

2025-2026 Stuarts Draft High School
Student Handbook
“Home of the Cougars”



Stuarts Draft High School Philosophy

The crest of Stuarts Draft High School encourages students to “Create and Discover.” Our students and faculty are creating and discovering each day in a variety of ways. From the classrooms to extra-curricular activities, our Cougar family is constantly growing as individuals and as a community through the development of respect for oneself and other individuals. Cougars also are encouraged to show their loyalty to the school by claiming ownership to it as a community, and taking care that our school remains a respectable institution. The student body and faculty are expected to exemplify positive attitudes in order to provide for a happy and healthy learning environment. Finally, we are committed to a legacy of excellence by keeping in mind our Four Pillars: Knowledge, Individualism, Integrity, and Community.

Knowledge:

Stuarts Draft High School, where learning is our main priority. We are committed to allowing students to push themselves academically to be the best they can be. We are aware that students learn in a variety of ways, and our teachers strive to incorporate a variety of learning activities to ensure that every student has the opportunity to succeed. Students are also given the chance through the Valley Vocational and Technical Program, the Shenandoah Valley Governor’s School, as well as the various mentorship opportunities to become actively engaged and gain experience in possible future fields of study. Students are assessed in a variety of ways, including projects, tests, SOLs, and a plethora of hands -on activities. All programs are frequently and meticulously evaluated for effectiveness by our dedicated and immersed team of administrators. Above all, we are determined to allow our students to graduate with the knowledge they need to become productive members of society.

Individualism:

Stuarts Draft High School is committed to ensuring that each student is a valued individual. At our school we have several opportunities that challenge and develop each student’s unique skills. Our curriculum is tailored to meet our students’ intellectual, physical, social, and emotional abilities.

We offer Special Education, Gifted and Talented, and Limited English Proficiency programs that provide support for the various needs of our students. Our students also participate in fine arts and athletics programs that allow them to actively express themselves outside of the traditional classroom setting. Our faculty and administrators are dedicated to creating a positive atmosphere that allows students to grow and learn together.

Integrity:

Stuarts Draft High School is devoted to upholding strong morals and values. As a school, we value honesty, responsibility, respect, and fairness. The students and faculty are expected to maintain an atmosphere full of respect and courtesy. Integrity is important to our school in order to enhance relationships between students, teachers, administration, coaches, and other faculty members and to perpetuate a satisfying learning atmosphere. Students and faculty are encouraged to carry themselves with integrity within the school and the community as representatives of Stuarts Draft High School.

Community:

Stuarts Draft High School strives to connect with and participate in the community. As a community, we celebrate our similarities and cherish our diversity in an open and engaging environment. At Stuarts Draft High School, students learn about other cultures, expand their horizons, and develop respect for diversity within our school, community, and world. Through extra-curricular and co-curricular activities such as academic team, FFA, the spring musical, student government, art shows, athletics, and a plethora of unique clubs and activities, students are provided with opportunities for teamwork, leadership, and skill development. The community and Stuarts Draft High School creates a safe and comfortable physical environment that proudly supports student learning. The school's faculty and staff, students, parents, and community members share the responsibility of endorsing the school's mission and creating a diverse and safe learning environment for every student.

Stuarts Draft High School

1028 Augusta Farms Road

Stuarts Draft, VA 24477

(540) 946-7600 - Fax: (540) 946-7605

Principal: Tony Ramsey - tramsey@augusta.k12.va.us

Assistant Principals: Steve Hartley & Danielle Shields

Athletic Director/Asst. Principal: Jeremiah Major

STUDENT NAME: _____

Students are expected to accept responsibility for regular school attendance. When they must be absent they are expected to follow county and school procedures for communicating their absences. If a student must be absent from school, a call, Infinite Campus documentations, or an email to sdhsattendance@augusta.k12.va.us from a parent/guardian is appreciated. State law requires that the school attempt to contact the parent/guardian, at home/work, if a student is absent.

PERFECT ATTENDANCE:

Perfect attendance is defined as being in school all day, every day. Excused absences/tardies from school DO count against a student for this distinction.

DAY AFTER AN ABSENCE PROCEDURES:

Immediately after arriving at school following one or more days of absence, each student must complete the following tasks:

1. Bring note or email (to sdhsattendance@augusta.k12.va.us) from parent/guardian and/or doctor confirming the date(s) and reason for the absence.
2. Take the note to the front office before school begins. Students forgetting their note on the first day back must still report to the office. This will grant the student another day to bring appropriate documentation and get the absence excused.

