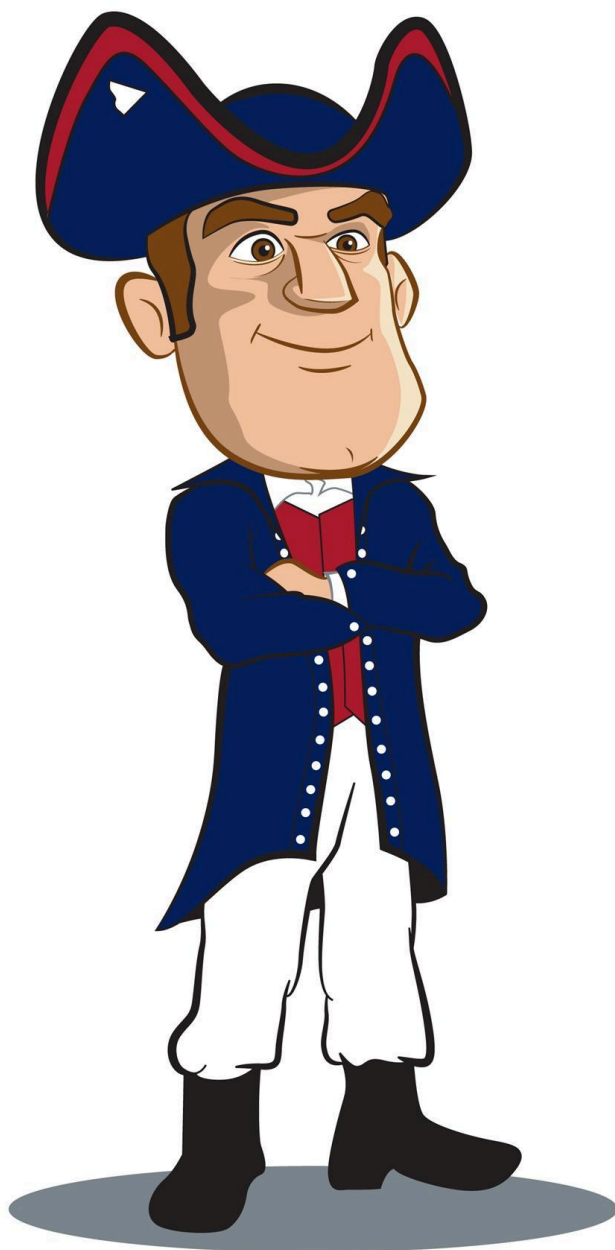


Harris Road Middle School



Parent Student Handbook 2026-2027

Parent Student Handbook 2026-2027

ARRIVAL AND DISMISSAL

Note: We will no longer be using Scribbles to verify receipt of the Parent Handbook and Student Code of Conduct. Please use the verification link found in the Parent Square message to confirm that you have received and discussed with your child the 2025-26 Cabarrus County Schools Parent Handbook and Student Code of Conduct. **A form must be submitted for each child.**

Verification must be completed by Friday, August 21, 2026. The Parent Handbook and Student Code of Conduct are linked below and have also been attached to this post. The handbook will be available in your ParentSquare files folder throughout this school year for easy access and reference. This file folder is available both on your ParentSquare online dashboard and on the ParentSquare app under "Media."

SCHOOL ARRIVAL AND DISMISSAL

The instructional day begins at 9:00 a.m. and ends at 4:00 p.m. No car riders or walkers are to arrive at school before 8:30 a.m. Students are not to be in the halls before 8:40 a.m. unless accompanied by a staff member. Teachers who are meeting students before 8:30 a.m. will set a meeting time to greet students and bring them into the building. Students who arrive after 9:00 a.m. must come to the office to sign in. Students who are consistently late to school will be subject to consequences based on the tardy policy. Students going to breakfast must proceed directly to the cafeteria and then go immediately to homeroom.

BUS RIDERS

Students who are bus riders will receive a bus pass to ride an assigned school bus. Students can only ride a bus if they have a bus pass and may only ride to or from a stop in which they are assigned. Buses may arrive up to 10 minutes before or after the assigned stop time. **Students are only allowed to ride the bus to which they are assigned.** Students may not ride home with a friend on a bus to which they are not assigned. Bus riders should only leave their 6th period class when bus riders are called for dismissal. Bus riders leaving 6th period with car riders and walkers are subject to disciplinary consequences.

CAR RIDERS

Students are to be dropped off and picked-up before and after school in the designated area located on the west side of the building next to the cafeteria. Staff members will be on duty to supervise this area. Please do not drop off or pick up students in any other area. Please pull forward as directed and do not pass other cars in front of you without being directed by a staff member to do so.

WALKERS

Students who walk to school must enter the school through the gym in the morning. During dismissal, students must exit through the front doors of the school. Walkers should proceed directly through the grassy area by the front mobile unit to the designated crosswalk. Students should not loiter upon dismissal. Students should only cross the street when directed by an adult at the crosswalk.

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ATTENDANCE

ATTENDANCE POLICY

Cabarrus County Schools' attendance policy is explained in detail [here](#).

Students must be at school for at least half of the day (3.5 hours) in order to be counted present for the day. **Students checked out prior to 12:30 pm or who arrive after 12:30 pm will be considered absent per the CCS attendance policy.** Students having appointments with doctors or dentists are encouraged to return to school after these appointments.

