned on time.

- **Responsibility:** Parents will be notified of overdue books and any outstanding replacement fees.

9. Contact Information

- **Library Staff:** For any questions or concerns, please contact the library staff at 870-572-7294 ext. 1102

By adhering to these policies, students will help maintain a well-organized and efficient library media center that benefits the entire school community. Thank you for your cooperation.

Date Adopted: 7/15/24

Standards of Conduct

All students are expected to conduct themselves at all times in a manner that will contribute to the best interest of the school system and not infringe on the rights of others. School staff members have the authority and the responsibility to take customary and reasonable measures to maintain proper control and discipline among students placed under their care and supervision. Such measures may include the use of reasonable force in the exercise of lawful authority to restrain or to correct students and to maintain order.

All students in the Barton School District are proud of their school and shall exhibit self-discipline. A student who is well-informed concerning his/her rights and responsibilities and the expected standards of behavior should not require disciplinary action. For the information of all students; however, infractions to avoid and recommend disciplinary actions are presented as follows:

Infractions to Avoid

The following activities are considered infractions of proper conduct and will be subject to student disciplinary action including, but not limited to suspension or expulsion from school and/or notification of law enforcement officials. A violation of the rule will occur whether the conduct takes place on the school grounds at any time; off the school grounds at a school activity, function, or event; en route to or from school.

The following behaviors may lead to appropriate consequences as determined by the principal or his/her designees:

RULE #1 DISRUPTION OF SCHOOL 4.20

No student shall by the use of violence, force, noise, coercion, threat, intimidation, fear, passive resistance, or any other conduct, intentionally cause the disruption of any lawful mission, process, or function of the school, or engage in any such conduct for the purpose of causing disruption or obstruction of any lawful mission, process, or function. Nor shall any student encourage any other student to engage in such activities.

Disorderly activities by any student or group of students that adversely affect the school's orderly educational environment shall not be tolerated at any time on school grounds.

FULL POLICY

Date Adopted: 7/5/04

Last Revised: 7/14/25

RULE #2 DAMAGE OR DESTRUCTION OF SCHOOL PROPERTY

A student shall not cause or attempt to cause damage to school property or steal school property. The school district will attempt to recover damages from the student destroying the school property. Parents of any minor under the age of 18, and living with the parents may be liable for damages caused by said minor in an amount not in excess of \$20,000.00.

RULE #3 DAMAGE OR DESTRUCTION OF PERSONAL PROPERTY

A student shall not cause or attempt to cause damage, steal, or attempt to steal property. Restitution for stolen property will be required.

RULE #4 PHYSICAL ABUSE, ASSAULT, OR THREAT BY A STUDENT ON A SCHOOL EMPLOYEE OR A PERSON NOT EMPLOYED BY THE SCHOOL

Physical/verbal abuse or assault by a student on a school employee will result in suspension for 10 days with a recommendation of expulsion for the remainder of the school year or longer. Charges will also be filed with the Barton School District Institutional Law Enforcement Agency.

RULE #5 NARCOTICS, ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES, AND STIMULANT DRUGS

- A. An orderly and safe school environment that is conducive to promoting student achievement requires a student population free from the effects of alcohol and drugs. Alcohol and drug use is illegal, disruptive to the educational environment, and diminishes the capacity of students to learn and function properly in our schools. Therefore, no student in the Barton School District shall possess, attempt to possess, consume, use, distribute, sell, attempt to sell, give to any person, or be under the influence of any substance as defined in this policy, or what the student represents or believes to be a substance as defined in this policy. This policy applies to any student who is on or about school property; is in attendance at school or any school-sponsored activity; has left the school campus for any reason and returns to the campus; is en route to or from school or any school-sponsored activity. Prohibited substances shall include, but are not limited to:
 - alcohol or any alcoholic beverage
 - inhalants that alter a student's ability to act, think, or respond
 - LSD or any other hallucinogen
 - marijuana
 - cocaine

- heroin or any other narcotic drug
 - PCP amphetamines
 - steroids
 - “designer” drugs
 - “look-alike” drugs
 - any controlled substance
- B. Selling, distributing, or attempting to sell or distribute, or using over-the counter or prescription drugs not in accordance with the recommended dosage is prohibited.
- C. Any student caught selling or distributing prohibited substances will be suspended for ten (10) days, recommended for expulsion and turned over to the authorities immediately. Any student caught using or possessing marijuana or any other harmful prescription or non-prescription drug will be suspended for ten (10) days, recommended for expulsion for the remainder of the semester or year, and barred from all extracurricular activities for the remainder of the year for the first offense. If a student is allowed to return to school at the end of the semester expulsion, participation in a drug rehabilitation program may be required.
- D. If a second offense occurs during the school year, it will result in suspension and a recommendation for expulsion.
- E. The Phillips County Sheriff’s Office will be notified of violations of this law.
- F. Students who must bring medicines or prescription drugs must bring them to the office. The drugs should remain in the container in which they were obtained from the pharmacist.

RULE #6 WEAPONS AND DANGEROUS INSTRUMENTS 4.22

“Firearm” means any device designed, made, or adapted to expel a projectile by the action of an explosive or any device readily convertible to that use.

“Possession” means having a weapon on the student’s body or in an area under the student’s control.

“Weapon” means any:

- Firearm;
- Knife;
- Razor;
- Ice pick;
- Dirk;
- Box cutter;
- Nunchucks;
- Pepper spray, mace, or other noxious spray;
- Explosive;
- Taser or other instrument that uses electrical current to cause neuromuscular incapacitation; or
- Any other instrument or substance capable of causing bodily harm.

No student, except for Military personnel (such as ROTC cadets) acting in the course of their official duties or as otherwise expressly permitted by this policy, shall possess a weapon, display what appears to be a weapon, or threaten to use a weapon before or after school while:

- In a school building;
- On or about school property;
- At any school sponsored activity or event;
- On route to or from school or any school sponsored activity; or
- Off the school grounds at any school bus stop.

If a student discovers prior to any questioning or search by any school personnel that he/she has accidentally brought a weapon, other than a firearm, to school on his/her person, in a book bag/purse, or in his/her vehicle on school grounds, and the student informs the principal or a staff person immediately, the student will not be considered to be in possession of a weapon unless it is a firearm. The weapon shall be confiscated and held in the office until such time as the student’s parent/legal guardian shall pick up the weapon from the school’s office. Repeated offenses are unacceptable and shall be grounds for disciplinary action against the student as otherwise provided for in this policy.

Except as permitted in this policy, students found to be in possession on the school campus of a firearm shall be recommended for expulsion for a period of one (1) year. The superintendent shall have the discretion to modify such expulsion recommendation for a student on a case-by-case basis.

Parents or legal guardians of students expelled under this policy shall be given a copy of the current laws regarding the possibility of parental responsibility for allowing a child to possess a firearm on school property.² Parents or legal guardians shall sign a statement acknowledging that they have read and understand said laws prior to readmitting the student. Parents or legal guardians of a student enrolling from another school after the expiration of an expulsion period for a firearm policy violation shall also be given a copy of the current laws regarding the possibility of parental responsibility for allowing a child to possess a firearm on school property. The parents or legal guardians shall sign a statement acknowledging that they have read and understand said laws prior to the student being enrolled in school.