Any student who does not provide an email or bring a note or physician's report to the office will receive an unexcused absence for the day missed. The reason for the absence must meet the criteria listed below in order to be considered an excused absence. **Bringing a note may not guarantee an excused absence.**

EXCUSED ABSENCES:

The student must bring a signed and dated note from the parent/guardian or they may send an email (to sdhsattendance@augusta.k12.va.us), within 3 school days of the absence, stating the day and specific reason for absence. Absences from school or classes shall be excused for the following reasons:

1. Personal illness or injury of the student. ***A physician's note may be required if absenteeism is excessive.*** If you become sick while at school you must report to the nurse's office where the nurse will assess and determine if your dismissal from school will be considered **EXCUSED**.
2. Court subpoena/summons for the student. (Prearranged with school officials)
3. Death or serious illness in the family.
4. Pre-arranged absences that were approved by an administrator.
5. Emergency/extenuating circumstances determined to be unavoidable by the administration. (Direct communication with an administrator is required.)

Students with excused absences will be allowed to make up work for the daily participation grade.

UNEXCUSED ABSENCES:

Students whose reasons are not covered in EXC. ABSENCES will be considered unexcused. Students who do not follow attendance procedures, including the requirement to take their signed notes to the office upon returning from an absence, will be considered unexcused. A student is counted absent from school if they miss more than 2 blocks in the school day. Students missing more than 1/2 of a class are counted absent from the class.

ARRIVAL TIME:

Students are allowed to arrive at 7:30 am, at the earliest. Those students in the building from 7:30– 7:55 am will be supervised in the cafeteria.

MAKE UP WORK:

Students are permitted to make-up all work missed. However, students must adhere to the guidelines listed. The student is responsible for contacting their teacher to obtain make-up assignments. Unless special provisions are made with the teacher, principal, and/or his designee, all work must be made up within a period of three (3) school days. Failure to make up daily work within the three (3)-day period will result in a grade of “F/o” for those specific assignments.

If the student fails to make up major work, such as a term paper or research project, the teacher may assign an “I”. This situation is referred to the principal for review. Teachers may expect students to make up a test on the first day back from an absence if the test was assigned prior to the absence and no material on the test was covered during the absence.

In case of extended absences, the make-up time may be extended. The principal must approve any exceptions to the regular examination schedule. Early dismissals/late arrivals are to be considered as absences in regards to work missed and will be treated using the same guidelines as day-long absences. Except in emergency situations, all class assignments are due on the date of the early dismissal or late arrival and must be turned in to the appropriate teachers before leaving school. This policy also applies to work due on days when the student is in attendance at school but not in class (examples: MGA, driver’s ed., and field trips).

PREARRANGED ABSENCES:

There are occasions when students must miss school for reasons other than those listed under the category of “EXCUSED”. When these circumstances arise, students may be excused if their absence has been pre-arranged. A note signed by a parent/guardian stating the date(s) and reason for the absence must be submitted to the office. The student will then be given a prearranged absence form to attach to their note. An administrator must sign off/approve it, and subsequently, students need to submit the form to their teachers for approval. This note must be submitted for approval at least 24 hours in advance of the absence. The student is responsible for collecting assignments from all teachers prior to the absence. Unless special permission is granted by the

teacher, the expectation is that all work missed during the absence will be completed the day the student returns to school.

EXCESSIVE ABSENCES:

Regular, prompt attendance to school is essential to ensure academic success. After 5 and 10 absences, the school will send a letter of concern to the parent. Students who miss more than **10 days** from school, unexcused, may be referred to the Augusta County Juvenile and Domestic Relations Court.

EARLY DISMISSALS:

Students requesting permission to leave school before the end of the regular school day must present a note signed by a parent/guardian to the office before 8:11 AM stating the time and reason for the early dismissal. Early dismissals will be marked excused or unexcused using the same criteria as absences from school. The student will be given an early dismissal slip to be given to the teacher so the student may be dismissed from class by the teacher at the appropriate time. The early dismissal will be marked on the Student Data Information System by the attendance secretary. ALL students are required to sign out in the office on the early dismissal sheet before leaving school. ALL students, with the exception of student drivers, will have a parent/guardian, or someone listed on the emergency care card present when signing out in the office.

TARDIES:

Students arriving after the start of the first block must report directly to the main office and sign in. Tardies will be marked “excused” or “unexcused” using the same criteria as absences from school. Students who have an excessive number of late arrival or tardies to class will be appropriately disciplined. Tardies to school and tardies to class bear the same consequences. Please note: Students are required to be in school attendance, for at least a half of the day, in order to participate in school sponsored co/extracurricular activities (Regulation 7.130)

UNEXCUSED TARDY POLICY: Students are expected to be in school and in every class on time. Students 45 minutes late to a class will be counted as absent. The following consequences will be given for being tardy to school or to class:

4 unexcused tardies per semester: Afternoon (PM or AM) detention will be assigned

6 unexcused tardies per semester: Saturday School will be assigned; letter mailed to parents

8 unexcused tardies per semester: Two Sat. Schools will be assigned; letter mailed to parents

10 unexcused tardies per semester: Suspension from school/other disciplinary action will occur

After 10 unexcused tardies per semester: See “Cougars Not in Good Standing” Policy

VCTC and GOVERNOR’S SCHOOL STUDENTS:

AM VCTC and Governor’s School students must check into the cafeteria every day by 11:25 or they will be considered tardy. PM VCTC students may not leave until 12:00 each day, and must check out with an administrator from the cafeteria or they will be considered to be skipping school. Any

student who is present at one school but does not show up at the other school is considered to be skipping. You must be excused by administration at either school to leave or go home sick.