The principal may withhold credit for students who accumulate 20 or more absences in a class during the course of the school year. Parents will be notified when students accumulate three, six, ten, and fifteen absences during the school year. Student attendance will be a factor when considering student promotion or retention.

CHECKOUT POLICY

Students are not permitted to leave school with anyone other than a parent, guardian, or designated adult unless prior parental consent is on file in our system. The authorized adult must provide a photo ID and sign the student out in the office in order for the student to leave. Students will not be called from the class until the authorized adult signs them out in the office.

Students will not be allowed to check out after 3:30 p.m.

PROCEDURES TO FOLLOW WHEN A STUDENT HAS BEEN ABSENT

Students who have been absent from school must have a parent/guardian complete the online absence form located on the Harris Road Middle School website. In addition to the online form, doctor's documentation for illness/injury/medical appointments can be submitted to the office. All absences will be coded as unexcused unless the [online form](#) is completed.

Students who are absent, whether the absence is lawful or unlawful, have the opportunity and the responsibility to make up missed work. The student should make arrangements with the teacher on the day he/she returns to school to complete this work within a 5-day period. Students with extended illnesses will be granted additional make-up time.

Students who are absent should check their teachers' CANVAS pages and/or contact the teacher to receive their work.

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TARDY POLICY

To help ensure a quality instructional program, all of our students must be in class on time, including homeroom/first period. The staff of Harris Road Middle School has adopted the following tardy policy.

Students who are tardy to school must check in at the office first. Tardies will be determined as excused or unexcused according to the state attendance policy (see attendance policy). Tardies will be tracked for each semester (½ year). Tardy count will reset at the beginning of each semester.

Tardy Consequences

- 1st Tardy - Warning
- 2nd Tardy - Warning
- 3rd Tardy - Lunch Detention
- 4th Tardy - Lunch Detention
- 5th Tardy - Lunch Detention
- 6th Tardy - After School Detention (Wednesday School)
- 7th Tardy - After School Detention (Wednesday School)
- 8th Tardy - After School Detention (Wednesday School)
- 9 or more Tardies - ISS (In-School Suspension)

PARENT INFORMATION

CONFERENCES

Parents may request a conference with any teacher by calling or emailing the teacher directly. Conferences may also be set-up through the student's counselor. Because our teachers work in teams, it is often best practice to plan conferences when the entire team can be available in order to fully address any concerns; however, this is not a requirement for a conference. Conferences may be held in person or via Microsoft Teams.

COUNSELING PROGRAM

Counseling: Counselors are available for each grade level to see students individually, in small groups, and in classroom guidance. Parents, teachers, administrators, and students can make referrals for individual appointments. Please call or email your child's counselor if you have any questions or concerns regarding your child. A student may fill out the form available in all classrooms to let the counselor know he/she needs to talk. In classroom guidance, we follow the NC Standard Course of Study for Guidance Curriculum.

Consulting: Counselors meet regularly with the students' team teachers to discuss any concerns the teachers may have about their students. Counselors also attend conferences with parents and teachers to help support students in their academic, emotional, and social progress.

Coordinating: The HRMS Counseling Department offers a variety of activities for students and parents throughout the year. Please check our website regularly for updates.

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ITEM DROP OFF GUIDELINES

In an effort to maintain orderly and efficient school operations and to minimize the number of visitors entering our building, we are asking families to adhere to the following guidelines for dropping off items. We thank you for your cooperation and support with these new procedures.

- Items Which Cannot Be Dropped Off:
 - PE clothes/shoes (Students may borrow clothes from PE staff.)
 - Pencil Pouches (Students may request to borrow writing utensils from teachers.)
 - Chromebooks (These may be signed out for the day in the media center.)
 - Water bottles (Water fountains are available near all restrooms. Bottled water is sold in the cafe for \$1 and can be refilled at the bottle filling stations throughout campus.)
 - No food from outside restaurants or vendors (Per CCS food guidelines, outside food from restaurants and outside vendors are not allowed.)
- Procedures Regarding Lunch Drop-Off:
 - All lunches must be dropped off by 11:00 am.
 - Lunches will be taken to the cafeteria at 11:15 am for students to pick up during lunch times.
 - Parents should not engage in consistently dropping off a child's lunch each day as this creates unnecessary disruption to the learning environment and to orderly front office operations.
 - Per CCS food guidelines, outside food from restaurants and outside vendors are not allowed.
- Procedures for Instrument Drop-Off:
 - In the rare instances that band instruments are forgotten, they must be dropped off by 10:00 am. They will be taken down to the band room prior to the 1st band class for students to get on their way into band class.
- Procedures for Athletic Equipment Drop-Off:
 - Athletes are expected to bring their equipment each morning and place them in the team room as designated by the coach. In the unusual event something is forgotten, it can be dropped off by 3:00 pm, and students will pick it up on the way to practice or game at the end of the day.
- Procedures for Dropping Off Medicine/Glasses/Change of clothes due to accident:
 - These items will be accepted throughout the day.
 - If dropping off over-the-counter medicine, parents cannot drop off medicine for students to take themselves. Parents may bring the medicine but must wait and administer the medicine to students. For prescription medicine taken on a regular basis at school, please contact the nurse.

