

# Agenda Request Form

## Cherokee County School District

<b>Meeting Date</b>
August 11, 2016

<b>Agenda Item Number</b>
C-1

<b>Title</b>
Board Consideration of Superintendent's Recommendation for Approval of 2016-17 Technical Modifications to School Board Policies (18) - - on First Reading
<b>Requested Action</b>
Board Consideration of Superintendent's Recommendation for Approval of 2016-17 Technical Modifications to School Board Policies (18) - - on First Reading
<b>Summary Explanation and Background</b>
As a result of annual review of School Board policies to ensure continued alignment with State and Federal Laws/regulations, the attached technical modifications to Board Policies AD, FDB, FDBD, IFAA, IFABB, IFB, IFBG, IFBGA, IFCB, IHC, JBC(4), JBCC, JCAC, JCDAB, JCEB, JDD, JHC and JK are recommended by the Superintendent for Board approval.
<b>Major System Priority</b>
Increasing Accountability
<b>Financial Impact</b>
N/A
<b>Exhibits: (List)</b>
Executive Summary of Changes to Attached Policies

<b>Board Action</b>
<i>(For Official School Board Records Only)</i>

<b>Source of Additional Information</b>	
Dr. Brian V. Hightower	(770) 704-4202
Mike McGowan	(770) 721-6242

### OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

Approved in Open Board Meeting on: \_\_\_\_\_ (Date)

By: \_\_\_\_\_ (School Board Chairman)

**BOARD POLICY - - EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

<b>AD</b>	Modifies Policy language to align with current districtwide practices and standardized language relative to School District's development of school attendance areas.
School Attendance Areas	
<b>FDB</b>	Modifies Policy language to align with current districtwide practices and standardized language relative to the School District's strategic development of long-range facility plans.
Long-Range Needs Determination	
<b>FDBD</b>	Modifies Policy language to align with current districtwide practices and standardized language relative to the School District's development of short- and long-term student enrollment projections.
Enrollment Projections	
<b>IFAA</b>	Modifies Policy language to align with current districtwide practices and procedures relative to the School District's instructional resources selection, adoption and review processes.
Instructional Res. Materials Selection and Adoption	
<b>IFABB</b>	Modifies Policy language to insure compliance with the Children's Online Privacy Protection Act (COPA), which is a critical component of the School District's eligibility for continued e-rate funding.
Internet Safety	
<b>IFB</b>	Modifies Policy language relative to Federal and State laws governing the School District's development and implementation of instructional planning and support programs.
Instructional Services	
<b>IFBG</b>	Modifies Policy language to align with current districtwide practices and procedures relative to the School District's acceptable use policies governing all usage of technology by students and staff.
Internet Acceptable Use	
<b>IFBGA</b>	Modifies Policy language to align with current districtwide practices and procedures relative to the School District's allowance of personal technology by students and staff.
Technology Use Policy	
<b>IFCB</b>	Modifies Policy language to align with current districtwide practices and procedures relative to the School District's planning and organization of student field trips.
Field Trips and Excursions	
<b>IHC</b>	Modifies Policy language to align with current districtwide practices and standardized language by replacing the School District's use of "College Credit Now" terminology with "Move on When Ready."
Class Rankings	
<b>JBC(4)</b>	Modifies Policy language to align with current districtwide practices and procedures relative to the School District's current provisions for student transfer credits.
Transferring Credit	
<b>JBCC</b>	Modifies Policy language to align with current districtwide practices and standardized language relative to the School District's current reassignment and transfer provisions.
Student Assignment and Reassignment	
<b>JCAC</b>	Modifies Policy language to align with current districtwide practices relative to the School District's provisions for investigating harassment complaints.
Harassment	
<b>JCDAB</b>	Rescinds Policy as the applicable student disciplinary dispositions for student alcohol use/possession are contained within the School District's current Student Discipline Policy.
Student Alcohol Use	
<b>JCEB</b>	Modifies Policy language to align with current districtwide practices and standardized language relative to the School District's current student disciplinary hearings.
Hearing Procedure	

**BOARD POLICY - - EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

<b>JDD</b>	Modifies Policy language to align with current districtwide practices and procedures relative to the School District's provisions for student suspensions and expulsions.
Suspensions/Expulsion	
<b>JHC</b>	Modifies Policy language to align with current districtwide practices and procedures relative to the School District's requirements for student club formation.
School-Sponsored Clubs and Organizations	
<b>JK</b>	Modifies Policy language to align with current districtwide practices and standardized language relative to the School District's provisions for soliciting/fundraising.
Solicitations	

**I. AUTHORITY OF THE SCHOOL BOARD TO ESTABLISH ATTENDANCE AREAS**

School attendance ~~district boundaries~~ areas ~~shall~~ will be established by the School Board and may be changed as the population conditions warrant or capacities of buildings require adjustment of student loads.

School attendance areas ~~are~~ will be shown on an official map adopted by the School Board ~~which is~~ on file in the Office of the Superintendent ~~of Schools~~ and is available for public inspection.

**II. MITIGATING A CHANGE IN ATTENDANCE AREAS**

When Board action results in changing attendance ~~zones~~ areas due to the opening of a new school, students affected by the change who will be rising twelfth graders shall be given the opportunity to continue to attend the school in which they are presently enrolled. These students will have the same rights and privileges afforded all other students.

Students affected by the change who will be 9<sup>th</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup> or 11<sup>th</sup> graders must attend the high school in their attendance ~~zone~~ area assigned by the School Board with the following exceptions:

- A. Hardship cases.
- B. Cases where students would desire a course offering or activity not available in the other school. A student may apply for exemption to this policy in the following manner:
  - 1. Request for transfer from one school to another shall be directed to the Superintendent in writing explaining reasons for request. The Superintendent or designee ~~shall~~ will approve or reject the request and notify parents and/or students by letter as soon as possible.
  - 2. Appeals ~~shall~~ will be made to the Board of Education through the Superintendent.

There ~~shall~~ will be no transfers between semesters except in hardship cases.

Unless required by Federal law, ~~In no event will the school system district will not furnish transportation to students outside prescribed attendance zones areas. except for the special education students.~~

**III. ADEQUATE EDUCATIONAL FACILITIES, DESIGNATION OF SCHOOLS AND ATTENDANCE AREAS, DEVELOPMENT OF POSITIVE ALTERNATIVES TO ACCOMMODATE GROWTH, TO KEEP SCHOOLS**

**OPEN, AND TO ELIMINATE AND CONSOLIDATE OR REPURPOSE SCHOOLS**

The Superintendent of Schools ~~shall~~ will annually submit as required to the School Board recommendations for the establishment, organization and operation of educational facilities. This organization of schools, classes and services will provide adequate educational opportunities for all children in the district.

After considering recommendations of the Superintendent of Schools, the School Board ~~shall~~ will adopt and provide for the execution of plans for the establishment, organization and operation of the schools ~~of the district~~ which ~~shall~~ will include:

- Designating schools and attendance areas for the ensuing school year(s). Attendance areas for special education students will not always conform to those for general education students.
- Providing adequate educational facilities for all school-age children in the district, as defined in Georgia ~~statute~~ Law.
- Providing strategies to accommodate growth.
- Providing positive alternative strategies to be implemented within a designated timeframe for those under enrolled schools to increase their enrollment.
- Providing for the elimination/repurposing/consolidation of schools whenever the needs of pupils can better and more economically be served.

**A. ~~Procedural guidelines to be used in the implementation of this policy shall include the following components~~**

- ~~1. Application of student assignment strategies that are equal and fair for all students.~~
- ~~2. Provision of opportunities for equitable instructional services throughout the district.~~
- ~~3. Improvement of instructional services and student learning.~~
- ~~4. Stabilization of school attendance to the greatest extent possible.~~
- ~~5. Opportunity for public input.~~
- ~~6. Establishment and maintenance of feeder patterns (Innovation Zones) that permit students to move forward together from elementary school to middle school and middle school to high schools to the maximum extent possible.~~

- ~~7. Involvement of the affected community in decisions regarding recommendations for uses of schools no longer needed by the district.~~
- ~~8. Application of guidelines and standards for adequate educational facilities, designation of schools and attendance areas, provision for positive alternative strategies for accommodating growth and after due consideration of all factors, elimination and consolidation of schools and/or construction of new schools.~~
- ~~9. Ensure that educational facilities throughout the district are equitable.~~

**B. Guidelines for the establishment of boundaries and attendance areas**

- ~~1. Boundary changes are an appropriate means to maintain equal educational opportunities.~~
- ~~2. Consideration should be given to the demographic changes of the community and the student populations at each school.~~
- ~~3. Where possible, neighborhood elementary schools should be maintained.~~
- ~~4. Visual inspection of affected boundary areas shall be required before proposing any boundary adjustments, school closings or establishing boundaries for new school.~~
- ~~5. The assignment of a student to or from a particular facility should be considered if it is continually over utilized or underutilized. The standards for closure or construction shall be considered in the application of this guideline.~~
- ~~6. The Assistant Superintendent, after receiving input from Zones and Boundary Focus Groups will make recommendations to the Superintendent of Schools who, in turn, will make recommendations to the School Board. Principals of schools proposing boundary changes shall transmit a description of proposed changes to the Assistant Superintendent prior to consideration of the proposal by the Boundary Focus Group. Staff shall analyze such proposal(s) with regard to any impact on current or future overcrowding status at the sending or receiving school(s). A report shall be transmitted by the Assistant Superintendent to the Principal(s)/Boundary Focus Group stakeholders, in a timely manner, for information purposes. The report shall be part of the boundary a process record and shall be considered by the Boundary Focus Group and the Assistant Superintendent, in their recommendations to the Superintendent of Schools.~~

7. ~~Through the Boundary Focus Group, members of the community will be notified of proposed boundary changes, new school openings and/or recommended school repurposing/closures, prior to School Board action, allowing for full participation of the public.~~

**A. Standards for staff and School Board review of attendance areas**

1. Application of student assignment strategies that maintain fair and equal educational opportunities and instructional services for all students throughout the school district with a focus on continual improvement of services and student learning.
2. Stabilization of school attendance areas to the greatest extent possible. Where possible, neighborhood elementary schools will be maintained. Consideration will be given to the demographic changes of the community and the student populations at each school.
3. Opportunity for public input during review process and involvement of the affected community in decisions regarding recommendations for uses of schools no longer needed by the school district.
4. Establishment and maintenance of stable feeder patterns (Innovation Zones) that permit students to move forward together from elementary school to middle school and middle school to high schools to the maximum extent possible ensuring that educational facilities throughout the school district are equitably equipped and maintained.
5. Application of guidelines and standards for adequate educational facilities, designation of schools and attendance areas, provision for positive alternative strategies for accommodating growth and after due consideration of all factors, elimination and consolidation of schools and/or construction of new schools.
6. The Deputy Superintendent, after receiving input from Zones and Attendance Area Focus Groups (a open group consisting of interested stakeholders) will make recommendations to the Superintendent who, in turn, will make recommendations to the School Board. Principals of schools proposing attendance area changes will transmit a description of proposed changes to the Deputy Superintendent prior to consideration of the proposal by the Attendance Area Focus Group. Staff shall analyze such proposal(s) with regard to any impact on current or future overcrowding status at the sending or receiving school(s). A report shall be transmitted by the Deputy Superintendent to the Principal(s)/ Attendance Area Group stakeholders, in a timely manner, for information purposes. The report will be part of the attendance area process record and will be considered by the

Attendance Area Focus Group and the Deputy Superintendent, in their recommendations to the Superintendent.