STUDENT RECOGNITION:

Each grading term, students with a semester GPA of 3.6667 and higher will be placed on the Honor Roll list. Students maintaining a 4.00 grade average for the semester shall be named to the Superintendent's List. Students with perfect attendance (***perfect attendance is defined as being present in school all day, every day***) will also be recognized. These students will receive reward/discount coupons to local businesses and be allowed free admittance to certain extracurricular events.

OUTSIDE FOOD DELIVERIES:

In an effort to maintain compliance with the Federal School Lunch Program, outside food may **only be brought in by parents/guardians** (who are listed in the student information system) and they may bring it for **their child only**. They must check in at the main office and either leave the food with the office staff to be picked up or **wait in the office** for their child to retrieve it from them. Parents/Guardians may not wait in the entryway or hallways or outside of the cafeteria area to hand food off to their child. Friends, boyfriends, girlfriends, etc. **will not** be allowed to deliver food to SDHS students and **will not** be allowed to visit or eat lunch with SDHS students. **Additionally, outside food deliveries from restaurants or food delivery services are not permitted during the school day.**

PETS OR ANIMALS ON SCHOOL GROUNDS:

In order to protect the health and safety of students, employees and visitors, animals are **NOT** permitted on school grounds. This includes school building, athletic fields and field houses. Exceptions will be made for **service animals** to accommodate a person's disability. Proper permits may be requested. Other exceptions may be made for educational programs and educational-related purposes.

DRESS CODE

ACPS Policy (7.500) - Cooperation of students and parents in the area of appropriate dress will help ensure an environment conducive to learning. Items of dress which are prohibited include: swimming suits or trunks, halter tops, bare midriffs, tank tops, barefoot, sun glasses, hats, short shorts, net tops and see-through shirts. Dress which is sexually suggestive or explicit or advertises drugs, alcohol, tobacco products, or profanity is not appropriate. It will be the prerogative of the school administration to judge proper/ improper dress beyond that specified above. Any student may wear any bona fide religious or ethnically specific or significant head covering or hairstyle, including but not limited to hijabs, yarmulkes, head wraps, braids, locks, and cornrows. No school board employee shall require a student to undress in front of any

other individual, including the enforcing school board employee, to comply with the dress code.

At Stuarts Draft High School, we are about having pride in ourselves and respect for others. This dress code reflects that attitude and belief. Students are expected to dress in a manner consistent with the recognition that they have a responsibility to help foster a learning environment promoting health and safety, respect and pride, as well as a positive regard for discipline and authority. SDHS students will dress appropriately for the school/work setting. Students who choose not to dress appropriately will be addressed and disciplinary action may occur. Unacceptable dress includes, but is not limited to:

- **Any clothing displaying or advertising drugs, alcohol or tobacco products.**
- **Any clothing with inflammatory, suggestive or other inappropriate writing, advertisement or artwork.**
- **See-through or scanty apparel.**
- **Head coverings of any sort worn inside the building.**

More specific guidelines include:

NO hats or hoods

NO spaghetti straps

NO tube tops

NO low-cut tops

NO short-shorts

NO midriff or fishnet shirts, or other sexually suggestive clothing

- **Tops must have at least a 1-inch strap over the shoulder and cover all undergarments.**
- **Shirts must completely cover the midsection (stomach) and torso at all times.**
- **Apparel must cover ALL undergarments.**
- **Dresses, shorts, skirts, etc. which are so short as to exceed the limits of good taste for school/work setting are not permitted.**
- **Body piercings may NOT be worn in classes where they are a safety/performance issues.**

Regulation 7.500

Personally-owned Electronic Device (PED)-Free Education -

Definitions:

“Bell-to-Bell” means from when the first bell rings at the start of the school day to begin instructional time until the dismissal bell rings at the end of the academic school day. “Bell-to-bell” includes lunch and time in between class periods.

“Cell Phone-Free Education” means the age-appropriate elimination or restriction of cell phones and other personal electronic communication devices in public schools.

“Cell Phone” means a personal device capable of making calls, transmitting pictures or video, or sending or receiving messages through electronic means. The definition of a cell phone is inclusive of a non-smartphone that is limited to making phone calls or text messages, a smartphone that encompasses the above features, and other future personal electronic communication devices with the abovementioned characteristics.

“Instructional time” means any structured or unstructured learning experiences that occur from when the first bell rings at the start of the school day until the dismissal bell rings at the end of the academic school day.

“Personally-owned Electronic Device (PED)” means any personal device capable of connecting to a smartphone, the internet, a cellular or Wi-Fi network, or another similar device. Personal electronic communication devices may include but are not limited to, some wearable devices such as smartwatches, personal headphones, earbuds, laptops, tablets, other Bluetooth-enabled devices, and other future personally-owned electronic devices with the abovementioned characteristics.

