

Neshoba Central

**Student Handbook
Grades 6 - 12
2007-2008**

At a meeting on June 28, 2007, the Neshoba County Board of Education adopted the portions of this handbook that are policy as a part of its official school policy.

PHILOSOPHY

We, at Neshoba Central, believe that the purpose of education is to accept each child, to provide for him/her the opportunity to find himself/herself, and to develop those aptitudes, appreciations, and basic skills which help him/her to grow socially, mentally, physically, morally, emotionally and spiritually.

It is our desire to promote the general welfare through developing intelligent, creative-minded young people who are willing to work toward an improved democratic society and who can meet opportunities and responsibilities as citizens of their community, state and nation.

We believe that Neshoba Central must strengthen the skills and values already acquired and provide the additional training necessary for the student to progress toward the achievement of his/her goals. We are concerned with all phases of the growth of the student as an individual challenging him/her to the fullest development of his/her own power, and leading him/her to see that his/her abilities reach their fullest potential only as they are made to conform to the welfare of a democratic society.

The central theme of our school centers around education resulting from the utilization of the child's inner development and emphasizes that learning is best: where details are related to wholes, where the child is considered as a whole, interacting with his/her total environment, and where relationships of facts of a larger contest are stressed.

It is the duty of this school to develop the individual to the point where he/she has the ability to maintain a high level of material well-being and make maximum use of his/her inherent abilities.

The responsibilities of our teachers include helping students overcome weaknesses, making proper adjustments to limitations, commending accomplishments and encouraging the utmost effort from each.

We believe that Neshoba Central should provide opportunities to help each student develop confidence in himself/herself, find true satisfaction in learning and understand that the subject matter skills acquired are not only useful in themselves but tools with which to meet situations and to solve problems. The methods of instruction should provide for the individual to progress as rapidly as possible or as slowly as they must. The instruction should help him-her to develop the ability to think logically, to express himself/herself clearly, to achieve and maintain sound mental and physical health, to prepare for work or further education, to use leisure well, and to live aesthetically.

We believe that by developing skills and instilling useful knowledge through appropriate teaching-learning processes our school will prepare students to become responsible and productive citizens, enabling them to adapt themselves successfully to live rewarding lives in an interdependent, changing world.

Neshoba Central does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, sex, age, or handicap. The school is in compliance with the 1964 Civil Rights Act,

Title IX of the 1972 Educational Amendments and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973. Mr. Gene Cliburn is Coordinator of Title IX and Section 504.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Superintendent’s Message 5
Board of Education 6
Administration 6
School Calendar 8
Alternative School Student 9
Athletic Program 9
Attendance 10
Arrival at School 11
Automobile 12
Book Bag Policy 13
Bus Change Notifications 13
Bus Regulations 13
Bus Disciplinary Actions 14
Cafeteria 14
Club Meeting Schedule 14
Code of Conduct 14
Cooperative Education 23
Corridor Passes 24
Corridor Rules 24
Counseling Service 24
Delivery of Flowers and Food 25
Directory Information 25
Discipline Infractions 25
Discipline Steps 26
Emergency School Closings 25
Exemptions..... 25
Extracurricular Activities 26
Fee Policy 26
Financial Hardship Waiver 26
Grading System 27
Graduation Ceremony 27
Graduation Requirements 28
Honor Roll 29
Leaving School Before Dismissal 29
Medical Treatment..... 29
Personal Appearance 20
Policy on Residence 33
Promotion/Retention..... 29
Reports to Parents 30
Restrooms 30
School Insurance 31

School Trips	31
Soft Drink Policy	31
Solicitation of Money	31
Statement of Policy on Equal Rights	31
Student Drop-off/Pick-up Procedure.....	31
Student Records – Transfer of	32
Suspension, In-School and Out-of-School	19
Tardy	12
Telephone	32
Test Administration and Examinations	32
Valedictorian and Salutatorian	32
Visitors	33
Withdrawal from School	33

SUPERINTENDENT'S MESSAGE

The intent of the handbook is to provide students and parents with the essential information related to the operation of Neshoba Central High/Middle School. Many of the unnecessary problems that arise each year can be eliminated by reading and applying the information in the handbook.

We encourage parents to get involved. This enables the school to secure their understanding and support, as well as gain from their insightful knowledge and skills. We must work together with a spirit of cooperation to succeed in all phases of our school.

I am proud of the Neshoba County School system and I think we have one of the best schools in the state. I urge you to take pride in our school and join everyone in the desire to provide a quality education for all students in the district.