7. Through the Attendance Area Focus Group, members of the community will be notified of proposed attendance area changes, new school openings and/or recommended school repurposing/closures, prior to School Board action, allowing for full participation of the public.

**A.B. Standards for school construction and school sites**

1. Relevant factors to consider for new site construction are site acquisitions or disposals, building additions, locations of portables, school site selection policy, financial impact on the School District, cost effectiveness (including capital cost), transportation requirements, and enrollment projections for the affected geographical areas.
2. New plant school/facility construction should be considered when long-range enrollment projections clearly indicate the need for construction of additional facilities. The guidelines for establishment of ~~boundaries~~ shall attendance areas will be considered in the application of this standard.
3. A long-range plan for site acquisition and disposal must be prepared in conjunction with long-range projections of enrollment.
4. All ~~plant~~ school construction and site acquisition and disposal must comply with State Board Rules and Georgia Statutes.

**D.C. Standards for review of proposals for addressing school district capital outlay needs and/or overcrowding from municipalities, developers or other individuals/groups/entities**

1. Recognizing that many documented capital needs can only be met through a substantial new source of revenue, the School Board ~~shall~~ will encourage municipalities, the county, developers, groups, individuals and businesses to submit proposals to the Superintendent addressing critical overcrowding, and/or plans for renovating, building or rebuilding school facilities. All proposals and/or plans must result in substantial economic benefits or savings for the School District, must not delay or defer projects in the five year capital improvement program and must be submitted on or before a date specified by the Superintendent. In evaluating proposals, the following factors ~~shall~~ will be taken into consideration:
  - a. Community need.
  - b. Economic feasibility.

- c. Community support.
  - d. Ability to promote diversity.
  - e. Financial incentives/matching dollars.
  - f. Impacts on all equity issues in the District.
  - g. Health and safety factors.
  - h. Potential impact on student achievement.
  - i. Continued requirement to meet critical facility needs district-wide.
2. To the extent that a municipality, county, developer, or other individual/group/entity proposes a plan that will result in substantial economic benefit or savings for the School District, the School Board may consider addressing the capital requirements for facilities that serve that municipality or development earlier than would have been the case through its existing five year capital improvement program.
  3. Any plan proposed by a municipality, developer, or other individual/group entity to address School District capital needs and/or school overcrowding ~~shall~~ will not provide any vesting rights to developers or other individuals/ groups/entities.
  4. Where the provision of significant resources by a municipality, county, developer or other individual/group/entity would affect the equitable distribution of resources district wide, the proposal ~~shall~~ will be modified to reflect that equity standard.

**E.D. Standards for the Closing of Schools**

Schools should be considered for closing if they are consistently not educationally effective in relation to other schools in the School ~~and~~ District, using one or more of the following criteria:

1. The overall financial impact on the School District, cost effectiveness (including capital outlay), transportation requirements and enrollment projections for the affected geographical areas should be carefully considered as relevant factors.
2. ~~The school's student enrollment is significantly below building capacity and the population projections of the school's contiguous attendance area are expected to continue declining.~~
3. ~~General condition of the building is poor and/or design is educationally obsolete and exceptionally large amounts of capital outlay are needed to continue the operation of the school.~~

**F. Guidelines for the Development of Positive Alternatives to Keep Schools Open**

~~The Boundary Focus Group, established and facilitated by the Assistant Superintendent will identify under-enrolled schools with the potential to increase their enrollment. Implementation plans in this regard will be developed by the Assistant Superintendent. The Boundary Focus Group and designated principals.~~

**G.E. Guidelines Standards for Implementation of Attendance Area Modifications**

1. The ~~Deputy Assistant~~ Superintendent shall submit to the Superintendent of Schools a list of:
  - a. Schools with recommended boundary attendance area changes.
  - b. Schools or area designated for new construction or building additions.
  - c. Schools subject to further review with recommendations for implementation of positive alternative strategies.
  - d. Schools that will be recommended for closing and/or consolidation.
  - e. Any other ~~policy~~ revisions necessary to ensure the implementation of this policy.
2. When recommendations have been made by the Superintendent of Schools to the School Board for a school closing or major boundary attendance area change, the Assistant Superintendent and designated staff will meet with the school personnel, parents, local government(s) and other members of the community, for information on and preparation for the change.
3. When recommendations have been made for strategies to increase enrollment, designated personnel will work with the staff and parents of that school to begin design and implementation of the plan. ~~to effect the same.~~
4. After final adoption of recommendations by the School Board, the Superintendent of Schools shall will immediately designate personnel to plan with the parents, community and staff of the schools involved ensuring a smooth transition process during implementation of the recommendations.

**H.E. Guidelines Standards for the Use of Closed Schools**

1. The Superintendent of Schools shall bring, within reasonable time recommendations for ~~disposal~~ surplus or alternative uses of schools by the School Board.

2. If the system has no further need for the facility, the School Board shall act in accordance with Georgia ~~Statutes~~ Law, after receiving recommendations for surplus or alternative use, ~~from a task force of staff, parents, community, and the local government(s) of the affected community.~~
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**ADOPTED: August 2, 2001**  
**REVISED: August 11, 2016**

**Cross Ref.: ~~JBCC Student Assignment~~**

**Cherokee County Board of Education**

**I. LONG-RANGE FACILITY PLANNING**

The Cherokee County Board of Education authorizes the Superintendent to gather information as to long-range facility needs of the School District. The Superintendent may utilize the services of those consultants, such as city, county or regional planners, as deemed necessary.

The Superintendent's report should take into consideration location of student population and the population trends of the district.

**II. NEW SCHOOL SITE SELECTION**

The School Board of ~~Cherokee County~~ by virtue of the Constitution of the State of Georgia and Georgia ~~statutes~~ Law has the authority to operate, control and supervise all ~~free~~ public schools within the School District and may exercise any power except as expressly prohibited by the Federal Constitution, ~~state the Georgia e~~Constitution or general law. ~~These powers include approving plans for locating, planning, constructing, sanitizing, insuring, maintaining, protecting and condemning school property t~~The location of ~~existing schools and~~ future school sites ~~shall~~ will be in accordance with Georgia ~~statutes~~ Law, Georgia administrative rules and with ~~the rules listed below~~ this policy. Concurrent with decisions to propose and/or build additional new schools and prioritize such schools on the basis of criteria in this policy, the Superintendent ~~shall~~ will analyze and consider the need and opportunity to upgrade, renovate and expand existing schools to assure equitable opportunity for quality education and full capacity utilization of existing schools prior to making a recommendation to the School Board for its consideration and final action. The adherence to this provision in no way is intended to avoid the construction of new schools when such upgrading, renovating and expansion of existing schools would be inadequate to meet overcrowding pressures and educational objectives that may be better met by constructing new and/or replacement schools.

**Rules Standards for New School Site Selection**

New schools, ~~and~~ special centers or other school facilities ~~shall~~ will be located so as to serve the intended ~~student~~ population in accordance with the following:

- A. Proposed new schools will be prioritized based upon student need (current and projected student growth), ~~and~~ remedies needed to equalize facilities and the School District's budget.
- B. After the need for a new or replacement school, ~~or~~ center or facility has established, based upon current and projected student growth along with other needs, potential sites for the facility will be identified. ~~A~~ confidential inventory of the vacant sites, which meet the size and configuration requirements, will be compiled.

- C. The School District, whenever possible, will strive to locate new schools and to purchase school sites in areas which offer, because of their location, the opportunity to achieve diversity.
- ~~D. The Superintendent's Site Review Committee will review appropriate site(s).~~
- ~~E. After review by the Superintendent's Site Review Committee, the Superintendent shall recommend a site to the School Board.~~
- D. Guidelines for Studies that may be included in the process of school site selection will ~~may~~ include the following: wetlands study, soil analysis, acceptance by health department ~~if necessary if on septic system~~, availability of adequate public water and sewer, archeological study, ~~water pressure test, and flood letter from U.S. Corp of Engineers.~~ traffic study and acceptance by the State Department of Education. Nothing herein will require or limit staff from thoroughly investigating potential real estate acquisitions.

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**ADOPTED: August 2, 2001**  
**REVISED: August 11, 2016**

**Cherokee County Board of Education**

The Cherokee County Board of Education utilizes its facilities and establishes school attendance areas based upon current and projected enrollment, total student population and core capacity of facilities. Accordingly, the Superintendent will oversee processes by which the School District determines critically overcrowded schools and recommend appropriate solutions for subsequent utilization of the facilities.

**I. STANDARDS FOR DETERMINING CRITICALLY OVERCROWDED SCHOOLS**

1. After the 20-day student enrollment count of each school year, the Superintendent ~~of Schools~~ will evaluate the impact of actual student enrollment and determine critically overcrowded schools.
2. Schools ~~shall~~ will be deemed critically overcrowded when they exceed 140% of their enrollment capacity, as reflected in the Cherokee County Inventory of School Housing (CCISH) and when they meet other criteria affecting overall capacity including, but not limited to the following: Available portables, classrooms needed for special programs, site limitations, cafeteria and other core capacity (e.g., parking, cafeteria usage, water/septic/sewer requirements, space available for additional portables, etc.).
3. A current school ~~boundary~~ attendance area map, present and projected student population demographic data, a copy of the CCISH, and the current inventory of portables ~~shall~~ will be supplied to each critically overcrowded school for review by the principal, staff, and community.
4. As a part of ~~the~~ an inclusive review process, the principal of each critically overcrowded school will consider ~~the following menu of strategies from the following menu~~ for addressing critical overcrowding and forward all stakeholder-identified options to the ~~Assistant Superintendent for School Operations~~ Deputy Superintendent.
  - a. Additional portables (dependent upon available portables and/or available funds to purchase, move, and/or hookup portables to be provided by the school district. ~~district and/or others, including municipalities, developers, etc.-~~)
  - b. Enrollment capping (i.e., school cannot accommodate any more students and new students will be assigned to designated schools that are less crowded).
  - c. Flexible school day/week/monthly/year scheduling (including, but not limited to):
    - (1) Extended school day
      - (a) Multiple period high school day
      - (b) Double sessions
    - (2) Multi-track year round education program
    - (3) ½ day Kindergarten
    - (4) Dual enrollment programs with institutions of higher learning
    - (5) Other school day/week/month/year models that may be identified through this process.