“Stored” means a PED not being carried on the student’s person, including not in the student’s pocket. Storage options include, but are not limited to, in the student’s backpack, in the student’s locker, in a locked pouch, or in a designated place in the classroom.

High Schools (9th-12th grade) PED-Free education:

- PEDs will not be used by high school students during the bell-to-bell school day.
- If PEDs are brought to school, they must be stored and off during the bell-to-bell school day.
- Outside of the bell-to-bell instructional time, PEDs may be used on a high school campus before or after school.
- During bell-to-bell instructional time, students must use school-based communication tools and platforms (whether in the office, classroom, or other centralized location) to communicate non-emergency needs with parents.
- Parents should use school-based communication tools and channels to communicate emergencies during bell-to-bell instructional time.
- Educators and all co-curricular and extra-curricular sponsors must use school-based communication tools and channels to communicate with students regarding activity and athletic scheduling information during the bell-to-bell school day.
- If a high school student travels to a different campus, facility, or regional program during the school day, they must adhere to that building’s policy and procedures for PEDs.
- Non-compliance may result in student disciplinary action. Multiple issues of non-compliance will result in disciplinary action related to “general misconduct” and moving into “failure to obey”, if necessary. Refer to the “Recommended Disciplinary Action” flowchart in the [ACPS Secondary Student-Parent Handbook](#).

Exceptions to PED-free Education During the Bell-to-Bell School Day

- Allowable exemptions for PED use must be written into a 504, IEP, and/or individualized health care plans. All individualized healthcare plans that include PED usage must be written in consideration of recommendations from a doctor or equivalent healthcare professional.
- A student who uses a PED for audio or video recording during a health or safety emergency may not receive disciplinary consequences.

PEDs may be used:

- when students are attending non-instructional after-school events/activities
- when students are riding the school bus, as long as such use is not disruptive, distracting, or unsafe; students must use earbuds or headphones while listening to music or watching videos with sound while on the school bus
- by high school students during specific post-secondary planning activities or age-appropriate tasks as approved by the principal

Prohibited Conduct

The following use of PEDs is strictly prohibited:

- tease, bully, intimidate, threaten, or harass another individual;
- collaborate with, encourage, or incite others to participate in violent or unlawful acts on school property or at school-sponsored activities; this includes creating and sharing video or content that causes disruption and disturbance;
- create, possess, exchange, distribute, post, or transmit a photograph, digitized image, or video of a person in any condition of nudity, or a person engaged in any sexual act;
- engage in academic dishonesty and cheating;
- use of a PED as a laser pointer is strictly prohibited;
- refusing to surrender a PED when directed to do so by school personnel
 - Such refusal shall result in disciplinary action related to “failure to obey”

Improper use of any such devices may result in confiscation of the device by school personnel and/or other appropriate disciplinary action in violation of law or policy while on school property (including buses) or while attending any school function or activity will be subject to disciplinary action which may include suspension or expulsion and may be reported to law enforcement.

Expectations for Staff/School Personnel

Staff/School personnel are expected to strictly enforce this regulation so that students experience consistent expectations and consequences in all school settings. Staff/School personnel are expected to model behaviors that are consistent with a PED-Free Education. Staff/School personnel may use PEDs during planning times, breaks, and for essential communication regarding school-related issues.

ACPS is not responsible for the safety or security of any PED. Possession of PEDs on school property or at school-sponsored events or activities constitutes consent for and authorizes a school official to confiscate and search such devices. In addition, any school official may confiscate the device and review or search the contents and activity on the device if reasonable suspicion exists that the device has been used or is being used in violation of ACPS policies, including but not limited to the Student Code of Conduct, the 8.530.1 Policy, or in violation of any law.

School Food Service Program - School Meal Prices 2025-2026

	<u>Students</u>	<u>Adults</u>	<u>Students</u>	<u>Adults</u>
Middle & Secondary:	<u>Lunch</u> Free	\$4.83	<u>Breakfast</u> Free	\$2.86
Reduced Prices for All Schools:	Lunch - Free	Breakfast -Free	Milk (a la carte) -	\$1.00

TRANSPORTATION POLICIES:

Augusta County provides public transportation to students at no expense to the student. Therefore, students who are permitted to drive personal automobiles to school are to consider it a privilege, not a guaranteed right. Any violation of the regulations listed below may result in the withdrawal of driving privileges since your safety and the safety of others is dependent upon following all of the safety precautions.

Parking tags will only be issued to seniors, and all students enrolled in first semester Mentorship, Coop programs, Governor's School, GED, and EFE. The remaining spots will be issued to juniors then sophomores. **Students must fill out a driver application.**

All vehicles parked on school grounds shall have a valid registration. The SDHS parking permit must be hung on the rearview mirror (with permit information facing forward) inside the vehicle while parked on SDHS property. Vehicles without a proper identification are subject to being towed at the owner's expense. Parking at Stuarts Draft Middle School or Elementary School is prohibited and could result in the loss of current or future driving privileges.