The mandatory expulsion requirement for possession of a firearm does not apply to a firearm brought to school for the purpose of participating in activities approved and authorized by the district that include the use of firearms. Such activities may include ROTC

programs; hunting safety or military education; or before or after-school hunting or rifle clubs. Firearms brought to school for such purposes shall be brought to the school employee designated to receive such firearms. The designated employee shall store the firearms in a secure location until they are removed for use in the approved activity.

The district shall report any student who brings a firearm to school to the criminal justice system or juvenile delinquency system by notifying local law enforcement.

Legal References: A.C.A. § 5-4-201
 A.C.A. § 5-4-401
 A.C.A. § 5-27-210
 A.C.A. § 5-73-119(b) (e)(8), (9), (10)
 A.C.A. § 5-73-133
 A.C.A. § 6-18-502
 A.C.A. § 6-18-507
 A.C.A. § 6-21-608
 DESE Rules Governing Student Discipline and School Safety
 20 USC § 7961

Date Adopted: 7/5/04

Last Revised: 6/18/24

RULE #7 DISREGARD OF DIRECTIONS OR COMMANDS (INSUBORDINATION)

A student shall not fail to comply with reasonable directions or commands of teachers, substitute teachers, teacher aides, principals, administrative personnel, superintendents, school bus drivers, school security officers, or any other authorized school personnel.

Picking up paper around your desk, changing seats, sitting properly in your seat, and class participation are examples.

RULE #8 OTHER POSSIBLE CAUSES OF SUSPENSION

- A. Fighting or instigating (provoking) a fight
 - a. Students found to be in any way inciting fights shall be assigned the same consequences as fighting.
- B. Use or possession of alcohol
- C. Defiant and hostile acts
- D. Insubordination
- E. Disrespect for authority
- F. Acts involving moral depravity
- G. Returning to the campus or attending any school-sponsored activity while suspended or already in BLA will result further discipline actions
- H. Refusing to participate in physical education classes or any other class activity or assignment (such as taking notes)
- I. Public display of affection
- J. Use of obscenity toward a staff member
- K. Use of obscenity in class or on campus
- L. Use or possession of tobacco products, e-smoking or e-cigarettes products
- M. Operating any motor vehicle without proper license
- N. Use of fireworks
- O. Setting off watch alarms or cell phones ringing in class
- P. Possession of obscene materials
- Q. Gambling or wagering where the stakes are money or any other object of value
- R. Criminal offenses committed away from the campus which may obviously affect the school climate
- S. Possession of whistles, bells, or other noise-making devices
- T. Electronic games—prohibited
- U. Unauthorized attendance at school activities or trips
- V. Glass beverage bottles or any type of glass bottle will not be allowed on campus
- W. Possession of inhalants, paintball guns, laser pointers, chains or weapons.
- X. Possession of food or drink items in class without teacher permission.
- Y. Failure to report to the office when directed to do so

RULE #9 STUDENT USE OF COMPUTERS AND THE INTERNET

Students who use school-owned computers and/or internet access are expected to use this technology to perform their assigned tasks. Students who violate this rule are subject to appropriate disciplinary action. Recreational or personal use of computer equipment and technology is not permitted. In addition, students who use technology to violate other policies will be subject to discipline for misuse of technology, as well as the policy violation.

RULE #10 SEXUAL HARASSMENT IS SEXUAL DISCRIMINATION UNDER TITLE IX

It is the policy of the Barton School District to maintain a learning and working environment that is free from sex discrimination, including sexual harassment. Any person who alleges that sex discrimination or sexual harassment has occurred may file a complaint directly to the building principal, guidance counselor, or the equity coordinator, Mrs. Monique Miller. If necessary, disciplinary action may include suspension or expulsion.

RULE #11 STUDENTS ARE TO KEEP THEIR HANDS TO THEMSELVES AND TREAT TEACHERS AND FELLOW STUDENTS WITH RESPECT AND COURTESY

Horseplay and physical teasing, as well as shoving, striking, fighting, or threatening others with physical injury, etc., constitute battery and /or assault are strictly forbidden. Profanity and rude and abusive language directed at others is considered abuse, and this is also strictly forbidden. Violation of this policy will result in disciplinary action and may also constitute a criminal offense. By law, local law enforcement must be notified whenever a felony or an act of violence may have been committed on campus.

RULE #12 BULLYING

All bullying by students at school or school-related activities is prohibited.

RULE #13 GANGS, SECRET SOCIETIES, OR OTHER SIMILAR GROUPS, WHETHER ORGANIZED IN THE COMMUNITY OR IN OTHER SETTINGS ARE PROHIBITED ON THE SCHOOL GROUNDS AND CAMPUS AND AT ANY SCHOOL-SPONSORED EVENTS.

Gang related activity, whether genuine or a pretense that is identified by school officials may result in suspension or other punishment for those involved. A second offense of gang related activity may result in expulsion for the remainder of the semester or the remainder of the year. Students arrested for gang related offenses, regardless of where the offense may have occurred, may be subject to suspension or expulsion depending on the circumstances of the arrest.

RULE #14 Truancy

A student is truant if he/she:

- A. Is absent from school without permission of parent or guardian.
- B. Leaves school without permission including skipping any class or lunch.
- C. Leave a classroom without permission of the teacher.
- D. Does not report to an assigned location at a designated time.
- E. Does not report to class after leaving the office, restroom, or another class.

RULE #15 END OF YEAR REGULATIONS

Punishment for offenses committed near the end of the school will be completed at the beginning of next school year if time does not allow for the punishments to be completed this year.

RULE #16 PUBLIC DISPLAYS OF AFFECTION

Public displays of affection while at school or while in attendance at any school event are forbidden.

RULE #17 ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

In the Barton School District, students should act with academic integrity at all times. This requires that students take full credit for work for which they submit a grade, as well as give credit to those individuals, resources, and/or aids that influenced their submitted work. Failure to adhere to this academic integrity policy, cheating, or plagiarizing may result in consequences up to and including receiving a zero on the work in question at the discretion of the teacher. Multiple infractions may result in referral to the office.

Consequences are at the administrator's discretion which can result in a minimum of a reprimand to a maximum of expulsion.

If a teacher removes a student from class, the principal or his/her designee may place the student into another appropriate classroom, or into the district's alternative learning environment, or take other appropriate action consistent with the school district's discipline policy.

The Barton School District reserves the right to punish behavior which is subversive to good order and discipline in the schools, even though such behavior is not specified in the handbook.

As needed, school administrators and teachers may issue directives to students in order to maintain good order and discipline in the school, even though such directives are not specified in the handbook.