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- d. ~~Boundary~~ Attendance area changes (in conjunction with the Attendance Area ~~Boundary~~ Focus Group Process).
  - e. Reconfigured grades/educational programs and sites, dependent on available capital funds to be provided by the school district and/or other individuals/groups/entities (including, but not limited to):
    - (1) Kindergarten Center
    - (2) Primary Grade Center (e.g., K-1, K-2, 1-2)
    - (3) Intermediate Grade Center (e.g., 3-5, 5-6)
    - (4) ~~K-5 Center~~
    - (5) K-8 Center
    - (6) Single Grade Center (e.g., 6,9)
    - (7) Other configurations that may be identified by the principal, staff, and community through this process
  - f. Managing the overcrowded condition and employing methods to reduce the negative impact.
  - g. Other proposed options that will achieve the desired result (i.e., relieve overcrowding...without having to allocate additional capital outlay resources that are not available).
5. Alternative student enrollment options that impact other schools must be recommended collaboratively by both sending and receiving schools.
  6. Criteria for determining preferred alternative student enrollment options for critically overcrowded schools include, but are not limited to, a review of the following:
    - a. Welfare, health and safety of students and faculty/staff
    - b. Impact on the overall facility, (including ingress and egress problems)
    - c. Impact on ~~support services~~ facility core, such as campus cafeteria and media center
    - d. Amount of funding dedicated to the classroom through the instructional allocation (including, but not limited to, books, equipment, supplies and educational material).
    - e. Number of floating teachers
    - f. Divided/partitioned classrooms
    - g. Full classroom use of small rooms (e.g., resource rooms, conference rooms)
    - h. Class size (student/teacher/paraprofessional ratio)
    - i. Number of available portables and their impact on student learning potential and staff morale.

- j. Site acreage
  - k. Playground/sports/recreation areas
  - l. Planned future renovations and /or replacement of facility
  - m. Restroom facilities
  - n. Impact on community/neighborhood
  - o. Analysis of fiscal impact
7. ~~The Assistant Superintendent of School Operations~~ Deputy Superintendent will insure that the principal facilitates the following:
- a. Meets with the shareholders to review all options viewed as appropriate.
  - b. Schedules day and evening presentations for stakeholders with equal time for each option deemed appropriate.
  - c. Gains broad consensus on the top three rank-ordered proposed alternative student enrollment options among staff, parents, and other stakeholders. If consensus cannot be reached, the ~~Assistant Superintendent of School Operations~~ Deputy Superintendent will make a recommendation to the Superintendent of Schools on a proposed alternative student enrollment option.
  - d. Observes ~~the mid-November~~ the pre-determined deadline for a recommendation in this regard to the Superintendent ~~of Schools~~.
8. The Superintendent ~~of Schools~~ will make a recommendation if deemed necessary to the School Board ~~in this regard by the end of December~~ regarding attendance area adjustments.
9. ~~This policy will be reviewed annually in June to review (and adjust, if necessary) the criteria for determining critically overcrowded schools.~~

## **II. STANDARDS FOR ADDRESSING AND MITIGATING THE IMPACT OF DEVELOPMENT**

1. The Superintendent and School Board will give developers of new residential subdivisions the opportunity to mitigate their impact upon the school ~~system~~ district. Residents of any development in which the developer has chosen not to provide the requested level of mitigation that would offset some of the impact of said development will be given priority status for implementation of the aforementioned options.
2. A local governmental entity seeking School Board approval to establish a Tax Allocation District (TAD) or other authorized measure designed or intended to intercept or seek Board approval to intercept school funding ("Tax Intercept Program")

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“TIP”) is required to submit a written proposal in this regard to the School Board. The ~~TAD~~ TIP proposal of such local governmental entity must be approved by the School Board prior to ~~TAD~~ TIP implementation and must adhere to the following requirements:

- every local governmental entity seeking School Board approval of a proposed ~~TAD~~ TIP is required to provide the public with timely, official notice regarding the manner in which ~~TAD~~ TIP revenue will be generated (i.e., by freezing School District property taxes at current levels for the prescribed number of years authorized in the ~~TAD~~ TIP);
- except as otherwise approved by the School Board, each ~~TAD~~ TIP must be limited to development of public and commercial property (not residential);
- for the School District’s strategic planning, budgeting and accountability purposes, all ~~TAD~~ TIP financial/tax data (including the most recent three-year property appraisal data for all property within the proposed ~~TAD~~ TIP) must be delineated in the proposal; additionally, the proposed ~~TAD~~ TIP must also reflect the estimated amount of future revenue which will be lost by the School District for each year of ~~TAD~~ TIP implementation . . . both at the proposal stage and, on an updated/actual basis, each year thereafter;
- the amount of time for a ~~TAD~~ TIP to be utilized must be limited to no more than 20 years; and,
- a School District representative appointed by the Superintendent ~~of Schools~~ must be included on the local governmental entity’s ~~TAD~~ TIP planning committee for these purposes.

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**ADOPTED: August 2, 2001**  
**REVISED: August 11, 2016**  
**Cherokee County Board of Education**

**Textbook Instructional Resources Selection and Adoption**

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~~Textbooks, Instructional Resources (textbooks, software, supplemental materials), as defined by the Georgia State Board of Education, shall will be selected on a cycle which coincides with the State adoption cycle by a committee appointed by the Superintendent, consisting made up of central-office district-level staff, principals/assistant principals school administrators, teachers, instructional support personnel representing each school, and parent/community representatives. The committee shall be appointed by the Superintendent.~~

The primary ~~objective goal~~ of the committee shall will be to assure that all ~~textbooks instructional resources~~ are thoroughly evaluated for the highest degree of accuracy, quality, and alignment with the ~~Cherokee County School District~~ Standards and the student performance standards as approved by the State Board of Education ~~before they are recommended prior to submission to the Superintendent for presentation recommendation to the Board of Education School Board~~ for adoption.

~~Textbook Instructional resource~~ adoptions shall will be ~~implemented considered~~ from ~~textbook~~ listings prescribed by the Georgia State Board of Education. The ~~system~~ School District may continue use of ~~an adopted series-resources~~, provided that any new ~~books resources~~ purchased subsequent to the State adoption of new instructional resources are purchased from the most recent listing.

A process for review of the proposed instructional materials will be made available by the School District upon stakeholders' requests. Textbook Instructional resource adoptions shall will be within the framework of the State Board of Education requirements.

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**ADOPTED: August 2, 2001**

**REVISED: July 23, 2014**

**REVISED: August 11, 2016**

**Cherokee County Board of Education**

The Cherokee County Board of Education is committed to providing opportunities for students and staff to participate in learning experiences via various electronic technologies. Accordingly, the Internet, a global electronic information infrastructure, is recognized as an important educational resource. ~~similar to books, magazines, videos, CD-ROMs and other informational services.~~

Information gathered by students and staff via the Internet ~~shall~~ will be related to the educational purposes of enhancing the teaching program and student achievement, providing support for instructional and curricular goals and assisting students in the attainment of skills necessary to continue their development as life-long learners in a technologically advanced world.

The Internet is viewed as a fluid environment in which information available to students is constantly changing. Therefore, the School District believes that it is impossible to predict with certainty what information students might locate. The electronic information available to students does not imply endorsement by the School District of the content.

~~The Superintendent shall establish guidelines, access criteria and protection measures as may be deemed necessary in regulating the use of the Internet by students and staff. The system guidelines and criteria will be in accordance with the requirements of law and applicable regulations.~~

## **INTERNET SAFETY**

A. The Superintendent ~~shall~~ will, with respect to any ~~computers~~ electronic devices belonging to the ~~Cherokee County~~ School District and/or having access to the Internet:

1. insure that a qualifying “technology protection measure,” as that term is defined in section 1703 (b)(1) of the Children's Internet Protection Act of 2000 (CIPA), is installed and in continuous operation; and,
2. institute, maintain and enforce procedures or guidelines which provide for monitoring the online activities of users and the use of the chosen technology protection measure to prevent access to visual depictions that are (i) obscene, (ii) child pornography, or (iii) “harmful to minors,” as that term is defined in section 1721 (c) of ~~the Children’s Internet Protection Act of 2000~~ CIPA.

B. The Superintendent ~~shall~~ will, with respect to access to the Internet by or through computers, networks or other devices belonging to the ~~Cherokee County~~ School District institute, maintain and enforce procedures or guidelines which:

1. provide for monitoring the online activities of users to limit, to the extent practicable, access by minors to inappropriate matter on the Internet ~~and the World Wide Web~~; and,

2. are designed to promote the safety and security of minors when using electronic mail, ~~chat rooms~~, and other forms of direct electronic communications; and,
  3. are designed to prevent unauthorized access, including so-called “hacking,” and other unauthorized activities by minors online; and,
  4. are designed to prevent the unauthorized disclosure, use and dissemination of personal identification information regarding minors; and, as that term is defined in section 1302 of the Children’s Online Privacy Protection Act (COPPA); and,
  5. are designed to restrict minors’ access to materials “harmful to minors,” as that term is defined in section 1721 (c) of ~~the Children’s Internet Protection Act of 2000 (CIPA)~~; and,
  6. provide for students age-appropriate instruction regarding safe and appropriate behavior on social networking sites, chat rooms and other Internet services, behavior that may constitute cyberbullying, and how to respond when subjected to cyberbullying.
- C. Students are not allowed to access Web-based content using their carrier’s Broadband signal or by any manner other than connecting through the wireless connection provided by the ~~school system~~ School District at any time during the school day or while on school campus. ~~Because there is no content filter available on Broadband (3G, 4G), access to inappropriate content would be available.~~ Mobile “hotspots” are also not allowed, unless provided or approved by the School District for student use and approved “hotspots” must include approved content filtering services.