Once entering the parking lot, drivers and their riders are to park their vehicle and enter school immediately. Students may not return to their car during the school day until their scheduled departure from school grounds. Students must receive permission from the office in order to go to a vehicle during the school day.

Skippping school, leaving school without parental and/or a school official's permission, and/or excessive tardiness may result in a loss of driving privileges for an extended period of time.

The vehicle must be maintained and operated in a safe manner at all times. Unsafe speeding and/or reckless driving may result in suspension of the parking permit.

School bus traffic will always have the right of way at all times on school property. If a bus is stopped, loading or unloading, then you must stop for the bus.

Car trouble, traffic, and any other driving related excuses for being tardy will need to be approved by an administrator upon arrival to school that day. Otherwise, the student will be considered unexcused tardy.

Requests for emergency permission to drive must be submitted to Mr. Ramsey before driving to school.

Notes for Getting Off Bus at Alternative Location: All notes must be written by parents or legal guardian and must include the date, student's full name, destination, reason for getting off bus at the designated place, and signature of parent or guardian. **Notes must be approved by an administrator before the end of the lunch periods.** Notes will be given to the driver. The driver will turn it over to the Transportation Officer for future reference. (Please keep in mind that Augusta County does not provide transportation for students going to an after-school job.)

If the privilege of using notes is abused by a student, that student will not be allowed to get off the bus at any place, except his or her home.

Report Card Distribution (report cards will be distributed every nine weeks)

October 15, 2025

January 9, 2026

March 20, 2026

Final Report Cards will be available through Parent Portal in Infinite Campus

**Please note that dates listed for holidays and report card distribution are based on the projected school calendar and are subject to change.

SDHS 2025 – 2026 Bell Schedules

Revised:6/17/24

	Regular Day	Fridays	2-Hour Delay	First Day of Semester s	Pep Rally/ Assemblies	1-Hour Delay
1st Tone	8:11	8:11	10:11	8:11	8:11	9:11
1st Block	8:15-9:42 (87)	8:15-9:39 (84)	10:15-11:19(64)	8:15-9:50 (95)	8:15- 9:33 (78)	9:15-10:34 (79)
2nd Block	9:46-11:11 (85)	9:43-11:05 (82)	11:23-12:25 (62)	9:54-11:27 (93)	9:37-10:52 (75)	10:38-11:55 (77)
Cougar Return	11:15-11:45 (30)	11:09-11:14 HR 11:18-11:53 Club	NO Cougar Return	NO Cougar Return	10:56-11:26 HR/Clubs	NO Cougar Return
3rd Block	11:49-1:38 (109)	11:57-1:42 (105)	12:29-2:01 (92)	11:31-1:29 (118)	11:30-1:11 (101)	11:59-1:46 (107)

1st Lunch	11:45-12:09 (24)	11:53-12:16 (23)	12:25-12:49 (24)	11:27-11:51 (24)	11:26-11:50 (24)	11:55-12:19 (24)
2nd Lunch	12:31-12:55 (24)	12:38-1:01 (23)	1:03-1:27 (24)	12:18-12:42 (24)	12:09-12:33 (24)	12:36-1:00 (24)
3rd Lunch	1:14-1:38 (24)	1:19-1:42 (23)	1:37-2:01 (24)	1:05-1:29 (24)	12:47-1:11 (24)	1:22-1:46 (24)
4th Block	1:42- 3:07 (85)	1:46-3:07 (81)	2:05-3:07 (62)	1:33-3:07 (94)	1:15-2:32 (77) 2:32-3:07 Assem	1:50-3:07 (77)

COUGAR RETURN

TIME: 11:15am - 11:45 am (Monday – Thursday)

FRIDAY ONLY: 11:09 – 11:14 Homeroom (Mandatory)
11:18 – 11:53 CLUB

Monday's - Students return to 1ST Blk

Wednesday's - Students return to 3RD Blk

Tuesday's - Students return to 2ND Blk

Thursday's - Students return to 4TH Blk

No Cougar Return on 1 & 2 HR delays. The schedule does not alter on missed days.