MEAL PRICES

The prices below reflect middle school prices. If a parent regularly fails to provide meal money and does not qualify for free/reduced meal benefits, the school nutrition program director shall inform the principal, who shall determine the next course of action. It is the expectation that lunch balances be paid in a timely manner. **Unpaid cafeteria balances may prohibit students from participating in extracurricular and incentive activities, including athletic events, dances, incentive field trips/activities, etc..**

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Meal	Price
Breakfast - Paid	\$1.55
Breakfast - Reduced	\$0
Breakfast - Free	\$0
Lunch - Paid	\$2.95
Lunch - Reduced	\$0
Lunch - Free	\$0

MEDICATION POLICY

- All medicines brought to school must be in the original container.
- All prescription medicines must have a pharmacy label.
- No medicine can be accepted by school staff without a doctor's order and parent/guardian permission.
- Any medicines (prescription or over the counter) to be given by the School Nurse and/or staff must have a written order from the doctor and parent/guardian permission.
- All medicines to be given by the School Nurse or staff must be brought to school by parent/guardian and picked up when medicine expires, is discontinued, or at the end of the school year.
- Students can self-administer/carry 1 or 2 doses of over-the-counter medicines in the original container with a note from parent/guardian specifying when and why they need to take it.
- Students may self-administer/carry prescription, life-saving medications such as asthma inhalers, epi-pens, or insulin with a written order from the doctor and parent/guardian permission and will need to sign a self-administration contract with the school nurse.
- All medication orders expire on the last day of school unless otherwise specified.

School personnel will not administer any medication to students unless they have received a medication form properly completed and signed by the doctor, and the medication has been received in a matching labeled container. To read the entire board policy on student medication, click [here](#).

SCHOOL FEES

Each school will collect a fee of \$20 for instruction and technology for each student. Encore classes may also require additional fees.

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VISITORS

All visitors, including volunteers and parents, must be buzzed in at the front door and must report to the office to secure a badge that must be worn if they are planning to go to other parts of the building. Our computerized check-in system requires the scanning of a photo ID. Visitors and parents are not to go to teachers' classrooms or any other part of the building without obtaining permission in the office first. On the rare occasion, it is necessary for a parent to visit a teacher's classroom during instructional time, they must arrange the visit in advance with an administrator and will be escorted to the teacher's classroom.

WITHDRAWING FROM SCHOOL

Students withdrawing from Harris Road Middle School should:

- Have their parents call the school, informing the registrar of this change 2-3 days prior to the withdrawal.
- Obtain a withdrawal form from the registrar.
- Return all textbooks/materials/Chromebook to the teacher of each subject.
- Have the withdrawal form signed by the teachers of all subjects, the media specialist, and the cafeteria manager.
- Return the withdrawal form to the registrar before leaving school.

Note: If a student owes any money, the school records will be held in the office until all charges are cleared.

STUDENT EXPECTATIONS

BULLYING/CYBERBULLYING

If a student feels they are being bullied or encounter a peer being bullied they should report the alleged incidents directly to an adult or use the [Bully/Harassment Report form](#) listed on the Harris Road Middle School webpage. Cabarrus County Schools is committed to providing every student with a safe welcoming school environment. Harris Road Middle School does not tolerate any harassment on the school premises, buses, or at school functions. If a student feels that he/she is being harassed by another student or school employee, school officials should be notified immediately and descriptions of said offenses should be specific. Some examples of harassment include and are not limited to any:

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"unwelcome" contact with one's body; suggestive comments, propositions, or gestures; sexually provocative commentaries about the body; "unwelcome" suggestive writings, artworks, or notes; "unwelcome" slurs or innuendos.

Bullying Includes specific characteristics and criteria defined in NC BULLYING LAW § 115C 407.15

A pattern **(REPEATED)** of one or more of the following:

- Gestures
- Communications (includes online/social media/etc.)
- Physical act
- Threatening communication

AND

ONE or more of the following:

- Damage to property
- Places student in actual and reasonable fear of harm to his/her person
- Creates or is certain to create a hostile environment by substantially interfering with or impairing student's educational performance, opportunities or benefits
 - Hostile environment meets BOTH criteria below
 - Student subjectively views the conduct as bullying or harassing behavior
 - Behavior is objectively severe or pervasive enough that a reasonable person would agree it is bullying and harassing behavior

MOTIVATED by characteristics such as: race, national origin, religion, sexual orientation, ancestry, gender, physical appearance, socioeconomic status, color, gender identity, academic status, mental, physical, or sensory disability

When such harassment is reported, Harris Road Middle School will make a good faith effort to investigate all such reports in close consultation with the Cabarrus County Board of Education. Disciplinary action in such cases depends upon the said offense, findings of the investigation, and recommendation of the school administration and/or appropriate central office personnel.

RACIALLY AND OFFENSIVE LANGUAGE

Harris Road Middle School is committed to maintaining a safe, respectful, and inclusive learning environment for all students. Racially offensive, derogatory, or discriminatory language is not permitted on school property, during school-sponsored activities, or in connection with the school environment.

Students are expected to refrain from using language that demeans, targets, or threatens another person based on race, ethnicity, or other protected characteristics. This expectation applies regardless of the speaker's intent, whether the language is directed toward another person, used as a joke, or whether the individuals involved share the same racial or ethnic background.