V. C. MANNING
SUPERINTENDENT OF EDUCATION

HIGH SCHOOL PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Students, on behalf of the staff at Neshoba Central High School, welcome back to school. I hope you have had an enjoyable summer vacation and are renewed for the 2007-2008 school year. We are anticipating a successful year in all areas of participation. Many of you have begun to prepare for this year's activities. Always remember – preparation plus hard work equals success.

Parents, I encourage you to take an active part in your child's educational process. Support your children and encourage them to take part in some of the many activities your school offers. Also, frequently talk with your child about their progress. I hope you will call or come by the school whenever we can be of some help. Finally and most importantly, pray for your child and our school system.

The student handbook is a set of guidelines for conduct and procedure. All situations cannot be covered in a publication of this type. However, we feel that a general theme for behavior at school and at school events is communicated within this handbook. Let's make this a great year at Neshoba Central High School!

Joey Blount
Principal, N. C. H. S.

MIDDLE SCHOOL PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

The purpose of this handbook is to communicate general information concerning the operation of the Neshoba Central Middle School to students, parents, and members of the community. Through the Middle School Program (Grade 6-8), students will be engaged in a wide variety of educational experiences, both academic and extracurricular, that will be provided to offer them a well-rounded educational foundation during the transitional years of middle school.

This handbook contains information that will answer many questions concerning the school's programs and policies. Students, parents, and members of the community are urged to contact school personnel concerning any phase of the school program that may not be covered in this handbook.

Jimmy Buchanan
Principal, N. C. M. S.

NESHOPA COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

Ray Williamson.....	Beat One
Randy Deweese	Beat Two
George Shaw	Beat Three
Cyndi Weldy.....	Beat Four
Jewell Parks.....	Beat Five
Robert Thomas.....	Attorney

CENTRAL OFFICE ADMINISTRATION

V. C. Manning.....	Superintendent of Education
Harry Bates	Assistant Superintendent for Special Programs
Hugh Winstead	Assistant Superintendent - Transportation
Beth Jackson	Assistant Superintendent for Instruction, Curriculum, and Testing
Gail Clark	Food Services Administrator
Gene Cliburn	Assistant Superintendent for Federal Programs
Bobby Winstead	School Attendance Officer
Lisa Alford	Central Office Payroll
Kay Copeland.....	Central Office Secretary
Sylvia Mayo.....	Central Office Purchasing
Susan Reynolds	School Business Officer

HIGH SCHOOL ADMINISTRATION

Joey Blount	Principal	601-656-3654
Tommy L. Dearing.....	Assistant Principal...	601-656-3391
Michael Thomas	Assistant Principal...	601-656-3654
Reina Coats	Secretary	601-656-3654
Emily Gibson	Counselor	601-656-6004
Madonna Goldman	Attendance Clerk ...	601-656-3391
Martha Moore	Secretary	601-656-3654
Sherry Smith	Bookkeeper	601-656-3654
Janice Thomas	Secretary	601-656-6004

MIDDLE SCHOOL ADMINISTRATION

Jimmy Buchanan	Principal	601-656-4636
Lundy Brantley	Assistant Principal	
Tawanna Williams	Office Assistant	
Anita Lovern	Secretary/Attendance	
Judy Reid	Counselor Assistant	
Cindy Adams	Counselor	
Lanette Spears	Bookkeeper	

NESHOBA COUNTY SCHOOLS
Philadelphia, Mississippi
2007-2008 School Calendar

August 6, 7, 8 (Mon., Tues., Wed.)	Teacher In-Service
August 9 (Thursday)	Students Report
September 3 (Monday)	Labor Day Holiday
September 13 (Thursday)	Progress Reports
October 10, 11, 12 (Wednesday, Thursday, Friday)	End First Nine Weeks-Exams
October 15 (Monday)	Teacher In-Service
October 18 (Thursday)	Report Cards
November 15 (Thursday)	Progress Reports
November 19 - 23 (Monday - Friday)	Thanksgiving Holidays
December 19,20,21 (Wed./Thurs. Full Day, Fri 60%)....	End Second Nine Weeks-Exams
December 24 – January 4	Christmas Holidays
January 7 (Monday)	Classes Resume
January 10 (Thursday)	Report Cards
January 21 (Monday)	Martin Luther King Holiday
February 7 (Thursday)	Progress Reports
March 5, 6, 7 (Wed., Thurs., Fri.)	End Third Nine Weeks – Exams
March 10-14 (Monday-Friday)	Spring Holidays
March 20 (Thursday)	Report Cards
March 21 (Friday)	Easter Holiday
April 7 (Monday) (No Students)	Teacher In-Service
April 17 (Thursday)	Progress Reports
May 19,20,21 (Mon./Tues. Full Day, Wed. 60%)	End Fourth Nine Weeks-Exams
May 22, 23 (Thursday, Friday)	Teacher Work Days
May 23 (Friday)	Graduation
May 27 (Tuesday)	Report Cards Mailed