FRIDAYS Club Schedule **Friday, August 9th will be Homeroom ONLY

August 8	Homeroom	January 9	Homeroom
August 15	Homeroom/Club Group A	January 16	Homeroom/Club Group C
August 22	Homeroom/Club Group B	January 23	Homeroom/Club Group A
August 29	Homeroom/Club Group C	January 30	Homeroom/Club Group B
September 5	Homeroom/Club Group A	February 6	Homeroom/Club Group C
September 12	Homeroom/Club Group B	February 13	Homeroom/Club Group A
September 19	Homeroom/Club Group C	February 20	Homeroom/Club Group B
September 26	Homeroom/Club Group A	February 27	Homeroom/Club Group C
October 3	Homeroom/Club Group B	March 6	Homeroom/Club Group A
October 10	Homeroom/Club Group C	March 13	Homeroom/Club Group B
October 17	Homeroom/Club Group A	March 20	Homeroom/Club Group C
October 24	Homeroom/Club Group B	March 27	Homeroom/ Club Group A
October 31	Homeroom/Club Group C	April 3	NO SCHOOL
November 7	Homeroom/Club Group A	April 10	Homeroom/Club Group B

November 14	Homeroom/Club Group B	April 17	Homeroom/ Club Group C
November 21	Homeroom/Club Group C	April 24	Homeroom/Club Group A
November 28	NO SCHOOL	May 1	Homeroom/Club Group B
December 5	Homeroom/Club Group A	May 8	Homeroom/Club Group C
December 12	Homeroom/Club Group B	May 15	Homeroom
December 19	Homeroom		

No Cougar Return on 1 & 2 hour delays. The schedule does not alter on missed days.

Club Schedule Groupings

Group A	Sponsor	Room
FCCLA	Workman	Room 22
Partners Service Org.	Rexrode/Carter	Rooms 53/54
TRI-M	Fauber/ Glydewell	Room 20
SCA	D. Dougherty / Lane	Room 65
Electric Vehicle Club	Ham	Room 5
FBLA	Tetto	Room 45
Group B	Sponsor	Room
Drama	Bussey	Auditorium
Partners Service Org	Rexrode/Carter	Rooms 53/54
TSA	Ham/Troxell	Room 5
World Culture Club	Gulliver	Room 51
Environmental Club	Gomez	Room 49
National Art Honor Society (NAHS)	Canter/Yancey	Room 26
Group C	Sponsor	Room
Chess	Roberts	Library
FFA	Baber/Altis	Auditorium
Art Club	Canter/Yancey	Room 26
SADD	Crea	Room 58

Spanish	Amador	Room 31
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COUGARS NOT IN GOOD STANDING



Description:

Under the Code of Virginia, the Commonwealth Compulsory Attendance Law requires that students attend school regularly. Student attendance is vital in their academic success.

The student is considered “Not in Good Standing” if the following occurs per semester:

All Unexcused

- Accumulate 10 tardies to school

OR

- Accumulate 10 early dismissals

OR

- Accumulate 10 absences from school

Third party documentation (doctor’s notes or court subpoena) will be required for excusing a tardy, early dismissal, or absence after reaching 10 unexcused in each category.

Students not in good standing may be considered to not participate in and/or attend extra-curricular activities (including dances-prom, sporting events, sport team participation, etc.). Students may lose their driving privileges to school.. Exception: students will be allowed to participate in co-curricular activities (band/choral concerts, drama productions, etc...) as this pertains to the regular class curriculum and is a requirement for a grade. Note - Early Graduates will need to be in good standing in the first semester to participate in prom and other school sponsored events during second semester.

SCHOOL-WIDE DISCIPLINE PLAN

The school-wide rules that are the focal point for student behavior are:

1. All persons associated with Stuarts Draft High School will have pride in themselves and integrity in their work.
2. All persons associated with Stuarts High School will treat students, staff, administrators, and visitors with respect.

Teacher expectations for student conduct in the classroom include:

1. Treat yourself, others, and property with respect in your actions and in your language.
2. Be on time, prepared with necessary materials for the day's work, and ready to begin when the tardy bell rings.
3. Listen carefully to and follow instructions the first time they are given.
4. Participate in the creation of a positive learning environment by respecting the right of all students to learn.
5. Abide by the SDHS Honor Code and Dress Code at all times.

As part of every teacher's discipline plan, students will be sent to the office for the following infractions:

1. Fighting
2. Use of Profanity
3. Destruction of School Property
4. Disrespect Shown Towards Adults
5. Honor Code Violation

Stuarts Draft High School Honor Code

Stuarts Draft High School's mission is to provide a quality education and an academic environment that fosters knowledge, integrity, and responsibility. This pursuit of excellence requires a level of academic honesty, respect for self and others, pride in accomplishments, and regard for the welfare of the community. In order to meet our goal of helping to develop character and intellect of the Stuarts Draft High School community, we strive to teach by example the value of truth and trust in curricular, co-curricular, and extracurricular activities. Any actions, intentional or otherwise, that disregard honesty and/or diminish the integrity of both the individual and the community may be subject to disciplinary action(s). Each member of the Stuarts Draft High School community should respect and uphold the Honor Code. Though not exhaustive, the following represent examples of actions which violate the Honor Code:

Lying: A person lying or purposely misrepresenting the truth violates the Honor Code. Forging the signature of any person is a violation. Violations of this policy will result in disciplinary action as warranted by the offense.