Students who use racially offensive or discriminatory language may be subject to disciplinary consequences consistent with district policy and the circumstances of the incident. Serious or repeated violations may result in significant consequences.

SOCIAL NETWORKING

The school respects the rights of students to use social networking sites (e.g., Facebook, Instagram, snapchat, etc.), personal websites, blogs, and other web tools (collectively "Internet Postings") as a medium

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of self-expression. However, inappropriate internet postings by students can cause substantial disruptions to the school environment. A student will be disciplined for creating and/or distributing written or electronic material, including internet postings that causes substantial disruption to school operations and/or interferes with the rights of other students or staff members. Violation of this policy will result in disciplinary action. Bullying that takes place through social media outside of school can lead to administrative consequences if a substantial disruption occurs in the school environment.

BUYING, SELLING, GAMBLING, OR TRADING

Students are not permitted to buy, sell, gamble, or trade anything with other students. Engaging in such activities will result in disciplinary action.

CAFETERIA

The school cafeteria is maintained as a vital part of the health program at our school. To encourage good nutrition, a well-balanced breakfast and lunch is offered at affordable prices. Federal regulations prohibit students from having soft drinks in the cafeteria during lunch. Students have an account on which money may be credited. Microwaves located in the cafeteria are for teacher use only.

Each student is responsible for:

- Depositing all lunch litter in trash cans.
- Leaving the table and floor in a clean condition for others.
- Not taking food or drinks from the cafeteria.
- Keeping noise to a minimum.
- Purchasing all food in one trip through the line.
- Not breaking in line.
- Having money ready when approaching the cashier.

- Taking care of lunch balances promptly.

- Students may not take school devices into the cafeteria for use during lunch unless approved by a teacher. This is to protect the device.

CARE OF SCHOOL PROPERTY

Harris Road Middle School is a neat and well-kept school. Students should treat school property with the same consideration you have for your own home. Take pride in keeping the halls and grounds clean. Throw waste materials into trash receptacles. Do not mark on desks, lockers, or other items in the building. Students who do not adhere to this policy may receive school consequences.

Instructional supplies, such as Chromebooks, instruments, novels, and other school-purchased materials, should be returned in the condition in which they were received. Damaged, neglected, or lost items are subject to restitution and/or a replacement fee.

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CHEATING/ACADEMIC DISHONESTY

Students found to have cheated and/or committed academic dishonesty, including plagiarism, forging a parent's signature, copying other students' answers, providing others with answers to homework, tests, quizzes, etc., will be given school consequences up to and potentially including 1 day of In-School Suspension or receive a zero on the assignment.

To support a culture of honesty, responsibility, and learning, this policy outlines expectations for how students use technology, including AI tools, in their schoolwork. Our goal is to help students grow as thinkers, creators, and problem-solvers while maintaining academic integrity.

All students are expected to complete their own work unless a teacher gives permission for collaboration. The following actions are considered violations of academic integrity:

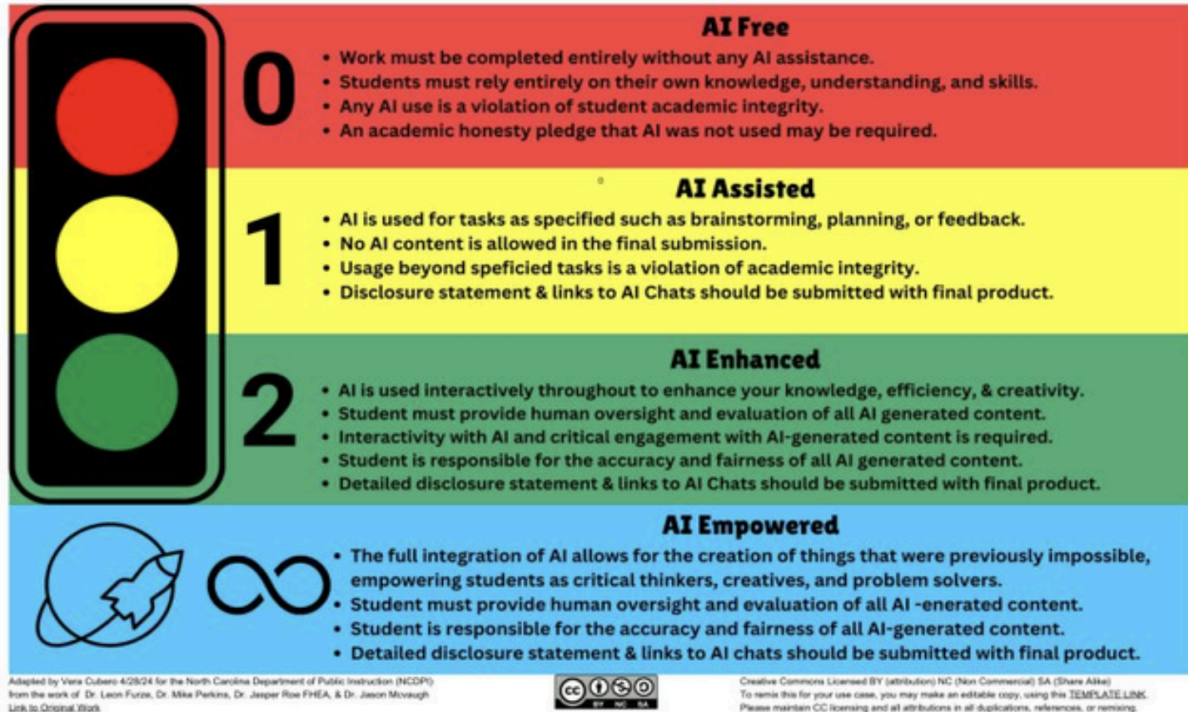
- **Cheating** – Using unauthorized help or resources on assignments, quizzes, or tests.
- **Forging** – Pretending someone else's work or writing is your own, including using AI to generate essays, projects, or answers and submitting it without proper credit or teacher permission.
- **Copying** – Taking answers, written work, or projects from another student, website, or AI tool and presenting it as your own.
- **Sharing Work Inappropriately** – Giving others your work to copy, or asking others for their completed assignments, tests, or projects.