In the event that a parent/guardian wishes to appeal or gain more information regarding a disciplinary event in the classroom or office the following 'chain of command' should be followed:

1. Classroom Teacher or staff member initiating the disciplinary proceeding
2. Dean of Students/Assistant Principal/Chief of Students
3. Principal
4. Superintendent

In the event that the chain of command is not followed the parent/guardian will be referred back to the appropriate staff member.

Date Adopted: 6/12/12

Date Revised: 7/15/24

Field Trips

A field trip is an educational experience that is an extension of the regular classroom environment. The following guidelines will apply to field trips:

- Written parental permission must be given before a student participates in a field trip.

- Only students from the classroom are allowed to attend field trips. Siblings are not allowed on field trips.
- As a part of the field trip experience, all students are expected to ride the school bus. If a parent does not want their child to ride the school bus, parents may transport their child in an automobile. Barton School District accepts no liability involving privately transported students on school field trips. No other student can ride with another parent even if there is written permission.
- All school discipline procedures and consequences apply on field trips.
- Community-based Instruction (CBI) students need to be accompanied by a parent/guardian.
- Students who require emergency medicine need to be accompanied by a parent or guardian to attend a field trip. Emergency medicines include but are not limited to epi pens, inhalers, seizure rescue kit, insulin, etc.
- Parents can check out a student during a field trip if the student is signed out with a school official. Generally, parents must provide their own transportation to field trips unless authorized to ride the bus by the principal.

Students that have more than 5 unexcused absences for the current semester or that have received any office referrals and/or out of school suspension may not be eligible to attend field trips. Student eligibility for field trips will be at the discretion of the building principal.

Date Adopted: 6/19/23

Date Revised: 7/15/24

5.15—GRADING

Parents, legal guardians, persons having lawful control of a student, or persons standing in loco parentis shall be kept informed concerning the progress of their student. Parent-teacher conferences are encouraged and may be requested by parents, guardians, persons having lawful control of a student, persons standing in loco parentis, or teachers. If the progress of a student is unsatisfactory in a subject, the teacher shall attempt to schedule a parent-teacher conference. In the conference, the teacher shall explain the reasons for difficulties and shall develop, cooperatively with the parents, a plan for remediation, which may enhance the probability of the student succeeding. The school shall also send timely progress reports and issue grades for each nine (9) week grading period to keep parents/guardians informed of their student's progress.

The evaluation of each student's performance on a regular basis serves to give the parents/guardians, students, and the school necessary information to help effect academic improvement. Students' grades shall reflect only the extent to which a student has achieved the expressed educational objectives of the course.

The grades of a child in foster care shall not be lowered due to an absence from school due to:

1. A change in the child's school enrollment;
2. The child's attendance at a dependency-neglect court proceeding; or
3. The child's attendance at court-ordered counseling or treatment.

The grading scale for all schools in the district shall be as follows:

A = 100 – 90

B = 89 – 80

C = 79 – 70

D = 69 – 60

F = 59 and below

For the purpose of determining grade point averages, the numeric value of each letter grade shall be:

A = 4 points

B = 3 points

C = 2 points

D = 1 point

F = 0 points

The grade point values for accelerated learning courses and other approved courses for weighted credit, shall be one (1) point greater than for regular courses with the exception that an F shall still be worth zero (0) points.

The final grades of students who transfer in for part of a semester will be determined by blending the grades earned in the district with those earned outside the district. Each final grade will be the sum of the percentage of days in the grading period transferred from outside the district times the transferred grade from outside the district plus the percentage of days in the grading period while in the district times the grade earned in the district.

For example: The grading period had forty (40) days. A student transferred in with a grade of eighty-three percent (83%) earned in ten (10) days at the previous school. The student had a grade of seventy-five percent (75%) in our district's school earned in the remaining thirty (30) days of the grading period. Ten (10) days is twenty-five percent (25%) of forty (40) days while thirty (30) days is seventy-five percent (75%) of forty (40) days. Thus the final grade would be $(0.25 \times 83) + (0.75 \times 75) = 77\%$.

Legal References: A.C.A. § 6-15-902
A.C.A. § 9-28-113(f)
Standards For Accreditation 5-A.1

Date Adopted: 7/5/04
Last Revised: 7/14/25

Grade Access

Each student in the Barton School District will be provided with a personal ID and password in order to have access to their grades at any time from the district website.

Report Cards

A report card is prepared every nine (9) weeks for the parents. The report will provide the academic grade for each course in which the student is enrolled. At the end of the first and third nine weeks, parents will be asked to attend Parent/Teacher Conference to pick up their child's report card. Report cards do not have to be signed and returned to the school. A student may be considered for the Honor Roll only with no grades below "B".

Progress Reports

Progress reports will be sent home in the middle of each grading period for all students. Progress report dates can be found on the district calendar.

Homework 5.14

Homework is considered to be part of the educational program of the District. Assignments shall be an extension of the teaching/learning experience that promotes the student's educational development. As an extension of the classroom, homework must be planned and organized and should be viewed by the students as purposeful.

Teachers should be aware of the potential problem students may have completing assignments from multiple teachers and vary the amount of homework they give from day to day.

Parents shall be notified of this policy at the beginning of each school year.

Date Adopted: 7/05/04
Last Revised: 1/13/09

Lost and Found

Students should observe the following rules:

1. Report loss of articles to the office so that they may have assistance in locating the lost article.
2. Articles found on the campus or in the building should be turned in to the office as soon as possible.
3. Articles not claimed within two weeks will be disposed of or given to the finder.
4. Students are encouraged to mark personal property with their name.

Textbooks

State textbooks may be issued to students in grades kindergarten through twelve in each individual classroom by the teacher. The teacher will place the student's name and a book number in the book in ink. Lost or damaged books must be paid for in accordance with the nature of the damage and the age of the book. Students are expected to use care in the use of textbooks. Book bags may be used for textbooks; however, no book bags with wheels are allowed, unless ordered by a licensed medical doctor. All classrooms will have designated areas for book bags, purses, and other bags. Students will only bring to their desks materials needed for that class.

Date Adopted: 6/14/2011

Student Chromebook Manual

Student Chromebook Manual can be viewed at www.bartonsd.org

Date Adopted: 6/8/20
Last Revised: 7/14/25

Pandemic Procedures Notifications

The District takes the health and safety of its students seriously. As part of protecting District students' health, the District will follow the Arkansas Department of Health (ADH) and Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) guidelines regarding the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic to the extent possible. If changes in the ADH or CDC guidelines require the District to change its procedures, the District shall notify you of the procedural changes as soon as possible.

Fundraising

All fund raising activities held in the District or in the name of the District must be pre-approved in writing by the Superintendent and affected school principal. Approval will be predicated on the potential for return relative to the time and energy to be invested in the

fund raising. Fundraising that conflicts excessively with and/or detracts from student or teacher instructional time in either the planning or the execution of the activity will not be approved.

Neither an individual school nor the District shall be liable for any contract between clubs or organizations and third parties.

Student participation in any fund raising activity shall:

1. Be voluntary. Students who choose not to participate shall not forfeit any school privileges. It shall not be considered discriminatory to reward those who participate; and
2. Not influence or affect the student's grade.