Academic Dishonesty: Academic dishonesty is defined as knowingly giving or receiving information or assistance on any graded work that is understood to be an example of individual effort. Academic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to, the following:

1. Copying, or allowing another student to copy an assignment.
2. Having in your immediate possession unauthorized materials that could be of assistance during testing or another form of evaluation. It is the student's responsibility to remove all such material from close proximity to him/her during a test or another form of evaluation.
3. Possessing or accessing written or electronic information which is considered to be of assistance in completing a graded assignment.
4. Plagiarizing encompasses, but is not limited to, the following:
 - a. Presenting as one's own, the works or the opinions of someone else without proper acknowledgement.
 - b. Borrowing of the sequence of ideas, the arrangement of materials, or the pattern of thought of someone else without proper acknowledgement.

Some examples of plagiarism are: having a parent or another person write an essay or do a project which is then submitted as one's own work; using the Internet to locate prepared essays or papers to submit as original work AND/OR failing to use proper documentation and bibliography.

The following policy will be in effect upon the confirmation of incidents of *dishonesty*:

- First offense:** The student who knowingly violates the Honor Code will receive a grade of zero for the graded work involved. The incident will be documented and kept on file. Parents will be notified by the classroom teacher. Action appropriate under the Student Handbook will be taken (One Day Saturday School).
- Second Offense:** The student who knowingly violates the Honor Code a SECOND TIME will receive the same punishment as above, with added disciplinary action as warranted by the infraction from the Student Handbook (Two Days Saturday School).
- Third Offense:** Third time offenses will result in disciplinary proceedings as required by the Student Handbook (3 or 5 Days OSS) **and** dismissal from any/all extracurricular activities that the student may be engaged in for the remainder of the school year. Coaches/sponsors of extracurricular activities may use their discretion regarding participation of these students after the period of dismissal has expired.
- Honor Pledge:** **I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid on this piece of work, nor have I knowingly tolerated any violation of the Honor Code.**

TITLE IX and SECTION 504

Policy
3.6

The Augusta County School Board does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, age, disability, or gender in its programs and activities.

All students attending Augusta County Public Schools may participate in educational programs and activities, including but not limited to health and physical education, music, vocational and technical education. Educational programs and services will be designed to meet the varying needs of all students and will not discriminate against any individual for reasons of race, color, national origin, religion, age, disability, or gender.

Specific complaints of alleged discrimination under Title IX (gender) and Section 504 (disability) should be referred to:

Title IX Coordinator:
John Childs
Executive Director of Communication
&Administrative Services
18 Government Center Lane
Verona, Virginia 24482
Ph: 540.245.5107
Fax 540.245.5115

Section 504 Coordinator:
Miranda Ball., Ed.D
Deputy Superintendent
18 Government Center Lane
Verona, Virginia 24482
Ph: 540.245-5108
Fax 540.245.5115

Information for the Community Regarding Weapons Detectors in Schools

This document contains:

- General Information
- Operation and Procedures
- Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

General Information

The Augusta County School Board voted to approve a plan to purchase and utilize weapon detectors in our schools. Augusta County Public Schools (ACPS) will train staff in the use of a weapons detection system to screen students and visitors. The detection system will enhance current security measures that are already in place. ACPS is always evaluating our safety procedures and layers of security. The detectors will be a further deterrent and an added protection for our students and staff.

Augusta County Sheriff Donald Smith and his law enforcement team, in conjunction with the ACPS School Safety Committee, have expressed interest in additional layers that may be added to help protect our students and staff. Sheriff Smith and his team along with School Board members, Superintendent Bond, and other ACPS Central Office staff were very impressed with the presentation of the weapon detectors that will allow efficient entry into a school building or school event while also thoroughly scanning for an instrument or object that could potentially inflict harm to multiple individuals. The benefits of this particular system include:

- ★ fast and automatic screening
- ★ no removal of backpacks, purses, phones, and bags
- ★ extreme transit flow with near-zero nuisance alarms
- ★ quick to set up and install – units weigh only 25 lbs. with less than one minute of setup time
- ★ indoor and outdoor operations

The weapon detectors are a walk-through detection system, composed of two freestanding mobile pillars. They can be used at a variety of entrances or security checkpoint locations, including sporting events, graduations, or school dances.

This same system is being used in venues around our country, including airports, public events, schools, hospitals, theme parks, stadiums, performing arts centers, government buildings, NFL stadiums, and local universities that ACPS already utilizes for our graduation ceremonies.

Students and visitors will not have to remove things such as keys, phones, lunch boxes, or water containers from their backpacks or pockets when walking through the detectors. Student Chromebooks, other types of laptops, and large notebooks will need to be carried and passed to staff as students move through the detectors. The metal spine of Chromebooks, laptops, and large notebooks will cause the detector to alert because the shape and density of the metal spine are similar to a potential weapon. Since these items will not go through the detectors and will not be searched individually in order to ensure efficient entry into the building when the detectors are in use, students will no longer be allowed to carry zip-up binders/notebooks that could conceal a weapon.