~~Failure to abide by the established guidelines governing the use of the District’s system may result in the suspension and/or revocation of access privileges. Additionally, student violations may result in disciplinary measures up to and including suspension or expulsion. Staff violations may result in sanctions up to and including termination. Violators may also be subject to legal action and/or may have fees or other charges imposed.~~

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**APPROVED: May 17, 2012**  
**REVISED: August 11, 2016**

**Cherokee County Board of Education**

**INSTRUCTIONAL SERVICES – COMPARABILITY**

The Cherokee County Board of Education will, in accordance with all Federal and State laws, rules Section 1120A Fiscal Requirements of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) and pertinent regulations, demonstrate compliance with comparability requirements by comparing the average number of students per instructional staff in each Title I served school with average number of students per instructional staff in schools not participating in Title I programs (or higher-ranked school with the average number of students per instructional staff in lower-ranked schools if all schools in the system are Title I schools). A Title I served school is comparable if its pupil-staff ratio does not exceed 110 percent of the average of schools not participating in Title I programs (or 110 percent of the average for lower ranked schools in each grade-span group if all schools in system are Title I schools).

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**ADOPTED: August 2, 2001**

**~~REVISED: July 23, 2014~~**

**REVISED: August 11, 2016**

**Cherokee County Board of Education**

## Internet Acceptable Use

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The Cherokee County Board of Education recognizes that electronic media, such as the Internet, offers vast, diverse, and unique resources to both students and teachers that should promote educational excellence in our schools. The intent of this policy is to help ensure that all uses of the ~~Cherokee County~~ School District's Internet connection are for support of education and research and are consistent with the goals and educational philosophy of the ~~school system~~ School District.

### **I. INTERNET PROTECTION**

The ~~Cherokee County~~ School District ~~shall~~ will utilize a required technology protection measure as ~~that item is~~ defined in the Children's Internet Protection Act (CIPA) of 2000. To the extent ~~practical~~ practicable, this technology protection measure ~~shall~~ will restrict access to visual depictions that are obscene, pornographic or harmful to minors, as ~~those terms are~~ defined in CIPA. Subject to administrative approval, technology protection measures may be disabled or minimized only for bona fide research or other lawful purposes.

All of the ~~Cherokee County~~ School District's Internet users are subject to the following rules and regulations:

### **II. STANDARDS FOR USAGE**

- 1. Acceptable Use** -- The purpose of the school Network/Internet is to support research and education in and among academic institutions in the United States and the world by providing access to unique resources and the opportunity for collaborative work. The use of the network must be consistent with the educational objectives of the ~~Cherokee County~~ School District. Transmission of any material in violation of any U.S., or state regulation or ~~Cherokee County~~ School District policy is prohibited. This includes, but is not limited to the following: copyrighted material, threatening or obscene material or material protected by trade secret. Use for commercial activities or product advertisement is not acceptable unless approved by the ~~Board of Education~~ School District. Use for political lobbying is prohibited, however, ~~you~~ users may communicate with elected officials to express an opinion on political issues. All users will follow Internet Safety Guidelines developed by the School District.
- 2. Privileges** -- Each user who receives access to the Internet must first participate in an Internet safety/acceptable use policy training session. The use of the Internet is a privilege, not a right, and inappropriate use will result in a restriction of those privileges and may result in additional administrative disciplinary action. ~~Each school's administrative staff will deem what is inappropriate.~~ Also, the School District network administrator may close an account at any time as deemed necessary for the safety of the users and for the security and integrity of the ~~Cherokee County~~ School District's Network/Internet services. ~~(An administrator, faculty member or staff member of the Cherokee County School District may request that the network administrator deny or suspend specific user(s) account.)~~

**Internet Acceptable Use**

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3. **Security** -- Security on any computer system is a high priority, especially when the system involves many users. Passwords provide a level of security and must not be shared. Unauthorized attempts to logon to a Network/Internet as a network administrator or other system user ~~will~~ may result in cancellation/denial of user privileges. Any user(s) identified as a security risk or having a history of problems with other computer systems may be denied access to the Network/Internet services throughout the ~~Cherokee County~~ School District. If a security problem on the Network/Internet is suspected, users are required to notify the ~~Cherokee County~~ School District's ~~Network Administrator or the Technology Department~~. Division of Technology and Information Services as soon as possible.
  
4. **Network/Internet Use Behavior Standards Guidelines** -- ~~The user is~~ All internet users are expected to abide by the following guidelines. These standards of behavior include, (but are not limited to), the following:
  - a. Illegal activities are strictly prohibited.
    - i. Violation of ~~Georgia Code~~ O.C.G.A. § 16-9-93 as it pertains to computer theft, computer trespass, and computer invasion of privacy, computer forgery, and computer password disclosure
    - ii. Violation of ~~Georgia Code~~ O.C.G.A. § 16-11-37.1 as it pertains to dissemination of information through a computer or computer network of information, any picture, photograph, drawing, or verbal description designed to encourage, solicit or promote terroristic acts and/or threats
  - b. Submitting, publishing or displaying profanity, vulgarities, defamatory language, intentionally inaccurate information, or inappropriate language is prohibited.
  - c. Use of an identity other than the user's own is prohibited.
  - d. Publishing personal information about students such as full name, address, phone number or social security number is prohibited.
  - e. Electronic mail (e-mail) instant messages and other forms of messaging using District resources are ~~is~~ not private. Inappropriate or illegal messages will be reported to the proper authorities.
  - f. A Users shall will not intentionally spread computer viruses, vandalize the data, infiltrate systems, damage hardware or software, or in any way disrupt the use of the network.
  - g. Engaging in non-educational games and monopolizing resource time and materials is prohibited.
  - h. All communications and information accessible via the network should be assumed to be subject to copyright law. The user is responsible for checking for

**Internet Acceptable Use**

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copyrighted or licensing agreements. Data received through the Internet is subject to the same rules of documentation as traditional information. Credit is to be given for all material used in research.

- i. Copying or downloading software illegally from network sources, disks, or other electronic material to another computer is prohibited. Software installation must be approved by the ~~Cherokee County~~ School District's ~~Technology Department~~ Division of Technology and Information Services.
  - j. Use of the Internet to access inappropriate matter is prohibited. This includes, but is not limited to the materials that are: obscene, sexually explicit, threatening, abusive, harassing, illegally damaging to another person's reputation and/or demeaning to genders, gender identity, sexual orientation, race, ethnicity, religion and national origins, contrary to the ~~Cherokee County~~ School District's policy on harassment.
  - k. An ~~A~~authorized users ~~shall~~ will be ultimately responsible for all activity under their account and password. Accounts ~~shall~~ will be used only by the authorized user for the purposes specified.
  - l. Employee generated files are the property of the ~~Cherokee County~~ School District and may be accessed by appropriate authorized system personnel.
  - m. Local, state or federal officials may obtain access to electronic communications in conjunction with investigations or other purposes. In addition, messages sent over the electronic network may be subject to disclosure under the Open Records Act.
  - n. It ~~shall~~ will be the responsibility of all members of the ~~Cherokee County~~ School District staff to supervise and monitor usage of the computer, network device and access to the Internet in accordance with this policy, the Children's Internet Protection Act and the Protecting Children in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Act.
5. **Disclaimer** -- The ~~Cherokee County~~ School District makes no warranties of any kind, whether expressed or implied, for the service it is providing. The ~~Cherokee County~~ School District will not be responsible for any damages a user suffers. This includes loss of data resulting from delays, service interruptions and exposure to offensive or threatening material. Use of any information obtained via the Network/Internet is at each user's own risk. The ~~Cherokee County~~ School District specifically denies any responsibility for the accuracy or quality of any information obtained through its services.

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**ADOPTED: August 21, 2008**

**REVISED: ~~July 27, 2011~~**

**REVISED: August 11, 2016**

The ~~School Board of Cherokee County~~ Cherokee County Board of Education adheres to the belief that technology plays a vital role in meeting the needs of the broad range of abilities, disabilities, cultural backgrounds and ethnic populations represented in district schools. To assure that technology shall play a predominant role, this policy provides guidance for appropriate technology utilization and integration into the curriculum, as well as infusion into school/district administration and management. Technology is a powerful tool, but it is recognized that, while it may significantly change the role and responsibility for teachers, it is not a substitute for the teacher.

~~1.~~

**I. PURPOSE OF TECHNOLOGY USAGE**

To establish and maintain guidelines and procedures for appropriate technology utilization and infusion in classrooms, schools, district administration and management. Technology will be used in planning and evaluation to more effectively prepare students for the transition from school to work, for success in the workplace and to improve the operations of the school system.

~~2.~~

**II. TECHNOLOGY Guidelines USAGE BELIEF STATEMENTS**

The following serve to establish a firm understanding of the role and expectations of technology use in teaching and learning, as well as supporting the business and operational processes of the School District.

- a. The primary use of technology is to improve student learning.
- b. Technology use will encompass teaching, learning and management.
- c. Technology purchases will be “vendor neutral.”
- d. The network will integrate data, voice and video communications systems.
- e. Information will be entered once and validated by appropriate personnel at the site of entry.
- f. Multiple platforms will be supported where possible.
- g. Technology support services will be made available to all locations.
- h. Technology resources will be coordinated and integrated with appropriate curriculum initiatives.
- i. The technology system will be accessible to staff and students and protected with security measures that will aid in the prevention of unauthorized and inappropriate use.

- j. The ~~Cherokee County~~ School District website will provide information for staff, students, parents and the community.
- k. Provisions must be made for keeping the technology current, within available resources, including guidelines on replacement or upgrade based on a life-cycle process.
- l. Appropriate training and professional development will be provided to teachers, staff and administrators to ensure timely implementation and effective use.
- m. To insure compatibility and the best available value, all technology-related purchase orders shall will be approved by the ~~Office of Accountability, Technology and Strategic Planning~~ Division of Technology and Information Services.
- n. All technology hardware, ~~valued in excess of \$500~~ that is the property of the ~~Cherokee County~~ School District, ~~must~~ will be included in the countywide technology inventory system maintained by the ~~Office of Accountability, Technology and Strategic Planning~~ Division of Technology and Information Services.
- o. Communications with applicants, participants and members of the public with disabilities will be as effective as communications with others in accordance with federal, state and/or local requirements.