For purposes of this policy, "Door-to-door sales" means the selling of merchandise outside of the child's home and off the school grounds.

Online Fundraisers

All school-affiliated online fundraisers must be approved by the superintendent, or the superintendent's designee. The superintendent, or the superintendent's designee, shall act as the point of contact for all school-affiliated online fundraisers. An employee may be disciplined, up to and including termination, if the employee establishes:

- a. A school-affiliated online fundraiser without the permission of the superintendent, or the superintendent's designee; or
- b. The employee as the point of contact for a school-affiliated fund raiser instead of the superintendent, or the superintendent's designee.

For purposes of this policy, a "school-affiliated online fundraiser" includes, but is not limited to, a fund raiser intended to raise funds for a particular teacher's classroom, grade, student club or organization, or athletic team.

Legal References: A.C.A. § 6-18-1102
 A.C.A. § 6-18-1104

Date Adopted: 7/5/04
Last Revised: 3/14/22

See Fundraising under each campus section for campus specific information.

All money collected must be turned into the designated sponsor daily.

Handicapped Parking

The Barton School District has designated handicapped parking to accommodate parents, visitors, and employees. Only cars with disabled/handicap stickers or tags should park in these spaces during and after school hours, including events. Do not block these spaces. All violators are subject to Federal Law-Office of Civil Rights.

Personal Deliveries

No deliveries of any kind by vendors, florists, parents, or others will be accepted for students.

Cafeteria Behavior and Responsibility Policy

Tray Responsibility

All students are responsible for their own trays. Trays must not be left on tables after eating. Students are expected to dispose of their trays and all contents properly in the trash.

Spills and Clean-Up

If a student spills a drink or food tray, they are responsible for cleaning up their own mess. Students should notify a cafeteria worker for assistance in obtaining a towel or mop and return the cleaning items when finished.

Lunch Line Expectations

Students must enter the lunch line in an orderly manner and are expected to wait their turn. Students who break in line will be asked to move to the end of the line on the first offense. Further violations will result in more serious consequences.

A La Carte Consumption

A la carte items must be consumed and properly disposed of prior to leaving the cafeteria. Items should not be taken into hallways or classrooms.

Drink Container Policy

Only sealed or spill-proof drink containers are allowed on campus. Open-style drink containers, such as those with straws or tumblers, are not permitted.

Outside Food Policy

Outside food from restaurants or food establishments is not permitted on campus. This includes deliveries from services such as DoorDash. Additionally, any food brought from home must not be in branded packaging or containers from food establishments (e.g., fast food bags, pizza boxes, restaurant cups).

Community Eligibility Program

The Barton School District is pleased to announce the district will participate in the Community Eligibility Provision during the 2025-2026 school year providing meals, regardless of eligibility category, at NO CHARGE for all students at the following schools Barton Elementary and Barton High School participating in the National School Lunch Program or School Breakfast Program, unless otherwise notified. This is made possible through the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Special Assistance Certification and Reimbursement Community Eligibility Provision. Federal reimbursement for meals is based on the Identified Student Percentage (ISP) established by the District. The information used to establish the ISP will be made available only to State and Federal officials for review. All adults, e.g., visitors, teachers, support staff members, and administrators of the district must assume the full cost of the meal which is \$3.00 for Breakfast and \$5.00 for Lunch. The district will also provide A-LA-Carte for High School only. This is not included in the CEP program. A-LA-Carte is cash only.

Non-Discrimination In Food Service Programs 7.17.2

In accordance with Federal law and the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) regulations, the Barton School District shall not exclude from participation in, deny the benefits of, or subject to discrimination any individual as part of any of the District's food service programs on the basis of race, ethnicity, color, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, age, or disability. The District shall not allow reprisal or retaliation against any individual for prior civil rights activity.

Food service program information may be made available in languages other than English. Persons with disabilities who require alternative means of communication to obtain food service program information (e.g., Braille, large print, audiotope, American Sign Language), should contact the District, Child Nutrition Unit of the Division of Elementary and Secondary Education of the Arkansas Department of Education, or the USDA's TARGET Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TTY) or contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339.

To file a food service program discrimination complaint, a Complainant should:

- Complete a USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form (Form AD-3027), which can be obtained:
 - Online at:
<https://www.usda.gov/sites/default/files/documents/USDA-OASCR%20P-Complaint-Form-0508-0002-508-11-28-17Fax2Mail.pdf>;
 - Calling any USDA office at (866) 632-9992; or
- Writing a letter addressed to USDA that:
 - A. Contains:
 - a. The complainant's name, address, and telephone number; and
 - b. A written description of the alleged discriminatory action in sufficient detail to inform the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights (ASCR) about the nature and date of an alleged civil rights violation; and
 - B. Submitted to USDA by:
 - a. Mail:
U.S. Department of Agriculture
Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights
1400 Independence Avenue, SW
Washington, D.C. 20250-9410;
 - b. Fax at either:
(833) 256-1665; or
(202) 690-7442; or
 - c. Email:
program.intake@usda.gov

The Barton School District is an equal opportunity provider.

Legal References: Commissioner's Memo CNU-22-028
 7 C.F.R. Parts 15, 15a, and 15b
 7 C.F.R. § 210.23
 20 U.S.C. 1681 et seq.
 29 U.S.C. 794 et seq.
 42 U.S.C. 2000d et seq.),
 42 U.S.C. 6101 et seq.
 42 U.S.C. 12101 et seq.

Date Adopted: 6/16/22
Last Revised:

BARTON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

CAMPUS INFORMATION

**P.O. Box 97
Barton, AR 72312**

**5995 Hwy 49
Lexa, AR 72355**

Phone: 870-572-7294 ext 3984

Principal: Mr. Jake Gerrard
jgerrard@bartonsd.org

Counselor: Mrs. Kim Williams
kwilliams@bartonsd.org

Secretary: Mrs. Terry Garrison
tgarrison@bartonsd.org

Elementary Office is closed daily 11:30-12:30 and 2:30 p.m.-3:18 p.m.

Mission

Barton Elementary School believes that all students need to maximize their true abilities regardless of race, creed, sex, level of innate ability or physical handicap. Our ever-changing world will demand adaptability, as well as ability, in order for students to become the leaders of tomorrow. Barton Elementary School will provide an orderly climate to enhance learning opportunities at all levels of education.

“Barton Elementary is truly the place to be.”

Elementary Morning Arrival & Dismissal

- Students should not arrive at school before 7:30 a.m. Car riders and walkers will not be permitted in the building prior to 7:30 a.m. Campus supervision is not available until 7:30 a.m.
- Students arriving after 7:50 a.m. must bring a parent to sign them in at the elementary office.
- All students must be picked up no later than 3:30 each day. Any student still on campus after 3:30 is considered unsupervised.
- Elementary students may not stay after school with any high school student that does not have permission to stay after school.
- Students will not be counted tardy in the event of bus delays.

If a student arrives at school after 8:05 A.M. he/she will be considered absent for half of a day and must check in through the elementary office.