The weapon detection systems will be in place in some of the division's middle and high schools at the beginning of the 2023-24 school year. Staff will be trained on the detectors before the actual implementation. Units will be placed in the schools with an organized schedule or as needed if a situation deems necessary.

ACPS fully understands that the first couple of days of implementation will require time to evaluate and potentially revise the procedures and protocols used in the training of staff. Time will allow the students and visitors to understand the process, as administrators and staff work through any needed changes. We want to maintain a welcoming environment while also providing proactive safety measures for everyone involved. We ask for everyone's patience during the initial implementation of this additional safety measure. We anticipate efficient processes and entrance into our schools where detectors are in use after the first several days of implementation.

Keeping schools safe without creating an unnatural experience for students, visitors, or teachers is our main priority. We will still utilize a bus drop off and parent drop off entrance routine in each school as we have provided in the past.

ACPS strives to foster a school climate where everyone takes school safety seriously and where discipline and consequences are sufficiently imposed when the safety of students and staff is compromised. Of equal importance is the proactive social-emotional and mental health support that is offered to students and staff.

Students and staff have a fundamental right to feel and be safe in our schools. Proactive weapon detectors are helping to keep schools safe allowing school divisions to bring the focus back to education. ACPS strives to place learning, development, and the well-being of children at the forefront of each school day.

Unfortunately, tragic events are occurring at colleges, secondary and primary schools, and public events throughout our nation including in the state of Virginia. ACPS, in conjunction with the Augusta County Sheriff's Office, wants to add another layer of security that has been fully vetted, maintains a quality reputation of accuracy, and minimizes disruption within our schools. We will continue to take the steps necessary to protect students, staff, and members of our school community.

Operation and Procedures

A dedicated security team takes on the responsibility of greeting staff and students and handling detected threats.

Entrance Example #1: A student arrives at school without any harmful instrument or objects that will cause an alert and they walk through the front doors of the school, walk through the detection system, and continue to their normal starting location for the school day.

Entrance Example #2: A student arrives at school with an instrument or object that resembles a weapon; or is concealing an actual weapon. They will walk through the front doors of the school, walk through the detection system, and the system will then alert with both a low-volume alarm and a visible red light, notifying staff of the potential threat. The student will be guided through the secondary screening

protocol that involves a search of the student and their belongings. A hand-held metal detector may be used and additional assistance may be provided by the School Resource Officer.

FAQs

How does the detection system work? The system utilizes two towers that students and staff walk through at a natural pace. If the towers turn green, no threat has been detected and the individual passes through without stopping. A staff member will assist in monitoring the screening to instantly identify if a potential threat has been detected. If the system identifies a potential threat, the tower will alert with a red light and sound. That individual can then undergo secondary screening.

What happens if the alarm on the system sounds? Staff will manage the detection system by utilizing their training in the system's implementation protocols. In most cases, the individual who sets the alarm off will go to a secondary screening location where the security team will check out the backpack and other belongings. A hand-held metal detector may be used and additional assistance may be provided by the School Resource Officer.

Why are zip-up binders no longer allowed? The metal spine of Chromebooks, laptops, and large notebooks will cause the detector to alert because the shape and density of the metal spine are similar to a potential weapon. Since these items will not go through the detectors and will not be searched individually in order to ensure efficient entry into the building when the detectors are in use, students will no longer be allowed to carry zip-up binders/notebooks that could conceal a weapon.

Which ACPS schools will have the detectors? The weapon detection systems will be in place in some of the division's middle and high schools at the beginning of the 2023-24 school year. Staff will be trained on the detectors before the actual implementation. Units will be placed in the schools with an organized schedule or as needed if a situation deems necessary. When funding allows, systems will be placed in other schools.

Will the detection system pick up knives? Yes, knives are included in the list of potential weapons the system is capable of detecting.

Will the detection system pick up vapes? Yes, the system is capable of detecting vapes and similar devices.

Is the detection system safe for people with an implanted or wearable medical device? In keeping with FDA guidance on Electronic Article Surveillance (EAS) and walk-through metal detectors, it is recommended that visitors and system operators with implantable or wearable medical devices consult their device manufacturer or physician for information relating to their own specific device. An alternative screening approach is recommended for anyone who has safety concerns.

Are these systems safe for long-term exposure, i.e. for children walking through daily or personnel staffing the system? The detection system uses extremely low-frequency radio waves (ELF) - a non-ionizing sensing modality - in compliance with the Institute of Electrical & Electronics Engineer's (IEEE) 2019 guidance for safe operation with the general public, which applies to regular/occupational as well as infrequent exposure.

Is facial recognition utilized in the detection system? The technology does not use facial recognition. The system evaluates the items passing through it and, depending on the setting, will determine the possibility of an instrument or object that could potentially inflict harm to multiple individuals.

How will they be monitored? System settings will be monitored and changed by administrators through an app that allows the sensitivity of the detection system to be changed based on the objective of the screening. For example, the sensitivity can be set to detect a piece of metal as small as a paper clip.