NINE WEEK SCHEDULE

1 st Nine Weeks (Aug. 9 – Oct. 12)	46 Days
2 nd Nine Weeks (Oct. 16 – Dec. 21)	44 Days
3 rd Nine Weeks (Jan. 7 – March 7)	44 Days
4 th Nine Weeks (March 17 – May 21)	46 Days

REGULAR SCHOOL

DAY SCHEDULE

1 st Period	7:55 - 8:50
2 nd Period	8:54 - 9:44
Activity Period	9:48 - 10:13
3 rd Period	10:17 - 11:07
4 th Period	11:11 - 12:01
5 th Period	12:05 - 1:27
6 th Period	1:31 - 2:21
7 th Period	2:25 - 3:15

ALTERNATIVE SCHOOL STUDENT

A student who is placed in Alternative School, because of discipline, will be allowed to ride the regular bus route provided their behavior is appropriate. A student who is removed from the bus because of inappropriate behavior must meet the Alternative School Bus at the off-campus pickup point and will not be allowed to ride a Neshoba Central bus to/from campus.

This student is also banned from all activities at Neshoba Central *.

*Exceptions will be made only in an extreme emergency as determined by the principal.

ATHLETIC PROGRAM

The athletic program is designed to appeal to the interest of as many students as possible. We want each student to feel that every athletic team is "his team", that each student is a definite part of the program whether his part is that of the lowest reserve, the star player, or one of the loyal supporters who is always present at the contests yelling and pulling for the Neshoba Central teams.

Every student is invited to participate in any one or all of the inter-school sports. Last year we had football, basketball, track, baseball, slow pitch softball, golf, tennis, fast pitch softball, cross country, and soccer.

Any student in good academic standing as defined by the MHSAA is eligible for participation in various athletics. However, there are certain standards set up that are to be adhered to if our program is to be successful. Each player should accept it as his personal responsibility to keep himself in the best of physical trim. He must do all in his power to keep up the spirit of the team through cooperation with the coach and teammates.

More is to be gained in athletics than just competitive exercises. It is the purpose of the program to teach more than just skills in sports. We hope to do some of the things that will help a boy or girl in some way to fill his or her place in life in a more commendable manner because of a lesson learned in athletics.

ATTENDANCE

1. General

1. School attendance is vital in order for the student to obtain the maximum benefits from school. Attendance will affect student grades in the form of an attendance/participation grade. (See page 23 for grading systems)
2. An attendance/participation grade will be given each 9 weeks. This grade will count 15% of the nine weeks grade. Each student will begin the nine weeks with a 100 average for the attendance/participation grade. Five absences per nine weeks are allowed before the grade will be reduced at the rate of 10 points per absence. (Examples: 6 absences would result in an attendance/participation average of 90, 7 absences = 80 average, 8 absences = 70 average, 9 absences = 60 average, etc.....)
3. The following absences do not count toward the attendance policy: medical, official, suspension and unavoidable. All other absences will count towards the attendance policy. This includes parental, sign-ins, sign-outs, college/military visits, as well as unexcused absences.
4. A student and /or parent may present written reasons for exceptions to the rules governing attendance to the principal. This policy can only be waived in cases of severe sickness, extenuating circumstances, or accidents with the recommendation from the principal.
5. A student must be present for at least half of the class period to be counted as present for that class.
6. A student must be present daily from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. to be considered for perfect attendance.

2. Absences

Students are expected to be in school everyday. When a student is absent, the burden of providing proof of an excused absence will be on the parents. Excused absences shall be granted for the following:

1. **Medical (Excused)** – An authentic medical note or letter must be provided with a phone number of the doctor for verification. Students that provide a signed medical statement will be excused. Medical excuses will not count against the three parental excuses allowed each semester. **The principal or his office may place calls to verify parental and medical notes.**
2. **Parental (Excused)** – Students shall be allowed three (3) parental notes per semester. The note must be signed by the parent and include home and work phone numbers for verification.
3. **Death in the immediate family (Excused)** – Verification must take place by a parent who contacts the school in person. Immediate family is defined as grandparent, parent/guardian or sibling. Only one (1) day may be excused.
4. **Unavoidable (Excused)** – After the three parental excuses have been used, an “unavoidable excused absence” may be granted by the principal as a result of a parent conference. A parent conference may, or may not, result in an absence being excused. The principal shall consider **only** serious personal or family illness or death in the family.