Elementary Tardies and Leave Early

In addition to policy 4.9, students who arrive at school after 7:50 but before 8:05 will be counted tardy. After 5 tardies, parents will have a phone conference with the principal. After 10 tardies, the principal shall report chronic tardies to the child abuse hotline for educational neglect.

Students that check in after 9:30 a.m. are considered AM Absent. Students that check out before 2:00 p.m. will be considered PM absent.

Date Adopted:7/05/04

Last Revised:7/14/25

Elementary Fundraising

Fund raising in the elementary schools may only be done by the school or a school sponsored organization. Door to door fundraising activities are generally discouraged, but there shall be no more than one (1) such activity per school per school year.

Schools must provide written notification of the following to parents or legal guardians of elementary students who participate in fundraising programs:

- Student participation in fundraising programs is voluntary;
- Students who do not participate will not forfeit any school privileges;
- Students may not participate in fundraising programs without written parental permission returned to school authorities;
- An elementary student who sells fundraising merchandise door to door must be accompanied by a parent or an adult; and
- Unless the school provides supervision, parents must accept responsibility for appropriate adult supervision.

Legal References: A.C.A. § 6-18-1102
 A.C.A. § 6-18-1104

Date Adopted: 7/5/04
Last Revised: 3/14/22

[See Fundraising under district and/or high school section for district and campus specific information.](#)

All money collected must be turned into the designated sponsor daily

Elementary Discipline Policies

Discipline infractions may range from a verbal warning to expulsion depending on the nature of the infraction.

In addition to the handbook policies there are rules established by teachers and students at the beginning of the school year. When determining the consequences, the severity of the offense and the number of previous offenses will be considered.

Possible Consequences:

- Verbal warning
- Time out
- Loss of privileges
- Loss of pep rally
- Note home
- Teacher contact parents
- Office referral
- Corporal punishment
- Student, Parent, Teacher, Principal and Dean of Students conference
- Out-of-school suspension
- Loss of field trip
- Expulsion

IF A CHILD CANNOT RECEIVE CORPORAL PUNISHMENT, THERE WILL BE AN AUTOMATIC SUSPENSION UP TO 3 DAYS.

Graduation

6th Grade Valedictorian and Salutatorian

To be selected as class Valedictorian for the 6th-grade graduation class, the student must have attended Barton Elementary School in its entirety from 4th through 6th grades. He or she must have the highest GPA of the graduation class. In the result of a tie, the students will be awarded a designation as co-valedictorian.

To be selected as class Salutatorian for the 6th grade graduation class, the student must have attended Barton Elementary School in its entirety from 4th through 6th grades. He or she must have the second highest GPA of the graduation class. In the result of a tie, the students will be awarded a designation as co-salutatorian.

Last Revised: 7/12/21

Kindergarten Graduation

Kindergarten graduation is only for those students who have satisfied all requirements to deem them qualified to enter first grade. Any student who is retained will not be permitted to walk in the graduation exercises.

Adopted: 05/20/19

BARTON HIGH SCHOOL

CAMPUS INFORMATION

**P.O. Box 97
Barton, AR 72312**

**5995 Hwy 49
Lexa, AR 72355**

Phone: 870-572-7294 ext 6867

Principal: Mrs. Megan Guthrie
mguthrie@bartonsd.org

Counselor: Mrs. Monique Miller
mmiller@bartonsd.org

Secretary: Ms. Marley Vincent
mvincent@bartonsd.org

Mission

Barton High School will provide the opportunity for all students to develop to the fullest level of their abilities and desires to function as responsible, productive individuals in our ever-changing society. Their abilities will be dependent on the development of basic knowledge, thinking skills, problem-solving skills and respect for self and others. We are committed to providing an orderly school climate that will enhance student opportunities for learning.

High School Bell Schedule

First Bell	7:45
1 st Period	7:50-8:37
2 nd Chance Breakfast	8:37-8:48
2 nd Period	8:51-9:39
3 rd Period	9:42-10:30
4 th Period	10:33-11:21
5 th Period	11:24-12:12
Lunch	12:12-12:45
6 th Period	12:48-1:36
7 TH Period	1:39-2:27
8 th Period	2:30-3:18

Act Dates

2025-2026 ACT Test Dates & Registration Deadlines

On Campus:

12th Grade: 10/14/25

11th Grade: 2/24/26

10th Grade: 3/10/26

Test Date	Regular Registration Deadline Late Fee Applies After This Date	Late Registration Deadline	Photo Upload and Standby Deadline
February 8, 2025	January 3	January 24	January 31
April 5, 2025	February 28	March 16	March 28
June 14, 2025	May 9	May 29	June 6
July 12, 2025*	June 6	June 25	July 4

High School Morning Arrival & Dismissal

Students should not arrive at school before 7:30 a.m. All High school students should report to the gym upon arrival to school. Car riders and walkers will not be permitted in the gym prior to 7:30 a.m. Campus supervision is not available until 7:30 a.m. Students will be dismissed from the gym at 7:45 to report to class

Classes begin at 7:50 a.m. and are dismissed at 3:18 p.m.

All students must be picked up no later than 30 minutes after dismissal each day.

Students arriving after 7:50 a.m. must sign in at the high school office.

Parents should take note that students on campus prior to 7:30 a.m. or on campus after 3:30 p.m. are not under the supervision of school staff unless they are actively in a club/sport and are under the direction of the coach.

Students are not permitted to remain on campus between 3:18 and the beginning of any after school curricular event (i.e. football games, basketball games, etc.) unless they are actively in a club/sport and are under the direction of the coach.

Students attending after school events/programs must be picked up or leave campus within 15 minutes of the end of the event. Students remaining on campus after this time will not be allowed to attend such events. It is strongly recommended that students contact their parent/guardian to come pick them up prior to the end of the event.

From time to time students may be required or allowed to stay late with a teacher's permission for activities such as practices, tutoring, etc. Students will be supervised at all times during these activities. However, as with other after school events, students must be picked up or leave campus within 15 minutes of the end of the activity.

High School Tardies

In addition to policy 4.9, when a student receives the fourth tardy for any one class and for each tardy thereafter during the same semester, the student will be referred, by the teacher, to the office for discipline. Tardy counts will start over at the beginning of each semester.

Students who arrive on campus after 7:50 a.m. but before 8:05 a.m. will be considered tardy. Students who arrive at school after 8:05a.m. will be considered absent for 1st period.

If a student is tardy by 10 or more minutes to any class after 1st period, it is considered truant. They will be referred, by the teacher, to the office for discipline.

These policies exclude situations in which students "check in" whether due to doctor's appointments or other excused reasons.

Date Adopted: 6/12/12

Last Revised: 7/15/24

Student Checkout

Students are in classes until 3:18 p.m. Please do not check students out unless it is an emergency. All students that leave early must be checked out in the high school office by a parent or an authorized adult. Phone calls and emails will not be accepted as proof of permission to check out. Parents must provide a written note or come to the school and personally check students out. The note must be presented to the office before first period. The note must have a parent/guardian signature and valid phone number at which the parent/guardian can be reached. The office will call on all notes to verify permission to leave campus. Individuals not listed on the student's checkout list provided by parents at the beginning of the year will not be allowed access to students. Individuals who are checking students out may be required to show proof of identification.