**3.**

**III. DESIRED OUTCOMES OF TECHNOLOGY USAGE**

- a. Technology will be appropriately and equitably integrated into instruction and management and used by all students and staff as an integral component of school improvement and student learning. Improving student performance and achievement, increasing staff productivity and ensuring efficiency of the day-to-day operations ~~of the school system~~ are the essential reasons for the use of technology in the ~~Cherokee County~~ School District.
- b. All school classrooms, media centers and offices will be electronically networked and equipped, providing all staff, students and administration equitable and easy access to information technologies for teaching, learning, management and day-to-day operations.
- c. All high school graduates will be prepared to use multiple technologies upon entrance into the work force and/or higher education.
- d. New and emerging technologies will be evaluated, adopted and incorporated into school curriculum and will be integral elements of school improvement and accountability.

- e. Student, teacher, staff and administrative effectiveness will improve concurrently with the infusion of technology into their respective workplaces.
- f. The decision-making process will be improved as technology facilitates the flow of information and the communication process within the district, the state and the world.
- g. Improved communication between schools and institutions of higher education will increase the sharing of best practices as well as enhance in-service training and emphasize technology integration into the curriculum.
- h. Inter-and intra-department collaboration, from planning through evaluation, will be the hallmark responsibility of the units within the ~~Cherokee County~~ School District's Office of Accountability, Technology and Strategic Planning- Division of Technology and Information Services.
- i. All ~~units~~ departments and schools responsible for technology planning will work collaboratively with county, state and government groups to investigate current, advanced and emerging commercial technologies and to identify or develop efficient and cost-effective applications.
- j. The broadest possible access to the ~~Cherokee County~~ School District's wide area network system will be promoted, while providing safeguards to ensure that security is maintained.

**4.**

**IV. IMPLEMENTATION OF TECHNOLOGY USAGE PLANS**

A comprehensive and continuous short and long-range technology implementation process will be directed, reviewed and evaluated by the ~~Cherokee County Board of Education~~ School Board for effective utilization of all aspects of technology.

A. Appropriate ~~S~~staff will:

1. Consult and collaborate on a continuing basis with education, business, community and government groups locally, regionally, nationally and internationally.
2. Identify student competencies in using technologies to access, analyze, apply and communicate information and incorporate these competencies into the current curriculum standards.
3. Identify staff competencies in integrating and applying information technologies in instruction and management and incorporate these competencies as part of the evaluation process.
4. Identify educational management tools to be acquired and implemented.

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5. Establish and continually update an ongoing staff development program to support technology usage and integration.
  6. Establish baseline standards to ensure that all schools and offices have adequate, appropriate and up-to-date hardware, software and communications capabilities as rapidly as resources permit.
  7. Review and/or establish documents as needed on copyright, acceptable use, information integrity and other ethical use policies.
  8. Identify, document and evaluate processes that need improvement to maximize the productivity and educational benefits from technology investments.
  9. Prepare a viable timeline for task implementation and completion, taking into account human and material resources, which will assist in evaluating the progress and effectiveness of the ~~Cherokee County~~ School District's Technology Plan.
- B. The Superintendent will establish an annual Technology Advisory Committee, which will be chaired by the Assistant Superintendent of ~~Accountability, Technology and Strategic Planning~~ Technology and Information Services. The committee will be composed of teachers, ~~p~~Principals, central office staff members, students, parents, representatives from institutions of higher learning and members of the business community. ~~4.~~ The committee will provide input, advice and assistance in the implementation of the Technology Usage Policy IFGBA.
- ~~2.~~ The committee will meet at least semi-annually, but and as often as necessary to carry out committee responsibilities.

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**ADOPTED: August 21, 2008**  
**REVISED: July 27, 2011**  
**REVISED: August 11, 2016**

**Cherokee County Board of Education**

**BOARD POLICY**  
**Field Trips and Excursions**

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**Descriptor Code: IFCB**

The Cherokee County Board of Education supports and encourages field trips and expects the Superintendent, principals, and teachers to make every effort to ensure that both curricular and extracurricular field trips are effectively planned, well organized, capably implemented, properly supervised and affordable.

Field trips are valuable options in educational programs and ~~they~~ can be either a curricular or an extracurricular activity. ~~Pupils~~ Students ~~may be~~ are allowed to take field trips under the guidance of a certified employee, provided written permission is given by the parent/guardian. All field trips must be pre-approved by the ~~school~~ principal; and ~~F~~field trips that are both overnight and out-of-state must also be pre-approved by the School Board.

The School Board hereby approves those field trips/excursions that result from a school team, squad, or individual qualifying for a state, regional, or national competition where recommended by the Superintendent. If circumstances require both an overnight and/or out-of-state stay, relative to the above-mentioned excursions in this paragraph, the Superintendent or designee (~~Assistant Superintendent of School Operations~~) must approve the field trip request prior to the trip.

~~County buses may be used, when necessary, when the appropriate request form is submitted and approved by the Superintendent or designee. The use of school system buses for field trips shall not interfere with regular daily bus routes and/or driver assignments.~~

The Superintendent will establish administrative guidelines for administration of field trips.

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**ADOPTED: August 2, 2001**  
**REVISED: July 27, 2011**  
**REVISED: August 11, 2016**

**Cherokee County Board of Education**

**I. CUMULATIVE AVERAGE AND CLASS RANKING**

Class ranking ~~shall~~ will be determined by the weighted cumulative average of graduating seniors at the completion of high school graduation requirements, including successfully passing all appropriate state-mandated assessments.

The weighted cumulative average summarizes each student’s academic performance in high school. The weighted cumulative average is used in determining eligibility for numerous awards, activities and college applications.

For the purpose of computing class rank, students will receive the following additional points added to their semester average for that course, if they receive a passing grade:

Honors Classes	5 points
Advanced Placement	10 points

Students who successfully complete a course(s) in a post-secondary institution through the ~~College Credit Now programs~~ Move on When Ready program (as described in Board Policy IDCH) shall receive the above bonus points whenever the college course taken is equivalent to an Advanced Placement (AP) high school course, as recommended by the principal and approved by the Assistant Superintendent for Educational Programs, Student Support and Professional Development.

**II. CLASS RANKING/HONOR ROLLS**

The graduating senior with the highest class ranking, as determined by weighted numeric grade average, shall be recognized as Valedictorian. The student with the second highest class ranking, as determined by weighted numeric grade average, shall be recognized as Salutatorian. The weighted numeric grade average will be calculated to four decimal places.

Students participating in the ~~College Credit Now programs~~ Move on When Ready program are eligible for Valedictorian or Salutatorian recognition if they have attended and successfully completed a minimum of two courses per semester on the high school campus during both junior and senior years. Courses on the high school campus include traditional, on-line and/or virtual delivery models authorized by the school and school district. Transfer credit used for Valedictorian or Salutatorian shall be accepted only from an Accredited School in accordance with Board Policy on Awarding Units of Credit and Acceptance of Transfer Credit and/or Grades (JBC(4)).

**III. CUMULATIVE AVERAGE AND HONOR GRADUATE STATUS**

The distinction of Honor Graduate will be awarded to graduating seniors who have a weighted numeric grade average of 90 or above (or 89.5 or above rounded to the nearest whole unit).

**IV. HONOR ROLL PLACEMENT**

High school students will be placed on the Honor Roll when their grade average is 90 or above (or 89.5 or above rounded to the nearest whole unit).

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**ADOPTED: August 2, 2001**  
**REVISED: ~~July 22, 2015~~**  
**REVISED: August 11, 2016**

**Cherokee County Board of Education**

**AWARDING UNITS OF CREDIT AND ACCEPTANCE OF TRANSFER  
CREDIT AND/OR GRADES**

To assist transfer students in progression toward graduation, The Cherokee County School District's Board of Education's secondary schools shall will accept student course credit earned in an accredited school. from other accredited educational agencies in a manner consistent with State Board Rule JBC(4). The school shall have been accredited or holding provisional status at the time the credit was earned.

Further, the School District will utilize administrative protocols to validate credit for courses taken at non-accredited schools, home study programs and non-traditional educational centers.

**(1) DEFINITIONS.**

~~(a) **Accredited School** — an elementary, middle or secondary school accredited by or holding provisional status from the Georgia Accrediting Commission, the Georgia Association of Christian Schools, the Association of Christian Schools International, the Southern Association of Independent Schools and/or one of the accrediting agencies that is a member of the Georgia Private School Accreditation Council, and/or one of the following regional accrediting agencies:~~

- ~~1. Middle States Association of Colleges and Schools (MSA)~~
- ~~2. New England Association of Schools and Colleges (NEASC)~~
- ~~3. North Central Association of Colleges and Schools (NCA)~~
- ~~4. Northwest Association of Schools and Colleges (NASC)~~
- ~~5. Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS)~~
- ~~6. Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC)~~
- ~~7. The Alabama Independent School Association~~

~~The term does not include entities that are accredited as home study programs or non-traditional educational centers.~~

~~(b) — **End of Course (EOC) Test** — Assessments administered at the completion of core high school courses specified by the State Board of Education, in accordance with O.C.G.A. § 20-2-281(f), to measure student achievement in the four content areas of English/Language Arts, Mathematics, Science, and Social Studies.~~

~~(c) — **Home Study Program** — an educational choice option conducted in Georgia in accordance with O.C.G.A. § 20-2-690(c) or conducted in another state in accordance with the laws applicable to that state.~~

~~(d) — **Non-traditional Educational Center** — educational institutions that support home study programs or other independent learning initiatives. This term does~~

~~not include alternative/non-traditional education programs operated by local boards of education.~~

- ~~(e) **Private School**—an educational choice option conducted in Georgia in accordance with O.C.G.A. § 20-2-690(b) or conducted in another state in accordance with the laws applicable to that state.~~
- ~~(f) **Subject Area Competency**—a unit of high school credit awarded to students based on subject area competency as demonstrated by a pre-defined score on state-adopted or approved assessment instruments, instead of or in combination with the completion of courses through traditional classroom instructional minutes as described in section (2) (f) of this rule.~~
- ~~(g) **Unit of Credit**—evidence of course completion as demonstrated by a final course grade of 70 or higher on a numerical scale; or competency-based course credit as demonstrated by a pre-defined score on state-adopted or approved assessment instruments.~~
- ~~(h) **Validation**—the process of verifying credits earned at another educational institution.~~

~~**(2) REQUIREMENTS.**~~

~~(a) **Applicability.**~~

~~The School District will apply the requirements of this rule to all students regardless of the date in which they first entered ninth grade.~~

~~(b) **Awarding Units of Credit for Courses Taken in Georgia Public Schools**~~

- ~~1. The School District will award units of credit only for courses that include concepts and skills based on the state-adopted curriculum for grades 9-12 approved by the State Board of Education.~~
- ~~2. The School District will award units of credit for courses offered in the middle grades that are based on the state-adopted curriculum for grades 9-12 approved by the State Board of Education.~~
- ~~3. The School District does not award units of credit for courses in which instruction is based on the state-adopted curriculum for grades K-8.~~