5. **Official (Excused)** – An official absence is defined as any absence where the student is representing the school or is on a trip with a school group. Absences for personal gain are not considered official absences (ie...ACT test, college tryouts, etc.)
6. **College visits or military examinations (Excused)** – Seniors will be allowed two (2) days of excused absences for visits to colleges or entrance examinations to the military. Proper documentation of the visit must be presented upon return in order for the absence to be excused.
7. **Unexcused** – All other absences from school will be unexcused. **Students who miss school with an unexcused absence or for suspension will not be allowed to make up work missed during the absence.** A grade of zero (0) will be assigned for any work missed during an unexcused absence. Students must bring a note from parents even if absence will be unexcused.

3. **Make-Up Work**

The burden of making up work missed rest with the pupil and not the teachers. All work missed as a result of an excused absence must be completed within five (5) school days of the student's return to class. A student has three (3) school days to change an unexcused absence to an excused absence. After the third consecutive day the absentee remains unexcused.

When a student is to miss class because of a school sponsored activity and has been aware of the event for a sufficient amount of time, he/she must make proper arrangements with each teacher prior to his/her absence to make up work. This must be agreed upon prior to the absence.

4. **Readmission**

On returning to school a student must present a note or medical excuse to the Attendance office. All students returning without a note will not be allowed to go to class until the absence has been classified. Students returning without a note should report to the assistant principal's office located in the Attendance Office. Students returning with a note should go to the Attendance office beginning at 7:35.

The student shall present his admission slip to each teacher on the day the student returns to school. The admission slip shall be turned in to the attendance office by the student's last academic teacher. Any student who either fails to obtain or loses an admission slip three times will receive one (1) day of In-School Suspension.

5. **Arrival to school and admission to buildings**

High School students who arrive on campus prior to 7:35 a.m. must go to the High School Cafeteria and remain seated until the first bell rings. After the 7:35 bell all students should report to the designated grade area. Students should remain in the designated grade area until the 7:45 bell rings. Students should then go to their 1st period class.

Middle School students who arrive on campus prior to 7:35 A.M. must go to the cafeteria and remain seated until the first bell rings. After the 7:35 bell, students not participating in the breakfast program should report to homeroom. Students

participating in the breakfast program should report to the cafeteria upon arrival at school.

(All Students) Linger in the hallways, outside the building and in the parking lots will not be permitted. If you arrive after 1st period begins, report directly to the Attendance office to sign in.

Students may not enter the band hall, gym or field house at other than assigned or scheduled times except by knowledge and permission of the supervising teacher or coach.

6. Late Arrival

If you arrive late, you shall report directly to the Attendance office. Students who are on a late bus must report to the attendance office to sign in. In order to be admitted to class, all students must have an excuse. Students that arrive after 8:15 will be classified with a medical excuse, a parental excuse or an unexcused. A parent must accompany students to sign in to receive a parental excuse.

Three unexcused sign-ins per 9-weeks = one day In-School Suspension.

Four unexcused sign-ins per 9-weeks = one day In-School Suspension plus parent conference.

Five unexcused sign-ins per 9-weeks = one day out of school suspension.

Six unexcused sign-ins per 9-weeks = two days out of school suspension.

ETC.....

7. Tardy Policy

Students tardy for school or class will disrupt the educational process. It is important we instill in students the necessity of being on time for school and class. For this reason the tardy policy will stand as follows.

Students will be given four minutes to make change of classes. A student is considered tardy unless he is in the room before the tardy bell. Tardies will be cumulative for periods 1 – 7 (including homeroom) each nine weeks and not by class. Students tardy for school or class will be required to have an admission slip to class. Students that arrive late to school but before 8:15 will receive a tardy for 1st period unless accompanied by a parent/guardian.

Students that accumulate 5 tardies in a nine week period will receive one day of In-School Suspension (ISS). Students that accumulate 6 tardies in a nine week period will receive two days of In-School Suspension (ISS). The seventh and eighth tardies will result in the student being suspended from school two days for each tardy. The ninth and all subsequent tardies the student will receive three (3) days In-School Suspension (ISS) for each tardy. Tardies will be erased at the beginning of each nine weeks.