Harris Road will implement CCS Student AI Integration

Student AI Integration: 0 to Infinity

Student AI Usage Continuum for Empowered Learning

To prepare ALL students for the AI-rich future that awaits them, it is imperative that they ALL learn ABOUT AI, and have opportunities to learn WITH AI in increasingly interactive and complex ways.



Our goal is to prepare our students not just academically but also for the digital future, ensuring they use AI tools in a way that enhances their learning while upholding our district's values of integrity and respect. This strategy aligns with our commitment to fostering an innovative yet safe educational environment.

DELIVERIES

Students are not allowed to accept deliveries of flowers, balloons, or similar gifts at school. Students are not allowed to order from food delivery services such as DoorDash, UberEats, etc. The school will not accept deliveries from food delivery services. Orders such as these will be refused at the door. The school is not responsible for any money paid to these delivery services.

APPROVED BEVERAGES

Students are not permitted to have open drinks/containers in the building. This includes cans and to-go containers such as Starbucks cups and fast-food cups. Students may carry sealable water bottles/containers with water only.

HALL/COURTYARD BEHAVIOR

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Students are not permitted in the halls during class periods unless they are accompanied by a teacher or have an authorized hall pass. Students are to keep to the right when passing through the halls. Do not run or loiter in the halls or courtyards. Excessive noise, horseplay, or any physical contact will not be tolerated. Students are not allowed to utilize mobile phones or wear headphones, earbuds, air pods, etc. in the hallways or outside areas.

HEADPHONES / EARBUDS / AIRPODS POLICY

Headphones, earbuds, and/or AirPods are to be used in the classroom for instructional purposes only as specifically directed by the teacher. Headphones, earbuds, and/or AirPods are to be stored in backpacks while students are outside of classrooms. Students who violate this rule will receive a school-level consequence in accordance with our behavior slip policy.

LOST AND FOUND

There is a lost and found box on each hall for misplaced school materials.

At the end of each quarter, unclaimed items are donated to a charitable organization. Students are asked to please leave valuables at home. This includes valuables such as phones, jewelry, watches, and large amounts of money.

LIBRARY/MEDIA CENTER

- Most books can be checked out for four weeks, with a one-week renewal.
- Reference materials may not be checked out.
- Overdue notices will be emailed weekly to teachers and sent to the students through the homebase teachers. It is the student's responsibility to return her/his books and to pay for any lost or damaged items.
- Students must have a hall pass to come independently to the library. Students are to sign in as soon as they arrive in the library.

LOCKERS

HRMS will not be utilizing hallway lockers. Students should carry their belongings in their book bags. PE classes will utilize PE lockers. HRMS strongly encourages students to lock personal belongings in the student-assigned PE lockers. Students are discouraged from sharing lockers and/or giving lock combinations to other students.

MONEY AND PERSONAL PROPERTY

Students are discouraged from bringing large sums of money to school or any valuable possessions. The school is not responsible for a student's personal property that is lost or stolen.

TELEPHONE USE/CELL PHONE POLICY

Phones and Electronics

- Phones and electronics include, but are not limited, to mobile phones, AirPods, smart watches, earbuds, electronic tablets, and personal devices.
- Phones and electronic devices should be turned off and stowed in backpacks prior to or upon entering the building and throughout the school day. Phones and electronic devices may not be kept on a student's person, including in pockets, lunch bags, and purses.

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- Students should not use phones or electronics unless receiving prior approval from a staff member. This includes, but is not limited to watching videos, listening to music, taking pictures, taking videos, playing games, using apps, making phone calls and messaging.
- Teachers may allow students to use headphones and/or earbuds for instructional purposes.
- Students are not allowed to use their phones to take videos or pictures during the instructional day or on the bus.

Emergencies and Requests to Call Home

- Should emergencies arise and students need to contact parents, we have a student phone in the front office. Students should have an authorized hall pass from their teacher before coming to the main office to use the front office phone. Students may also use telephones located in teacher classrooms with permission of the teacher.
- Should parents need to contact students about an urgent matter, parents may call the front office and leave a message for the student which the school administrative assistant will deliver.
- If a student is not feeling well the school nurse will see any student who is sick and the school nurse will facilitate a call home when warranted.