Last Revised: 6/13/23

4.45—GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS FOR THE CLASS OF 2026

4.45.1—GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS FOR THE CLASS OF 2027 AND THEREAFTER

Lockers

- Lockers are available for students to rent.
- Lockers will be available for rent beginning when students are allowed to come to school to pick up class schedules.
- A fee of \$4.00 is charged for the use of a locker.
- Only school issued locks may be used unless otherwise approved by the principal.
- Rented lockers must always be kept locked.
- Lockers may not be shared. Students are expected to use the locker assigned to them.
- Students in grades 7-8 will be issued lockers in the Burney Building.
- Students in grades 9-12 will be issued lockers in the Bagley Building.
- Students may not enter the buildings prior to 7:50 AM or during lunch to access lockers without staff permission.
- Lockers and locks may not be altered in any way. Students may not place graffiti, posters, stickers, etc. on or in lockers.

Rules for BLA (Barton Learning Academy)

Students assigned to BLA must meet at the high school office by 8:00 each morning. Students must turn their cell phones into the office. Students will be escorted to the BLA classroom by the BLA facilitator.

(Extra days will be assigned for infractions)

1. No talking to other students
2. Raise hand to request help
3. Stay in your seat
4. No sleeping
5. Students will be assigned work by the BLA facilitator. All assignments must be properly completed before students are allowed to return to class. Students will not be allowed to work on homework or classroom assignments.
6. May not leave BLA for any reason
7. May not attend or participate in school activities at home or away while assigned to BLA
8. To receive credit for a day of attendance a student must attend the entire school day
9. Cooperate fully with the BLA facilitator
10. Eat lunch and breakfast as instructed by the BLA facilitator
11. Multiple violations may result in suspension from school. (Remaining BLA days will be observed as OSS plus an additional day will be added.)

4.33—STUDENTS' VEHICLES

Student parking permits must be purchased in the high school office for \$5.00 per pass.

Motor Vehicles

1. Vehicle must be street legal and registered with the DMV
2. Students who drive automobiles to school are to park in the designated areas.
3. Keys are to be removed and automobiles locked.
4. Radios, CD players, or any musical device in cars shall not be played at noon, before school, or after school. Loud music and/or vulgar music is prohibited.
5. No student shall be allowed to sit in cars before school, at noon, or after school.
6. Students may not return to the student parking lot during the school day unless permission is given by the principal or designee.
7. Unlicensed drivers will not be allowed to operate a motor vehicle on the campus during school hours. License checks will be conducted.
8. Parking places will be assigned after registration procedures have been completed, if necessary.
9. Priority for parking will be given to those participating in after school activities and then to seniors, juniors, and sophomores in that order.
10. Students using the school parking lot grant permission for their vehicles to be searched.
11. Students are to understand that possession of prohibited materials in automobiles will be considered personal possession of these materials. Punishment will be in accordance with regulations given elsewhere in the student handbook.
12. Students cannot be excused from class to take other students home.

Students who violate any of the regulations set by the school will be subject to disciplinary actions. Students are to comply with directions and instructions regarding driving and parking on campus.

Date Adopted: 6/09/09

Last Revised: 6/19/23

4.56—EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES – SECONDARY SCHOOLS

Clubs

Students have the right to join school clubs and will not be restricted for membership on the basis of race, sex, national origin, or other arbitrary criteria. Organizational bylaws will determine membership.

Students may, however, be restricted to membership on the basis of their sex, but only if the organization is entitled to Title IX exemption under the Bayh Amendment. This amendment gives exemption to organizations that are:

- Voluntary youth service organizations
- Tax-exempt under Section 501 of the 1954 Internal Revenue Code (Religious and Charitable Organizations)
- Principally composed of members under the age of 19

Fraternities and secret societies are banned in Arkansas Public Schools.

In order to participate in any extracurricular activity involving competition with other schools, a student must meet the eligibility requirements specified by the Arkansas Activities Association.

Qualifications for Students Officers

Officers of student organizations should be students of high moral character and outstanding members of the school community. Students of poor character and students who are frequent discipline problems may not be allowed to serve as officers of any student organization. Final decisions will be made by the organization sponsor and the principal. Student council executive officers must have a 3.00 cumulative GPA. Class officers must have a 2.50 cumulative GPA.

Who's Who

- Each year the student body shall select a "Who's Who" of students at Barton High School.
- Categories for Who's Who will be determined by the Annual/Yearbook staff and sponsor and approved by the principal.
- Students selected to Who's Who will be chosen by a vote of the general student body or the student body of the appropriate grade for grade specific categories.
- The student body will be notified of the date for the Who's Who election. Students who are absent on that date will forfeit their right to vote.

Homecoming

Each year Barton High School will celebrate homecoming festivities with the selection of a homecoming court and queen consisting of current students. Homecoming court requirements for maids and escorts are as follows:

- Must be in 10th-12th Grade
- No out of school suspension for current or previous semester
- Must have a 2.0 GPA from previous semester
- No more than 5 unexcused absences from the previous semester

Dresses and suits must be black, white, maroon, or silver.

Maids of the Homecoming Court for each grade level (10th-12th) will be selected by a vote of the general student body for that grade. Maids may only be selected once during their sophomore and junior year. The senior delegate receiving the most votes by the student body will be selected as Homecoming Queen and announced during the evening coronation. The student body will be notified of the date for the Homecoming elections. Students who are absent on that date forfeit their right to vote. Maids will pick a football player that meets the above criteria to escort them during the homecoming pep rally. Maids will be escorted by their father or guardian during the evening homecoming coronation.

Date Adopted: 7/15/24

Date Revised: 7/14/25

Prom

Barton High School junior and senior students may bring dates or guests under the following conditions:

- All individuals attending prom must be in at least the 10th grade and no older than 20.
- Guests who are not students at Barton High School must be approved by the principal or designee. The principal or designee shall contact the guest's school administration to ask for recommendation to allow the guest to attend.
- Guests who are not students at Barton High School will be required to present a photo ID before being admitted to prom.
- Guests with major disciplinary infractions, as determined by the principal, or failing to receive a recommendation from the administration of his/her home school will not be allowed to attend prom.
- If a guest is not enrolled in school, the principal or designee will work with local law enforcement to determine whether the guest should be allowed to attend prom.
- The principal shall have discretion to approve or not approve all guests to prom.
-

Date Adopted: 6/10/14

Fundraising 6.6 Secondary Schools

Fund raising in the secondary schools may only be done by officially sanctioned student clubs, spirit groups, school PTAs, or parent booster clubs. Student clubs and spirit groups must receive written approval from their sponsor and the school principal before submitting the fund raising proposal to the Superintendent.

Door to door fundraising activities are generally discouraged. If approved, students wishing to participate who are under the age of eighteen (18) must return to their sponsor a signed parental notification and permission form.