AUTOMOBILES

Students who come to school in vehicles are to park in designated areas of the campus. Students are not to sit in vehicles on the campus or in vehicles in the parking area. All students who drive vehicles shall obey the laws of the State of Mississippi on the campus. Driving a vehicle on campus is a privilege. Any driving violation may result in loss of driving privilege.

Students are not to leave the campus without permission from the attendance office. After arrival at school in the morning, students are expected to remain on the campus unless permission to leave school has been granted from the attendance office. If a student signs out and returns to school that day, he should report to the attendance office immediately to sign in.

All visitors prior to 2:45 p.m. should park on the curb in front of the school. The vehicles that are parked illegally will be towed at owner's expense. Vehicles from which excessive noise is generated will not be tolerated. Non-compliance could lead to the loss of campus parking privileges.

BOOK BAG POLICY

The Neshoba County School Board has adopted a policy requiring all students in grades Kindergarten through twelve to carry clear (transparent) or mesh book bags.

BUS CHANGE NOTIFICATIONS

Bus/Car rider changes will not be accepted by phone. All changes must be submitted in writing with date and parent signature to the high/middle school office or in person by the parent or guardian at the high/middle school office. Once boarded, students will not be allowed to get off the bus until bus reaches home or regular destination.

BUS REGULATIONS

A student's privilege to ride the bus is dependent upon proper conduct.

Pupils shall...

1. Be ready in the morning at the scheduled time and place for the bus to arrive.
2. Pass in front of the bus, if necessary to cross road or highway, to mount bus or after dismounting bus.
3. Wait until the bus comes to a complete stop before trying to load or unload.
4. Be quiet when bus is nearing and crossing a railroad and highway.
5. Wait for a signal from the safety patrol before crossing if it is necessary to cross to enter or leave the bus. Always look in both directions along the road to be sure that it is safe before crossing.
6. Obey the driver.

Pupils shall not...

1. Play on the road while waiting for the bus.
2. Put body parts out of windows.
3. Ride outside of bus.
4. Mar or deface bus.
5. Use tobacco or intoxicants.
6. Fighting or tussling on the bus carries the following penalties.
First fight – 3 days Out-of-School Suspension.
Second fight – 5 days Out-of-School Suspension.
Third fight – 10 days Out-of-School Suspension.
7. Strike or threaten bus driver.
8. Use profane language or making vulgar gestures.

9. Carry deadly weapons.
10. Make excessive noise.
11. Throw objects.
12. Commit any other act of improper conduct.
13. Get off the school bus except at school in the morning.
14. Get off the school bus in the afternoon except at his/her home or regular stop unless he/she has written permission from parent or guardian, countersigned by a principal.

BUS DISCIPLINARY ACTIONS (Minimum Consequences)

Students reported to the principal by the bus driver and found guilty of misbehaving on the school bus shall be punished according to the following:

1st Offense – Warning or punishment depending on the severity of the offense and notification of parents of impending suspension.

2nd Offense – Suspension from riding the bus for 3 school days.

3rd Offense – Suspension from riding the bus for 5 school days

4th Offense – Suspension from riding the bus for 10 school days

5th Offense – Suspension from riding the bus for one calendar year.*

* Exceptions may be made for minor offenses and an extreme emergency as determined by the principal. Refusal to take punishment means automatic suspension until a Parent/Principal conference.

Any student suspended from the bus must have a Parent/Principal Conference before the student can ride the bus.

CAFETERIA

Prices for meals in the cafeteria are:

Adult \$2.75 Student Reduced Price 40 cents Student Full Price \$1.50

Adult Breakfast \$1.75

All soft drinks must be covered or in a thermos in the cafeteria.

CLUB MEETING SCHEDULE

Clubs will meet at designated times on a monthly basis. Club activities should be an enrichment to the regular school activities. Students should be encouraged to participate in clubs. Students will have activity period for club meetings unless the sponsor requests longer time prior to the meeting.