Consequences for Phone & Electronic Policy Violations

- Students having a phone or electronics device on their person will receive a minor/behavior slip.
- For students who repeatedly violate the phone and electronic device policy, in addition to the minor/behavior slip, students will be required to turn in their cell phone to the front office each day and retrieve it at the end of the school day and/or will not be allowed to have their cell phone on campus.
- Students using a phone or electronic device to take pictures or record others may receive school-level consequences and/or students not being allowed to have a cell phone on campus.
- Students recording videos and/or taking pictures with cell phones or electronics and posting them on social media and/or using them in any way that disrupts the learning environment will receive school-level consequences.

CCS Board Policy Regarding Use of Electronic Devices

SEARCH AND SEIZURE

Student PE lockers are school property and they are subject to random searches at any time. Individual students and their personal belongings may be searched if reasonable suspicion warrants that the individual is concealing tobacco, drugs, weapons, or any other items in violation of school board policy. Only the administration and adult witnesses will conduct student searches.

SAFETY CHECKS

Random Safety Checks using metal detectors are part of a safety protocol. These checks are designed to deter students from bringing weapons and inappropriate items to school. These checks are random and periodic. During a random safety check, students' bags and backpacks will be checked to ensure there are no inappropriate items or weapons.

STUDENT DISCIPLINE/STUDENT BEHAVIOR CODE

The administration, teachers, and other staff members of Harris Road are committed to ensuring each student has the opportunity to learn in an undisturbed and safe environment. The discipline plan, therefore,

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is non-invasive and promotes collaboration, responsibility, and respect. It fosters independence and self-esteem, sets limits, and offers students a chance to learn from their mistakes.

All of the adult employees at Harris Road Middle School have certain responsibilities to the school. In order to carry out these responsibilities, they have the authority to correct students when the need arises. If any adult employee, whether the employee is faculty, clerical, cafeteria, custodial, or a substitute teacher, corrects a student, the student is expected to abide by such correction. All staff members will be respectful of students and students are to treat all staff members with respect.

1. All students will be subject to the regulations and disciplinary procedures outlined in the CCS Parent Information and Student Code of Conduct Handbook(need new link) and Harris Road Middle School Behavior System.
2. No student behavior will be tolerated which infringes upon the rights of other students to receive an education.
3. No student behavior will be tolerated which threatens the safety and welfare of students and staff.

Minor and Office Referrals

Minor referrals are written for offenses for which the student's behavior is addressed by the teacher/staff. Behavior slips are sent home with the student for each minor referral. They must be signed by the parent/guardian and returned on the next school day. Failure to return signed behavior slips may result in further consequences. Multiple minor infractions will result in administrative intervention and/or major referrals. Behavior slips will be tracked for each semester (½ year). The behavior slip count will restart at the beginning of the second semester.

- 1st Behavior Slip/Minor - Warning
- 2nd Behavior Slip/Minor - Warning
- 3rd Behavior Slip/Minor - Lunch Detention
- 4th Behavior Slip/Minor - Lunch Detention
- 5th Behavior Slip/Minor - Lunch Detention
- 6th Behavior Slip/Major - After School Detention (Wednesday School)
- 7th Behavior Slip/Major - After School Detention (Wednesday School)
- 8th Behavior Slip/Major - After School Detention (Wednesday School)
- 9 or more Behavior Slips/Majors - ISS (In-School Suspension)

Office Referrals

Office referrals are written for offenses that are repetitive, sustained over a period of time, jeopardize student safety and/or are a major disruption to the learning environment.

Student Disciplinary Consequences

Students who exhibit inappropriate behavior are assigned any of the following in-school consequences for their conduct:

Minor Referrals:

- Behavior Slips - these are used to communicate with the student and parents about minor behavior infractions. Students not returning the signed behavior slip the next day may be assigned silent lunch. Behavior slips 1 and 2 are warnings, 3-5 will result in lunch detention, 6-8 will result in after school detention, and 9 or more will result in ISS. The behavior slips count start over at the beginning of the 2nd semester.
- Teachers will communicate with the parent/guardian.

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- A Redirect is one class period of isolation for students. Teachers can send students who are interfering with the learning process because of inappropriate conduct to IDEAL for the remainder of the class period. The IDEAL teacher will monitor the student and send him/her to the next class period at the appropriate time.
- Silent Lunch - is held in or out of the cafeteria designated by the referring staff member. Students lose the opportunity for socialization during their lunch time when assigned silent lunch.

Office Referrals:

Students who display offensive behaviors may receive an office referral. Consequences for office referrals are assigned by administrators.

- Lunch Detention is held outside of the cafeteria in a location as designated by an administrator. Students lose the opportunity for socialization during their lunch time when assigned lunch detention.
- After School Detention (Wednesday School) will be assigned by an administrator. Students are always given written notification of this detention. Failure to attend may result in a day of in-school suspension or out-of-school suspension.
- In-School Suspension (ISS) is for students who exhibit inappropriate and/or offensive behavior. Parents/guardians receive a phone call and written notification from an administrator each time the student is referred to ISS. In ISS, we will help students focus on making positive behavior changes and completing academic assignments. Students are allowed to work and meet with case managers, counselors, or administrators while in ISS.
- Out-of-School Suspensions (OSS) will occur when a student's behavior threatens the welfare and safety of others, when a student repeatedly disregards the rules and regulations of the school, and/or when a student violates mandated school board policy. By law the principal or his designee has the right to suspend a student for up to 10 school days. Students who repeatedly and willfully violate school/school board policy may be recommended for The Opportunity School at the Glenn Center.