Legal References: A.C.A. § 6-18-1102
 A.C.A. § 6-18-1104

Date Adopted: 7/5/04

Last Revised: 3/14/22

[See Fundraising under district and/or elementary school section for district and campus specific information.](#)

All money collected must be turned into the designated sponsor daily.

Class Rank

Class rank will be tentatively established at the end of the freshman, sophomore, junior, and determined officially at the end of the senior year. Class rank will be determined by the students cumulative earned GPA.

Graduation

Only those students who have completed all graduation requirements will receive a diploma and be allowed to participate in graduation exercises. To participate in graduation exercises, students must follow behavioral and dress regulations. Students may not alter the appearance of their cap and/or gown. Before participating in graduation exercises students must also have a balance of zero dollars on all accounts with the school (cafeteria balance, library fines, book fines, etc.)

A student must have a failing grade in a required course before taking credit recovery. Other methods of substitution (concurrent credit, etc.) must be approved by the principal in advance. College (concurrent credit) courses taken during the school day will be included on the student transcript as either elective or core credit courses as approved by the principal. Students who receive a letter grade of "D" or "F" in a college course will not be permitted to leave campus during the school day to participate in college courses during the following semester.

Graduation Honors

To be considered an honor graduate, a student must:

- Earn a cumulative GPA of 3.5 or higher, and
- Successfully complete at least one Advanced Placement (AP) course, one concurrent credit course, or a combination of both.

Honor graduates will be recognized at the graduation ceremony with a school-issued honor cord or medal.

Academic Distinction Tiers (Open to All Graduates)

Any graduating student—regardless of honor graduate status—may earn academic distinction based on GPA alone:

- Cum Laude: 3.2 – 3.4 GPA
- Magna Cum Laude: 3.5 – 3.7 GPA
- Summa Cum Laude: 3.8 – 4.0 GPA

These distinctions will be noted in the official graduation program. Completion of AP or concurrent coursework is not required to receive Cum Laude, Magna Cum Laude, or Summa Cum Laude recognition.

Graduation Program Participation

The top five honor graduates, based on cumulative GPA calculated to the third decimal place, will be given special roles in the graduation ceremony.

- In the event of a tie at the third decimal, students who have completed AP or concurrent courses will be given priority over those who have not.

Roles are assigned as follows to honor graduates:

- Valedictorian (Honor Graduate #1): Delivers the Valedictory Address
- Salutarian (Honor Graduate #2): Delivers the Salutatory Address
- Honor Graduate #3: Gives the Welcome and Invocation
- Honor Graduate #4: Leads the Pledge of Allegiance
- Honor Graduate #5: Gives the Benediction

In addition to the above requirements, students speaking at graduation must complete their last four semesters of study at Barton High School.

In the event of a tie the number of students presenting speeches will be expanded to accommodate all the students with the top 5 Cumulative GPAs.

The graduating senior with the highest Cumulative GPA will be designated as the 'Valedictorian'. The graduating senior with the second highest Cumulative GPA will be designated as the 'Salutarian'. In the event of a tie the graduating seniors with the appropriate GPA will be designated as 'Co-Valedictorian' or 'Co-Salutarian'.

The Valedictorian and Salutarian will be recognized by notation in the graduation program and will wear a school issued cord, medal stole, or other distinction. The Valedictorian and Salutarian will be the first and second honored speaker, respectively, during the commencement ceremony.

In the event that one of the top five students declines to speak they will not be replaced by another student.

Early Graduation Guidelines

The Board may allow early graduation as a means of earning a high school diploma. Parental involvement for all students is required. The principal may approve such requests if it is determined that all state and local graduation requirements will be met. The following process must be completed before any early graduation request will be considered:

1. An application for early graduation is completed and submitted before the student's junior year.
2. Parent approval is received for all students unless waived by the principal.
3. The student and parent have met with the guidance counselor to discuss academic goals, career goals, and the student's rationale for making the request.

4. A committee including the guidance counselor, the principal, and one teacher will meet with the student during the month of May to assess the application for early graduation or not recommend early graduation.
5. The principal will approve or not approve the early graduation application.
6. If early graduation is approved, an early graduation contract will be signed by the student, the student's parent/guardian, the guidance counselor and the principal.
7. Approved early graduates who meet Honor Graduate requirements will be designated as such in the graduation program and with an Honor Graduate cord. However, because rank is determined cumulatively by the same cohort of students, no early graduate may take the rank of any top 5 current graduate. Therefore, no early graduate may speak or have any role of the number 3-5 ranked graduate during the graduation ceremony.

Date adopted: 6/19/23

Sr. Prank Policy

Senior pranks and pranks by any other students are not recognized or sanctioned by the school or district. Those involved in the organization or executing of any prank are subject to disciplinary or legal action as is necessary and appropriate as determined by school or district administration and the appropriate law enforcement entity. Such disciplinary action may be up to and including expulsion from school and/or graduation.

Date Adopted: 7/12/17

Date Revised: 7/12/17

Arkansas Academic Challenge Lottery Scholarship Program

In 1991, the Arkansas Legislature created a program to help high school students pursue their dreams of attending college. For High School Seniors, the only requirement is a 19 on the ACT or ACT equivalent score (990 on SAT), FAFSA (<http://fafsa.ed.gov/index.htm>) Required.

5.21-ACCELERATED LEARNING COURSES

Definition

"Accelerated learning" means an organized method of learning that enables a student to meet individual academic goals and graduation requirements while pursuing higher levels of skill development, including without limitation the following coursework:

1. A College Board Pre-Advanced Placement and Advanced Placement (AP) course;
2. An International Baccalaureate (IB) Diploma Programme course;
3. A Cambridge Advanced International Certificate of Education course;
4. A concurrent credit course; and
5. A substantively similar course or program approved by the Division of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE).

Students in grades seven through twelve (7-12) who take accelerated learning courses or other courses approved for weighted credit by the Division of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) or the Division of Career and Technical Education (DCTE) shall be graded according to the following schedule:

A = 100 – 90
 B = 89 – 80
 C = 79 – 70
 D = 69 – 60
 F = 59 and below

For the purpose of determining grade point averages, the numeric value of each letter grade shall be:

A = 5 points
 B = 4 points
 C = 3 points
 D = 2 point
 F = 0 points

For a student to be eligible to receive weighted credit for an AP, or IB course:

- The course must be taught by an Arkansas licensed teacher who has received the appropriate training required by the appropriate accrediting organization; and
- The student takes the applicable AP or IB examination after completing the entire course. Credit shall be given for each grading period during the course of the year, but shall be retroactively removed from a student's grade for any course in which the student fails to take the applicable exam. Students who do not take the applicable exam shall receive the same numeric value for the grade he/she the student receives in the course as if it were a non-AP or IB course.²

DESE shall approve additional courses, including other accelerated learning courses, for weighted credit if the course:

- a. Exceeds the curriculum standards for a non-weighted credit class;
- b. Meets or exceeds the standards of a comparable accelerated learning course; or
- c. Is identified by DESE as an honors class.