~~(c) **Awarding Units of Credit for Dual Enrollment Courses.**~~

~~The School District will award units of credit to students for high~~

~~school courses taken through postsecondary institutions as described in the current State Board of Education Rule regarding Dual Enrollment.~~

~~(d) **Awarding Units of Credit for Career, Technical and Agricultural Education (CTAE) courses with Embedded Academic Core Standards.**~~

- ~~1. The School District will award course credit for the CTAE course and course credit for the associated academic core course to students who successfully complete a course or course sequence in the CTAE program of study that includes embedded standards from an academic core subject area as adopted by the State Board of Education and made available from the GaDOE.~~
- ~~2. A student will not earn more than three units of credit for academic core courses by completing CTAE courses that include embedded standards from an academic core subject area.~~
- ~~3. Units of credit earned through CTAE courses that contain embedded standards from an academic core subject area will be awarded as outlined in the Georgia Department of Education's *Guidelines for Awarding Units of Credit*.~~
- ~~4. The School District will administer the appropriate End of Course (EOC) test to a student taking a CTAE course with embedded academic core courses of an area for which an EOC test has been adopted unless the student has already passed such EOC test.~~

~~(e) **Awarding Units of Credit for Mathematics Courses for Students Receiving Special Education Services Under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA).**~~

- ~~1. In addition to other provisions of this rule, the School District will award units of credit for mathematics courses that will satisfy the mathematics course requirements in the current State Board of Education Rule relative to a student receiving special education services under IDEA if the student meets all of the following:
  - ~~(i) Prior to the student entering the ninth grade, the student's Individualized Education Program (IEP) Team identified that the student had a disability that affected mathematics achievement.~~~~

- ~~(ii) — The student successfully earns course credit, in accordance with this rule, for Mathematics I and Mathematics II or GPS Algebra and GPS Geometry or CCGPS Coordinate Algebra and CCGPS Analytic Geometry; and~~
  
  - ~~(iii) — The student successfully earns course credit, in accordance with this rule for at least two other state-approved mathematics courses, which may include, but not be limited to, Mathematics Support courses.~~
  
  - ~~2. — The School District will inform parents and students that students who do not complete Mathematics III, GPS Advanced Algebra, or CCGPS Advanced Algebra may not meet the mathematics admission requirements for entry into a University System of Georgia institution or other post-secondary institution without additional coursework.~~
  
  - ~~3. — The IEP Team for students who receive Mathematics course credit in accordance with paragraph (2)(e) of this rule will document that:~~
    - ~~(i) — The student’s disability has precluded the student from achieving grade level proficiency, as demonstrated by the student’s pattern of performance on the state-mandated test in the area of Mathematics;~~
  
    - ~~(ii) — The student’s progress to date in response to appropriate instruction, including special education and related services designed to address the student’s individual needs, is such that, even if significant growth occurs, the IEP team is reasonably certain that the student will not successfully master the standards in Mathematics III, GPS Advanced Algebra, or CCGPS Advanced Algebra, which could include students enrolling in a single advanced mathematics course and receiving instruction over two years.~~
- ~~Additionally, the determination of the student’s progress is based on multiple measurements that are valid for the content area of mathematics and that have been collected over a period of time; and~~

~~(iii) — The student has access to instruction in the state-adopted curriculum and will be required to successfully complete Mathematics I and Mathematics II or GPS Algebra and GPS Geometry or CCGPS Coordinate Algebra and CCGPS Analytic Geometry in addition to participating and earning credit in two additional state-approved mathematics courses, which could include students enrolling in a single advanced mathematics course and receiving instruction over two years. The student's IEP includes goals that are related to mathematics, support access to the content standards, and are designed to promote the student's progress in the content area state-adopted curriculum.~~

~~(f) — **Subject Area Competency to Receive Course Credit.**~~

~~1. — The School District will award a unit of credit to a student when:~~

~~(i) — The student successfully completes courses of study based on the state-adopted curriculum. As provided in the current State Board of Education Rule regarding Statewide Passing Score, the student must receive at least a course grade of 70 to be eligible to receive credit for a course; or~~

~~(ii) — The student successfully demonstrates subject area competency through a pre-defined score on state-adopted or approved assessment instruments as outlined in the Georgia Department of Education's *Guidelines for Awarding Units of Credit* and made available from the GaDOE. Students may earn no more than three units of credit by demonstrating subject area competency under this paragraph.~~

~~(g) — **Accepting Transfer Credit and Grades.**~~

~~1. — The School District will accept student course credit earned in an accredited school. The school shall have been accredited or holding provisional status at the time the credit was earned.~~

~~The School District does not substitute courses and exempt students from the required secondary minimum core curriculum unless the student transferred from an accredited secondary school or the courses presented for credit meet criteria identified in paragraph (2)(b) of this rule and any applicable Cherokee County School District Policy.~~

- ~~2. The School District will only accept student course credit from an online/virtual school if the student has received written approval from the Principal or designee prior to enrolling in the online course. Additionally, it is the responsibility of the student to ensure that the transcript from online/virtual school validating the course credit is received by his/her school in accordance with established deadlines for submission.~~
- ~~3. The School District will validate credit for courses taken at a nonaccredited schools, home study programs, and non-traditional educational centers:~~

(i)

The principal is responsible for validating credit for courses taken at a nonaccredited school, or home study program, or non-traditional educational center. The principal may require and review evidence of work, materials, course description guide, and standards used in the instructional program. The procedures for validation shall include at least one of the following:

- Probationary placement based on records of prior school(s), home study programs, and/or non-traditional educational centers and satisfactory performance of the student for one or more grading periods.
- Tests and acceptable scores. These tests may be standardized or locally developed and should focus on group placement, subject area and/or grade level and state and local standards for the course. For courses that require an End of Course (EOC) test the student must validate the course by earning a passing score on the appropriate EOC test; in which case, the equivalent grade score on the EOC test will be posted to the transcript. Students will only be allowed one attempt to validate credit for a course through testing.
- A student who transfers to a Cherokee County high school from a school which awards credit on the quarter system will be given credit for completed work. For each 15 quarter hours the student has earned, he/she will be given one Carnegie unit credit (5 quarter hours = 1/3 Carnegie unit). A student who transfers from a school which awards credit on some other basis will be given comparable credit.
- If a transcript from another school shows letter grades, accompanied by a numerical scale, each letter grade is transferred as the midpoint of the scale. (Exception – F will be converted to 60). However, if no numerical scale is on the transcript, the midpoint of the Cherokee County scale is used.
- If a transcript shows the awarding of credit for a grade below 70 (the lowest passing grade at Cherokee County high schools), the grade is recorded as 70 and credit is awarded. The same procedure would apply for grades transferred while a semester is in progress.

(h) ~~End of Course (EOC) Test Administration to Transfer~~

**Students.**

- ~~1. Cherokee County School District administers the EOC test to students enrolled in a Georgia public school while also enrolled in a private school, home study program, or non-traditional educational center for which they receive graduation credit for one of the required EOC courses. These students must take the EOC test regardless of the private school, home study program, or non-traditional educational center's accreditation status.~~
- ~~2. Cherokee County School District does not require students who enroll from accredited schools to take and pass the EOC test to receive credit for an EOC course unless the student was concurrently enrolled in a Georgia public school while taking the course at an accredited private school.~~
- ~~3. Cherokee County School District requires students who enroll from non-accredited private schools, home study programs, or other non-traditional educational centers to take and pass the EOC test with a minimum of 70 grade conversion score to receive credit for the course. A student enrolling from a non-accredited school will receive one test administration opportunity to demonstrate proficiency in order to earn credit for a course that requires the EOC test. If the student does not pass the EOC test on that administration, Cherokee County School District will not grant credit for that course. If the course is required to be eligible to receive a high school diploma, the student shall enroll in the course and take the EOC test at the completion of the course.~~

~~(i) **Military Dependents.**~~

~~The School District will award course credit for students who are dependents of military personnel in compliance with current statutory requirements and State Board rules.~~

~~Authority O.C.G.A. § 20-2-159.3; 20-2-159.4; 20-2-159.5; 20-2-240; 20-2-281; 20-2-690; 20-3-519; 20-17-2.~~

**BOARD POLICY**  
**Transferring Credits**

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**Descriptor Code: JBC(4)**

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**ADOPTED:** ~~August 2, 2001~~  
**REVISED:** ~~November 6, 2014~~  
**REVISED:** August 11, 2016

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**Cherokee County Board of Education**

**Student Assignment and Reassignment**

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**I. STUDENT ASSIGNMENT**

All ~~Any~~ students ~~residing in Cherokee County~~ enrolled in the School District ~~are required to~~ shall enroll in the school of the attendance area in which they reside unless special authorization is given by the Superintendent or designee through the reassignment process. Attendance areas (school zones) are designated by the School Board of Education. Transportation is only provided for a student attending school in his/her attendance area.

Students who move outside their school's attendance area may complete the semester in that school if they are able to provide transportation and acceptable grades, conduct, and attendance are maintained. At the end of that semester, the student must attend the school in the attendance area where he/she currently resides. Additionally, students in the highest grade in their school may complete the school year if a move occurs during that time, provided the aforementioned conditions are acceptably maintained.

**II. STUDENT REASSIGNMENT**

The ~~Cherokee County~~ School District is committed to providing quality educational opportunities for all students regardless of background characteristics by providing educational options that enhance each student's opportunity for success. The School Board is also committed to providing settings for education that promote the understanding of cultural diversity, tolerance, fair play and reinforce the positive tenets of a democratic society. Finally, the School Board is committed to encouraging all parents to play an active role in their children's education and to increasing the educational choices available to parents and students in the public schools. Therefore, the School District allows students to apply for reassignment to any other school in the School District that is not overcrowded.

**III. STUDENT REASSIGNMENT GUIDELINES**

Under the direction of the Superintendent, comprehensive administrative guidelines governing student reassignments will be established and maintained.

Additionally, school transfer guidelines will be established relative to ~~the Federal and State "No Child Left Behind" legislation specific to Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) and Unsafe School Choice Option (USCO) provisions, as well as all State required provisions governing~~ Law regarding school transfer options, ~~of Special Education and non-Special Education students.~~

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~~REVISED: July 22, 2009~~

REVISED: August 11, 2016

~~Cross Ref.: AD School Attendance Areas~~

**Cherokee County Board of Education**

**Harassment**

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The Cherokee County ~~School District~~ Board of Education prohibits discrimination and harassment based upon “Constitutionally-Protected Differences” (race, age, gender, gender identity, color, religion, national origin, disability, or any other constitutionally protected class or status). As such, it is the policy of the Cherokee County School District to address such complaints at the lowest level of administration in order to quickly and efficiently resolve all such matters.