Students should work to complete assignments while they are out, however, they will be allowed to make up work after returning to school from suspensions. The work must be submitted within 5 school days of their return. Students may not make up missed work during regular class time, unless allowed by the assigning teacher. Otherwise, missed work must be made up after school and/or at home.

FIGHTING

Fighting at school will result in out of school suspension.

Avoiding Fights: Students should do all they can to avoid fights even when others seek to provoke fights. Any student who is confronted by another student should **walk away and notify any school employee immediately**. **Self-defense** is defined as the act of shielding oneself from being hit and enabling oneself to get free from the attacker in order to prevent a fight and to notify school authorities. It is not self-defense to hit the attacker back and participate in the fight. This action is retaliation that will be considered fighting. Administrators will have the discretion to recognize the need for self-defense on an incident-by-incident basis.

STUDENT DRESS

CCS Student Dress Code

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([See Policy 4316 Student Dress Code](#)).

THE BOARD PROHIBITS APPEARANCE OR CLOTHING THAT DOES THE FOLLOWING:

- violates a reasonable dress code adopted and publicized by the school
- is substantially disruptive
- is provocative or obscene
- depicts or promotes gang affiliation
- endangers the health or safety of the student or others

HRMS Student Dress Code

Dress Expectations:

- Skirts and shorts should be mid-thigh length or longer
- Shirts and blouses should cover the student's midriff
- Straps should be at least two inches in width or greater
- Pants should be fitted and worn at the waist
- Shoes, tennis shoes, sneakers or sandals must be worn

Students May Not Wear:

- Tops with straps less than 2", muscle or mesh shirts
- See-through or excessively baggy, short, tight, or revealing clothes (i.e. plunging necklines or exposed cleavage)
- Exposed undergarments
- Clothing advocating drug, alcohol, vaping or tobacco use
- Clothing advocating products or services illegal to minors (i.e. weapons, drugs, etc.)
- Clothing with inappropriate or suggestive language or symbols (i.e. profanity, pornography)
- Clothing that discriminates against particular groups
- Clothing with holes or slashes above mid-thigh
- Bedroom slippers and pajamas
- Excessively long or oversized shirts, coats or jackets
- Sunglasses, hats, caps, stocking caps, toboggans, skull caps or any other headgear in school
- Any apparel and accessories including jewelry, emblems, tattoos or body markings, that depict gang affiliation
- Excessive face painting
- Shirts should be worn as intended and cannot be tied in the front or back revealing one's midriff or the small of the back
- Chains, spikes or other accessories that could be perceived as or used as a weapon

Administrators may use their discretion in implementing the dress code, including making reasonable accommodations on the basis of students' religious beliefs or medical conditions.

Students not meeting the dress code will be given an alternative set of tops and/or bottoms to wear for the day. The student will remain in the IDEAL room if he/she does not change into the school provided clothes or until the parent is able to bring clothes which meet the school dress code.

Dress code violations will be tracked for each semester (½ year). Dress code violation count will reset at the beginning of each semester.

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Consequences of Dress Code Policy Violations

- 1st violation - Warning
- 2nd violation - Warning
- 3rd violation - Lunch Detention
- 4th violation - Lunch Detention
- 5th violation - After School Detention (Wednesday School)
- 6th violation - After School Detention (Wednesday School)
- 7th violation -After School Detention (Wednesday School)
- 8 or more violations - ISS (In School Suspension)

TECHNOLOGY

CCS will provide each student with a Chromebook for instructional use. Students are responsible for damages as a result of negligence, mishandling of the device, or loss of the device. Students are prohibited from bringing and using their own personal devices. Students are required to use the school issued Chromebook.. CCS monitors student online activity through programs such as Gaggie and Go Guardian. Misuse of school technology, in or outside of school, will result in school-level consequences and parents will be notified. All Chromebooks will be automatically shut down from 11:00pm to 6:00am every day

VAPING

According to the School Board Policy [4320](#), the board is committed to creating safe, orderly, clean, and inviting schools for all students and staff. To this end, the board supports state laws that prohibit the sale or distribution of tobacco products to minors and that prohibit the use of tobacco products by minors. The board also supports state and federal laws that prohibit the use of tobacco products in school buildings, on school campuses, and in or on any other school property owned or operated by the board. For the purposes of this policy, the term “tobacco product” means:

1. Any product that contains or that is made or derived from tobacco and is intended for human consumption,
2. All lighted and smokeless tobacco or nicotine products, including, but not limited to:
 - a. electronic cigarettes; and
 - b. vaporizers.
3. Other electronic smoking devices, even if they do not contain tobacco or nicotine.

ATHLETICS

Athletic opportunities are available for 7th and 8th grade students. The teams are basketball, cheerleading, volleyball, football, softball, track, wrestling, soccer, and baseball.

The following rules apply to all students participating in sports or cheerleading at Harris Road Middle School:

1. Athletes are representatives of their school; therefore, it is mandatory that they behave in a sportsmanlike manner at all times.
2. A student may not be a member of two school teams during the same season, at the same time.
3. Each player must receive a medical examination by a licensed physician each calendar year in order to be eligible for practice or participation in interscholastic athletic contests.