For career and technical education courses taken after July 1, 2023, career and technical courses that are eligible for weighted credit are those career and technical education courses that:

- Exceed the curriculum standards for a non-weighted class; and
- Lead to an approved industry-recognized certification or concurrent credit.

A student shall receive weighted credit for each approved career and technical education course upon the student:

- o Completing the relevant career and technical pathway; and
- o Earning the high-value industry credential aligned with the career and technical pathway.

A student who transfers into the district will be given weighted credit for the accelerated learning courses and other courses approved by DESE and DCTE for weighted credit that were taken for weighted credit at the student's previous school(s) according to the preceding scale.

Legal References: DESE Rules Governing Grading and Course Credit

A.C.A. § 6-15-902

A.C.A. § 6-16-1201 et seq.

Date Adopted: 7/5/04

Last Revised: 7/14/25

5.22—CONCURRENT CREDIT

A ninth (9th) through twelfth (12th) grade student who successfully completes a college course(s) from an institution approved by the Division of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) shall be given credit toward high school grades and graduation at the rate of one (1) high school credit for each three (3) semester hours of college credit. Unless approved by the school's principal, prior to enrolling for the course, the concurrent credit shall be applied toward the student's graduation requirements as an elective.

As permitted by the DESE Rules Governing Grading and Course Credit, a student who takes a three (3) semester hour remedial/developmental education course shall receive a half (1/2) credit for a high school career focus elective. The remedial/developmental education course cannot be used to meet core subject area/unit requirements.

Participation in the concurrent high school and college credit program must be documented by a written agreement between:

- The student;
- The student's parent(s) or legal guardian(s) if the student is under the age of eighteen (18);
- The District; and
- The publicly supported community college, technical college, four-year college or university, or private institution of higher education the student attends to take the concurrent credit course.

Students are responsible for having the transcript for the concurrent credit course(s) they've taken sent to their school in order to receive credit for the course(s). Credit for concurrent credit courses will not be given until a transcript is received. Students may not receive credit for the course(s) they took or the credit may be delayed if the transcripts are not received at all or in a timely manner; this may jeopardize students' eligibility for extracurricular activities or graduation.

Students will retain credit earned through the concurrent credit program that was applied toward a course required for high school graduation from a previously attended, accredited, public school.

A student or a student's parent, legal guardian, person having lawful control of the student, or person standing in loco parentis to the student shall not be responsible for tuition, fees, or materials for participation in a concurrent credit course.

Cross Reference: 4.59—ACADEMIC COURSE ATTENDANCE BY PRIVATE SCHOOL AND HOME SCHOOLED STUDENTS

Legal References: A.C.A. § 6-15-902(c)(2)
A.C.A. § 6-16-1201 et seq.
A.C.A. § 6-18-232

DESE Rules Governing Grading and Course Credit

Date Adopted: 7/5/04

Last Revised: 7/14/25

In addition to policy 5.22:

Eligibility

- Students in 10th through 12th grade are eligible to participate in concurrent credit programs.
- Students must have taken the ACT or Accuplacer to be eligible for enrollment.

Available Pathways

Students may enroll in the following pathways through Phillips Community College of the University of Arkansas (PCCUA):

- General Education (2-Year Degree Plan)
- Welding (CTE Pathway)
- Medical Professions (CTE Pathway)

Students must follow an approved plan to attend PCCUA in one of these specific pathways.

Additional Concurrent Credit Opportunities

Other PCCUA concurrent credit courses may be taken online only and must not interfere with the student's full schedule at Barton. Enrollment & Commitment:

- Students are required to remain in the concurrent credit course after the first two weeks, regardless of current grade performance.
- Students are not allowed to drop a concurrent credit class after the Tuesday following Labor Day.

Academic Standards

Students who receive more than one 'F' in concurrent credit courses during a school year will be dismissed from the pathway and become ineligible for future enrollment in concurrent credit programs while enrolled at Barton.

Weighted GPA

Concurrent credit courses carry a weighted GPA scale to reflect their rigor.

Transportation & Meals

- Transportation will be provided to and from PCCUA.
- Students will be provided breakfast and lunch at no cost.
- Students may choose to purchase their own lunch from the PCCUA café at their own expense.

Summer Courses

Summer concurrent credit courses are not paid for by the district, but students may still enroll independently.

High school credit will be awarded for approved summer courses completed through colleges.

Summer credits will not be weighted in the student's GPA calculation.

Partial Day/ Employment Program Guidelines

Seniors who are in good academic standing and have successfully completed their Fine Arts requirement may be eligible for a partial day schedule, allowing them to leave campus after lunch.

To qualify:

- Students must provide valid proof of employment through a current W-2, pay stub, or other official employment documentation. Cash-only or unverifiable jobs will not be accepted.
- Students must maintain satisfactory attendance and behavior throughout the school day.
- The principal reserves the right to revoke partial day privileges due to academic, attendance, or discipline concerns. Students may be required to return to a full-day schedule at any time.

Date Adopted: 7/9/17

Last Revised: 7/14/25

Credit Recovery Policy

Starting with the 2025-2026 school year, Barton High School will offer credit recovery to incoming seniors who fail required courses. Other grade level students can make up courses on their own time and at their own expense, or retake the course in fall of the following school year. To ensure fairness while honoring student progress, the original course grade and the credit recovery grade will be averaged to determine a final grade. In cases where the average remains below passing, a minimum passing grade may be recorded to reflect successful completion and allow credit to be awarded.

Date Adopted: 6/09/09

Last Revised: 7/14/25

Semester Exam Exemptions

Students may be exempt from semester exams if they meet the following criteria:

1. Have a letter grade of "A", "B", or "C";
2. 5 or less unexcused absences for the semester. Absences for school business or BLA shall not count toward the absence total for semester exam exemption,;
3. No out of school suspension during the semester.

Date Adopted: 6/09/09

Date Revised: 7/15/24

Parent/Student Information and Signature Page

The Parent/Student Information and signatures pages is an online form that must be completed by the student's legal guardian. Each section must be completed and digitally signed to acknowledge the handbook information has been read and understood.

The district handbook can be found on the district website at www.bartonsd.org under "State Required Information."

The online form must be completed within 1 week from the 1st day of school to continue attendance.

Online Forms include but are not limited to:

- Access to Student Handbook
- Demographics

- Emergency Contact
- Internet Access
- Publish student's photo in yearbook
- Computer/Internet Use Policy
- Corporal Punishment
- Directory Information
- Library/Media Center Use Policy
- Publish student's photo on website and district social media
- Parent and Family Engagement Compact

Medical forms must be completed for every student and are included in the Parent/Student Information and Signatures Pages. Additional forms are available as needed for students with additional medical needs. Please see the district nurse for more information.

Alma Mater

On a city's southern border
 Reared against the sky
 Stands our dear 'ol Alma Mater
 As the years go by
 Forward ever be our watchword
 Conquer and prevail;
 And to dear 'ol Alma Mater,
 Barton High, All Hail.