All employees are responsible for prevention of harassment and discrimination against students, including the responsibility to report any conduct which they believe to be in violation of this policy. No person will be subject to retaliation or reprisal for making a good faith complaint under this policy or for participating in an investigation.

**I. DEFINITION**

Harassment and discrimination may include any conduct which has the effect of unreasonably interfering with a student’s participation in an educational program or activity, including conduct by school employees, students or others. Examples may include offensive jokes, slurs or comments; offensive touching or requests for dates or favors; different treatment of students based upon ~~race, gender, or other protected status~~ Constitutionally-Protected Differences; display or communication of offensive photographs, writing or materials; or conditioning educational benefits on a student’s participation in, or reaction to, such conduct. Discipline may be imposed for such conduct without regard to whether it rises to the level of a violation of law.

**II. COMPLAINT PROCEDURES**

Complaints made to the Cherokee County School District regarding alleged discrimination, harassment or retaliation for complaints about, or opposition to discrimination or harassment will be processed in accordance with the following procedure:

1. Any student or other person with a complaint alleging a violation as described above ~~shall~~ will promptly notify, in writing, the principal of the school or work location supervisor for the school attended by the ~~student~~ person believed to have suffered discrimination/harassment. The complainant need not be the victim of the discrimination/harassment, but may be any person aware of the conduct. If the complaint involves the school principal or if the complainant does not feel comfortable directing the complaint to the school principal, then the complaint ~~shall~~ will be filed with ~~a Director~~ the Office of School Operations.
2. The recipient of the complaint ~~shall~~ will immediately notify and forward a copy of the complaint to the ~~Assistant Superintendent School Operations (ASSO)~~ Deputy Superintendent (DS). The ~~ASSO shall~~ DS will arrange for (a) prompt investigation of the complaint by someone other than the ~~ASSO~~ DS or his/her designee, (b) any interim action necessary to protect students, staff or operations of the school or work location pending the result of the investigation, and (c) any necessary reporting of the allegations. Said investigation ~~shall~~ will consist at a minimum of interviewing the

**Harassment**

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complainant, accused person(s), and persons with direct knowledge of the alleged events. Said investigation ~~shall~~ will be concluded as soon as practicable, and generally within fifteen (15) business days (defined as days when the School District Central Office is open for business) of receipt of the written complaint. Upon completion of the investigation the ~~ASSO shall~~ DS will take such remedial actions as are necessary to prevent any further harassment. Such steps may include: counseling, suspension, expulsion, or any other remedial action deemed appropriate to address and eliminate further discrimination/harassment. Upon completion of the investigation the ~~ASSO shall~~ DS will notify appropriate parties (which may include the alleged victim(s), accused, and/or their parents or legal guardians) in writing of the substance of the investigation and remedial measures to be taken pending any appeal. The ~~ASSO shall~~ DS will also forward a copy of the investigative file and notices to the appropriate title coordinator for document review, analysis and retention.

3. The complainant may seek a review of the initial decision by written request received by the ~~ASSO~~ DS within five (5) business days of the date of the decision.
4. If the investigation is assigned to a designee, the ASSO DS or designee shall will either conduct a review of the investigation or assign another designee for that purpose. The DS or designee will have up to fifteen (15) business days to review the appeal, investigative file and the previous decision and determine, if additional investigation is warranted, any change in the remedial action recommended, conducting any additional investigation deemed necessary. The ~~ASSO~~ DS or designee ~~shall~~ will promptly notify appropriate parties of the appeal decision.
5. The decision of the ~~Assistant Superintendent School Operations~~ DS or his/her designee ~~shall~~ will be the final decision under this policy. Additional ~~Due~~ process will be provided for any disciplinary measures as required by law.

The complainant retains at all times the right to contact the Office of Civil Rights or the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission with regard to any allegations that the School District has violated any law.

This policy ~~shall~~ will be distributed to all students. Additionally, School District employees will receive training on this policy on ~~a regular~~ an annual basis.

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**ADOPTED:** August 2, 2001  
**Last REVISED:** ~~April 21, 2011~~  
**REVISED:** August 11, 2016

**Cherokee County Board of Education**

**Alcohol and Drug Abuse**

The Cherokee County Board of Education recognizes that the use of illicit drugs and the unlawful possession and use of alcohol is wrong and harmful, and we can neither approve nor condone this practice.

A student shall not possess, sell, use, transmit, or be under the influence of any narcotic drug, hallucinogenic drug, amphetamine, barbiturate, alcoholic beverage, or intoxicant of any kind:

1. On the school grounds during and immediately before or immediately after school hours;
2. On the school grounds at any other time when school is being used by any school group;
3. On the school grounds at a school activity, function, or event; or
4. Enroute to and from school on the school bus.

Use of a drug authorized by a medical prescription from a registered physician shall not be considered a violation of this policy if school medication policy is followed.

Appropriate disciplinary sanctions, up to and including expulsion and referral for prosecution or mandatory completion of an appropriate rehabilitation program will be imposed on students who violate the standard of conduct. A copy of the Cherokee County Student/Parent Handbook, containing the standard of conduct and the disciplinary sanctions regarding drugs and alcohol, is given to each student in Cherokee County Schools.

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**ADOPTED: August 2, 2001**  
**RESCINDED: August 11, 2016**

**Cherokee County Board of Education**

**I. DUE PROCESS HEARINGS**

A hearing by a disciplinary panel (Tribunal of school officials) ~~shall~~ will determine what, if any, disciplinary action shall be taken in instances when schools have recommended long term suspension or expulsion. Any student suspended for more than ~~nine~~ 10 days will be afforded the opportunity for a hearing.

**II. SELECTION OF DUE PROCESS HEARING PANEL MEMBERS**

The Superintendent ~~shall~~ will have the authority to designate active and/or retired personnel to serve as a hearing panel or Tribunal to conduct due process hearings in accordance with state and federal law and impose punishment, if necessary including suspension or expulsion for violations of the School Board District Code of Conduct.

**III. COMPOSITION AND CHARGE OF THE DUE PROCESS HEARING PANEL**

Three members ~~shall~~ will be selected to serve on a panel to hear the facts surrounding disciplinary cases and to provide due process with an evidentiary hearing. The panel's decision ~~shall~~ will be in writing and ~~shall be~~ based solely on the evidence received at the hearing.

**IV. RIGHTS OF STUDENTS**

In due process hearings, students have the right to be represented at their own cost by legal counsel ~~or anyone of their own choice who may assist them with the case~~ or be assisted by the parent(s) or legal guardian.

Additionally, they have the right to testify in their own behalf or to remain silent. If they remain silent, then the panel will imply no inference of ~~guilt.~~ violation of school rules.

Students are entitled to subpoena witnesses in their own behalf and to cross-examine witnesses brought by the ~~sSchool system~~ District.

Students may obtain copies of any documents introduced at the hearing.

**V. RIGHTS OF APPEAL**

Decisions made by the panel may be appealed to the ~~Board of Education~~ School Board. The request for appeal must be in writing to the Superintendent ~~of Schools~~ within ~~twenty~~ 20 days of the date of the decision. Any Tribunal decision may be upheld, modified or suspended at the Superintendent's discretion pending the outcome of the appeal.

The Superintendent will develop and recommend annually to the School Board a "Parent/Student Handbook" and "Student Code of Conduct" that will contain, among other things deemed necessary by the Superintendent, due process hearing procedures.

In the event of a conflict between this policy and current law, current law shall prevail.

**BOARD POLICY**  
**Hearing Procedure**

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**Descriptor Code: JCEB**

~~Administrative guidelines shall be developed to implement this policy, its rules and procedures.~~

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**ADOPTED: August 2, 2001**

**REVISED: August 11, 2016**

**Cherokee County Board of Education**

The principal of a school may suspend any pupil for any ~~serious~~ violation of the Student Code of Conduct and/or state criminal law occurring at or disrupting school or a school function, school rules. Such suspension will be for a period not longer than ~~two weeks~~ 10 days, ~~or until an acceptable conclusion is reached concerning the matter, as a result of conferences with a parent.~~

## **I. SUMMARY SUSPENSION**

If the principal witnesses any serious student misconduct and immediate removal of the student(s) is necessary to restore order or to protect persons on the school grounds, the principal may after hearing from the student suspend the student immediately for not more than the 10 ~~nine~~ school days.

~~In such cases the principal is not required to conduct the investigation described in Policy JD before he/she suspends, but shall carry out such an investigation and decide on further disciplinary action, if any, at least by the end of the school day following the summary suspension.~~

Once a principal has decided to suspend a student ~~summarily~~, he/she ~~shall~~ will follow the procedures described below for sending a student home during the school day.

## **II. SHORT-TERM SUSPENSION**

A short-term suspension is a denial to a student of the right to attend school and to take part in any school function for any period of time but not longer than ~~ten~~ 10 school days. The principal may invoke a short-term suspension ~~only after investigating misconduct and only for the following reasons: after conducting a (Level I) investigation that will at a minimum consist of a formal or informal interview with the student wherein the principal will explain the nature of the offence and give the student an opportunity to respond.~~

- ~~1. A violation of the School Board rules prohibiting serious student misconduct listed in JD; or,~~
- ~~2. Misconduct of the same type as that prohibited by the rules governing serious student misconduct but which does not rise to the gravity of the misconduct stated by these rules; or,~~
- ~~3. Misconduct that is prescribed by rules adopted by the School Board covering minor misconduct.~~

~~Suspension for ten days can be administered with the following due process procedures:~~

- ~~• The student shall, if legal, be advised by principal/designee informally of the charges.~~

- ~~If the student denies the charges, an explanation of the evidence that authorities have and an opportunity to present the student's side of the case shall be provided.~~
- ~~If the student doesn't deny the charges, no further explanation is necessary.~~
- ~~No hearing or opportunity to present evidence at this initial stage is necessary.~~
- ~~Even these informal procedures need not be afforded where the student's presence poses a continuing danger to persons or property or an ongoing threat of disrupting the academic process. In such cases, initial due process review shall be afforded as soon as practicable.~~

### **III. SENDING A SUSPENDED STUDENT HOME DURING THE SCHOOL DAY**

When a student is suspended, the principal ~~shall~~ will attempt to reach the student's parents or legal guardian (hereinafter the term parent(s) including legal guardian) to inform them of the school's action and to request that they come to the school for their child. If the parents are unable to come for their child, or if the principal cannot reach the parents, the student must remain on school property until the close of the school student day (except that a high school student may be sent home if there is a parent at home).