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4. All athletes must purchase school insurance or be covered by personal insurance in order to participate in any interscholastic sport.
5. A student must pass 5 out of 6 subjects per semester to remain eligible and meet the 85% attendance guideline.
6. A student must not be fourteen years old on or before October 16 for 7th-grade teams.
7. A student must not be fifteen years old on or before October 16 for 8th-grade teams.
8. All 7th-grade students are eligible to participate at the beginning of their 7th-grade year.
9. Sixth graders may not participate on school teams.
10. A student receiving a consequence of Wednesday School, In-School Suspension, or Out-of-School Suspension shall not attend extracurricular activities for that day.

HARRIS ROAD STUDENT-ATHLETE CODE OF CONDUCT

1. Athletes must meet all Cabarrus County Schools and North Carolina Department of Public Instruction eligibility requirements.
2. Athletes must adhere to school rules at all times during practices, home and away games, and while traveling to and from away games. Any time a student-athlete is in uniform or on a team trip, he/she is representing Harris Road Middle School and will behave with responsibility and good character at all times. Conduct detrimental to the team, school, or community will not be tolerated and serves as grounds for removal from the team.
3. **Any athlete receiving any school discipline below OSS (behavior slip, office referral, lunch detention, Wednesday school/ ISS) is subject to team level discipline at the coach's discretion. Any athlete that receives any OSS or multiple ISS's during their sports season will be dismissed from the team.**
4. **Students with 7 or more office referrals are ineligible to play sports for HRMS.**
5. An athlete must also adhere to any additional team rules and policies as set forth by the head coach for that sport.

ATTENDING HARRIS ROAD ATHLETIC EVENTS

We encourage students and families to support Harris Road Middle School athletics through their attendance of sporting events. Students attending events with or without an adult must conduct themselves in a reasonable manner. If it is determined that a student is not conducting him or herself appropriately, they may be asked to leave. Repeated offenses of inappropriate behavior may result in the privilege of attending HRMS athletic events being revoked for the remainder of the school year.

Unacceptable behavior may include, but is not limited to:

- Fighting
- Horseplay
- Running through the stands
- Being in unauthorized areas
- Disrespectful behavior
- Displaying disrespectful or unsportsman-like conduct, particularly directed at the opposing team.

A student receiving a consequence of Out-of-School Suspension may not attend athletic events while serving the OSS.

Cabarrus County Schools Middle Schools Athletic Bag Policy

In alignment with the new district athletic bag policy, bags will no longer be permitted at athletic events. Only medical-necessity bags and diaper bags will be permitted. Medical and diaper bags are subject to search.

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Disclaimer

Circumstances and degrees of involvement could lessen a serious offense or make a minor offense more serious. HRMS administration reserves the right to use discretion when dealing with students in a fair and equitable manner. Students and parents/guardians should thoroughly read the HRMS student handbook and become familiar with the discipline guidelines and procedures. Students and parents/guardians should also thoroughly read and understand the CCS Parent Information and Student Code of Conduct Handbook (https://cabarrus.k12.nc.us/7236_3) as these rules/policies are also applicable. Failure to read and know school policies and discipline guidelines does not excuse students in following those policies and guidelines. Not all incidents can be covered by the rules contained within this HRMS handbook. The administration reserves the right to handle situations not specifically mentioned in the HRMS handbook in a manner they deem is fair and appropriate.

CHILD ABUSE

You deserve to be safe.

No one has the right to abuse you or someone you know.

Child abuse is when someone, whether through action or failing to act, causes injury, death, emotional harm, or risk of serious harm to a child.

There are different types of abuse.

- Physical abuse is when a parent or caregiver injures or hurts a child, and it was not an accident.
- Sexual abuse occurs when an adult uses a child for sexual purposes or involves a child in sexual acts. It also includes when a child who is older or more powerful uses another child for sexual acts. You should never be touched by an adult in areas normally covered by underwear except for the purposes of a medical exam by a medical professional.
- When a parent or caregiver causes harm to a child's mental or emotional wellbeing, it is considered emotional abuse. While a single incident may be abuse, most often emotional abuse happens often enough to cause emotional harm and fear over time.
- Child neglect is when a parent or caregiver does not provide the care, supervision, affection and support needed for a child's health, safety and well-being.

It's not your fault.

It is wrong that you are suffering this pain, fear or sadness. You may also want to talk to a trusted adult like a parent, teacher, counselor, social worker, nurse or other school staff.



North Carolina Department of
PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

If you see any of the these signs, have been abused, or know someone you think is being abused, please get help right away.



Physical Abuse

- hitting
- kicking
- choking
- shoving



Emotional Abuse

- ignoring
- mocking
- name-calling
- blaming



Sexual Abuse

- sexual acts between an adult and youth
- forced sexual acts by an older child
- adults touching a youth's body in areas normally covered by underwear



Child Neglect

Parent/Caregiver does not provide care such as:

- clothing, food, and drink
- a safe place to stay
- appropriate treatment for injuries and sickness
- access to school/education



Bullying

- repeated, targeted, aggressive behavior
- use force, threats, or teasing to overpower
- being socially shut out of a group
- can hurt physically, emotionally, or both



Online Abuse

- uncomfortable or sexual conversations
- requests for sexual or revealing photos
- threatening messages
- cyberstalking

The identity of the person making the report, and all information obtained during the report, will be held in the strictest confidence possible to maintain everyone's safety.

In an emergency:

Call 911

To report abuse:

704-920-1400