Notwithstanding the above requirement that a suspended student be released only to a parent, the principal may order students to leave the school premises immediately when he/she is faced with mass violations to school rules and it is not possible to keep the students on school grounds and restore order to protect people on the school grounds. Even in this case, distance to home and the age and sex of the individual student may require keeping him/her until the parents can be contacted.

### **IV. INFORMING THE PARENTS IN CASES OF ~~SUMMARY AND SHORT-TERM~~ SUSPENSION**

When a student is suspended, the principal ~~shall~~ will:

1. Send a statement to the parents fully describing the misconduct, stating the rule violated, and stating the principal's reasons for action;
2. Make every effort to hold a conference with the parents before or at the time of the students return to the school;
3. Secure written statements and keep on file all documents and relevant information received about the misconduct.

## **V. IN-SCHOOL SUSPENSION PROGRAM**

The In-School suspension program is a program designed to provide students with a school-based consequence to which a disruptive student is assigned rather than to suspend them out of school. Students assigned to in school suspension will be afforded appropriate due process. The program is designed to isolate students from the regularly assigned classrooms and activities of the school until they demonstrate sufficient adjustment to warrant ~~their~~ returning to their previously assigned classes. The program allows the student to continue progress relative to classroom assignments.

When a student is assigned to the In-School Suspension program, the principal/designee ~~shall~~ will attempt to reach the student's parents or legal guardian to inform them of the school's action. A letter ~~shall~~ will be sent to the parents stating the rule violated, the period of suspension and the rules of the In-School Suspension Program.

The two types of in-school suspension programs provided for Cherokee County students are:

- In-School Suspension - this program is housed in the regularly assigned school.
- Alternative School - this school is specifically organized to house students suspended for ~~5~~ five days or more and it is located away from the regularly assigned school ~~can be located away from the regularly assigned school~~.

## **VI. SUSPENSION OR EXPULSION OF HANDICAPPED CHILDREN STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES**

~~Handicapped students are not subject to the same disciplinary procedures as other children. Students with Disabilities (SWD) served with an Individualized Education Plan or a 504 plan must be afforded a meeting to determine~~ It first must be determined if the misconduct is related to or caused by the handicapping condition diagnosed disability. If it is concluded that the misconduct is the result of a diagnosed disability the student may not be punished. If so, the proper procedure is a new IEP, not discipline, and this determination and new placement must be performed by persons having expertise with respect to handicapped children. ~~If it is determined that the misconduct does not arise out of the handicapping condition from the diagnosed disability and is not attributable thereto, the student then is subject to discipline, but there is dicta in decisions which declares that however, under no circumstances can special educational services be discontinued altogether for a handicapped child. Generally, a handicapped child could be temporarily removed from the classroom prior to a hearing where necessary to protect the student, other students or the teachers, but the hearing should be held as soon as possible thereafter.~~

## **VII. LONG-TERM SUSPENSION/EXPULSION**

Where the suspension/expulsion is for a period in excess of ten days or where outright expulsion is involved, either for the remainder of the school year or longer, the student must be afforded (Level II) due process rights of notice and hearing, which are more

formal than those involved where suspension is for ~~ten~~ 10 days or less. In the case of long-term suspension/expulsion, due process will include those procedures required by O.C.G.A. § 20-2-754 as amended.

- ~~A written statement of charges.~~
- ~~Notice reasonably calculated to apprise the student of the pendency of the action and to afford the student an opportunity to present a defense.~~
- ~~A hearing with opportunity to respond.~~

~~Due process does not require that the student be furnished a list of witnesses and summary of their testimony in cases where the witnesses will testify in the presence of the student, for that would require more for a student suspension case than is required in a criminal case. It is only where the witnesses do not appear and testify that a list of names and summary of their testimony is required under due process, as was the case in Dixon vs. Alabama State Board of Education, 294 F.2d 150 (5<sup>th</sup> Cir. 1961). Nor is it necessary to afford cross examination "Where basic fairness is preserved, we have not required the cross examination of witnesses and a full adversary proceeding." Hearsay may be relied upon in suspension or expulsion proceedings. Due process does not require that a student be permitted to be represented by an attorney. A student is not denied due process by being refused the right to cross examine the students who made charges against him/her, or to be advised of their names, and in being denied the right to cross examine the principal and superintendent who testified to what these anonymous students told them.~~

#### **INITIATING LONG-TERM SUSPENSION**

- ~~1. Decision to seek suspension over ten days or expulsion if, after investigation, authority is warranted, may, with the approval of the Board of Education ask that a hearing date be set. After such determination, the principal must ask for a long term suspension within a reasonable time after learning of the misconduct.~~
- ~~2. Sanction before hearing. The procedure described in subsection above does not affect the principal's authority to invoke a short term suspension or other sanction after his/her investigation. The principal may choose, however, to take no action other than to turn the entire matter over to the Board of Education.~~

#### **NOTICE OF HEARING**

~~Whenever the principal seeks long term suspension or expulsion, written notice must be given to the student and parents as soon as possible. Mailing the notice to the parents at the student's last known address on the school's records shall constitute sufficient notice. Notice should be given within a reasonable time after the discovery of the alleged misconduct. The notice shall include:~~

- ~~1. A copy of the rule allegedly violated and description of the acts of the student alleged to have violated the rule, including a summary of the evidence against him/her.~~
- ~~2. The maximum penalty which may be administered for the alleged misconduct.~~
- ~~3. A tentative time and place for the hearing.~~
- ~~4. A copy of the hearing procedures adopted by the Board of Education.~~

### **VIII. SCHEDULING THE HEARING**

~~If the hearing is not waived, it should be scheduled within two weeks after the notification required has been received. The president of the Board may schedule a different date for the student or by the principal. Insofar as is feasible, however, the hearing re-scheduled by the president should not be held later than three weeks after the day that both parents and students receive the notification.~~

In accordance with state law, due process hearings must generally occur with 10 school days of a student's short term suspension from school. This time period may be extended upon the parent's or adult student's written request or to conclude complicated investigations. In order to postpone a hearing based upon the parent's or adult student's request the parent must agree in writing to waive the scheduling requirement and keep the student out of school until the hearing can be rescheduled. If the hearing is postponed as a result of the schools request or because the student is served by an IEP or 504 plan the student will be allowed to return to ISS pending the rescheduled hearing. In some cases, a student may be returned to school prior to a hearing as a result of their IEP or 504 plan.

#### **Group Hearings**

~~When students are charged with violating the same rule and have acted in concert, and the facts are basically the same for all students, a single hearing may be conducted for them if the president believes that the following conditions exist:~~

- ~~1. — A single hearing will not likely result in confusion, and~~
- ~~2. — No student will have his/her interests substantially prejudiced by a group hearing.~~

~~If, during the hearing, it is determined that a student's interests will be substantially prejudiced by the group hearing the president may order a separate hearing for that student.~~

#### **CONDUCT OF THE HEARING**

- ~~1. Record of the hearing: The Board shall provide a court reporter to make a record of any information orally presented to it at the hearing. Statements and other written matter presented to the Board should be kept on file by the Superintendent.~~
- ~~2. Examination of witnesses.~~

- ~~3. Role of the parents or attorney: The parents or legal guardian may be present at the hearing and have an opportunity to make a statement to the Board on their feelings about the proper disposition of the case and to answer questions. If the parents cannot be present or if the student or parents think his/her interests can be protected by the presence at the hearing of an attorney in addition to the parents or guardian, the student may bring an attorney to the hearing.~~

### ~~COMPELLING THE APPEARANCE OF WITNESSES~~

~~Upon request, the principal, the student, the parents or attorney, shall be entitled to have subpoenas and other compulsory process issued by the Board under the subpoena power granted to it by Georgia law.~~

### ~~DISPOSITION OF CASE~~

~~The Board shall reach its decision on whether the student violated a rule on serious misconduct by majority vote. The decision must be based solely on the evidence presented at the hearing. If no misconduct is found, the matter is terminated and no further action may be taken against the student.~~

~~When some misconduct is found, even if a rule on serious misconduct has not been violated, the Board shall specify what action, if any, should be taken with respect to the student. The specified action may range from no action through the entire scope of counseling attempts and possible penalties including expulsion, for remainder of the school year.~~

### ~~APPEAL~~

~~The student or the principal may appeal the action of the Board of Education to the State Board of Education. The penalty need not be postponed pending the outcome of the appeal. Such an appeal shall be in accordance with Georgia law and regulations of the State Board of Education governing such appeals.~~

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**ADOPTED: August 2, 2001**  
**REVISED: August 11, 2016**

**School-Sponsored Clubs and Organizations**

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Cherokee County ~~School District~~ Board of Education recognizes the importance of student involvement in school-sponsored clubs and organizations, which offer students an opportunity to learn and expand their knowledge base, as well as develop leadership skills and the ability to work effectively with groups. The School District also encourages involvement and participation of parents/guardians and realizes the importance of effective and timely communication regarding potential opportunities available through student clubs.

Accordingly, principals will ensure that the School District's standard procedures for notification of all parents/guardians at the beginning of each school year regarding all school-sponsored clubs and organizations available for students enrolled in their respective schools are followed. This notification will include, but may not be limited to, the following information for each club or organization: name, sponsor(s), times/location of meetings, mission/purpose and a description of past or planned activities.

Additionally, as part of the notification process, principals will ensure that parents/guardians are provided with the opportunity to withhold permission, in writing, relative to participation of their student in all, or selected, school clubs or organizations. Participation in school-sponsored clubs and organizations constituted after the notification process at the beginning of each school year will also require parent notification and written permission prior to student participation.

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**ADOPTED: May 18, 2006**

**REVISED: August 11, 2016**

**Cherokee County Board of Education**

**BOARD POLICY**  
**Solicitations**

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**Descriptor Code: JK**

No fundraising organizations ~~shall~~ will be permitted to solicit funds from students without prior approval from the ~~Board of Education~~ School District.

Students ~~shall~~ will not be permitted to solicit funds in school-sponsored activities without prior approval from the ~~Board of Education~~ School District.

The ~~Board of Education~~ School District prohibits students in grades eight or lower from participating in door-to-door sales.

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**ADOPTED: August 2, 2001**

**REVISED: August 11, 2016**

**~~Cross Ref.: Also KEB~~ Solicitations**

**Cherokee County Board of Education**