CODE OF CONDUCT

In implementing conduct and personal appearance regulations, it should be kept in mind that the primary responsibility for the conduct and personal appearance of a student rests with the student and the parents. Every effort should be made to impress the student and the parents that discipline and order can only be maintained in the school when the school is used as a vehicle for favorable and constructive influences. The assistant principal shall be in charge of discipline. In carrying out school regulations, students, parents, teachers and the administrative staff should observe the following:

PART I: CONDUCT

A. Administrators and teachers shall hold students to strict account for disorderly conduct or misconduct at any school, on the way to and from school, on the playgrounds, at school meetings, programs, functions and activities and upon school buses. The superintendent or principal of any school may suspend any pupil from school for good cause up to 10 days, but such suspension shall be reported promptly to the Board of Trustees for review.

B. The superintendent or principals are authorized to institute appropriate disciplinary action including immediate suspension, if warranted, of any student for disorderly conduct or misconduct including, but not limited to, the following:

1. Chewing Gum
First Offense – Student will have choice of discipline. (ISS or Paddling)
All subsequent offenses will be In-School Suspension (ISS). **Repeated offenses may be considered defiance which is punishable by suspension.**
2. Correspondence between students that is downgrading or derogatory is prohibited. Student may be paddled or suspended for violation of this rule.
3. Damage to property, private or school
4. Dress Code Deviations
First Offense – Warning
All subsequent offenses will be In-School Suspension (ISS). **Repeated offenses may be considered defiance which is punishable by suspension.**
5. Disobedience
6. Disorderly conduct
7. Disrespect
8. Disruption of school operations, functions, programs or activities
9. Excessive number of office referrals for disciplinary action will not be tolerated
10. Failure to surrender any item against school rules will result in automatic three (3) days out-of-school suspension.
11. Harassment (Physical or Psychological)
12. Indecent exposure
13. Inhaling of foreign substances
14. Insubordination
15. Insulting behavior
16. Insulting language
17. Leaving class, school program or meeting without permission
18. Loitering inside or outside building, in the hallways, or at buses will not be tolerated
19. Malicious Mischief
20. Obscene language

21. Public displays of affection (including in cars parked in the vicinity of any school or activity)
22. Tampering with someone else's computer files and /or logging onto unauthorized web sites.
23. Theft
24. Threatening or striking any school employee
25. Unauthorized entry on school premises
26. Unauthorized use of school property
27. Vandalism
28. Any offense otherwise punishable by law
29. Being a member or soliciting membership to any organization that does not adhere to school policy or rules will not be tolerated

(Minimum Consequences – Referrals relating to school disruptions)

First Referral – Warning or Corporal Punishment (Paddling) by Administrator

Second Referral – Corporal Punishment (Paddling) by Administrator

Third Referral – 2 days In-School Suspension (ISS) plus parent conference

Fourth Referral – 3 days In-School Suspension plus parent conference

Fifth Referral – 3 days Out-of-School Suspension

Sixth Referral – 5 days Out-of-School Suspension

Seventh Referral – Recommend Alternative School

Step for Refusing Corporal Punishment (Paddling) from an Administrator:

1. Three (3) days Out-of-School Suspension.

All student out-of-school suspensions must have a Parent/Principal conference before the student can re-enter school.

Infractions with specific steps:

- 1.* Alcoholic beverages – use of **or** under the influence of **or** distribution of, **or** possession of,

Penalty:

First Offense – 30 days Out-of-School Suspension. This student is also banned from all activities at Neshoba Central for one (1) calendar year.

Second Offense – Expulsion from school for one (1) calendar year and will receive NO credit

Students using or under the influence of alcoholic beverages will be turned over to the Sheriff's Department.

2. Cell Phone

Cell phones on campus and in the building will not be permitted. Cell phones cause a disruption of the educational process.

First Offense – Cell phone will be confiscated and not returned for 30 days.

All Subsequent Offenses – Cell phone confiscated and student will receive a three (3) day Out-of-School Suspension. Cell Phone will be returned to parent at parent conference.

Cell phones are allowed on campus only in private vehicles.

3. Cheating will not be tolerated. **All cases of cheating must be reported to the principal. For all instances of cheating, the student(s) involved will be given a zero (0) for the assignment on which the student(s) is working.**

First Offense – Parents will be notified and student will be given a zero “0”.

Second Offense – The student will be given a zero (0) for the assignment, suspended from school for a period of three (3) days and must be accompanied by a parent upon his or her return to school.

Third Offense – The student will receive a five (5) day suspension from school and a school board review before being allowed to return to school.

4. Distribution of Controlled Substances (Prescription Drugs, etc.)

First Offense – 30 days Out-of-School Suspension. This student is also banned from all activities at Neshoba Central for one (1) calendar year.

Second Offense – Expulsion from school for one (1) calendar year and will receive NO credit

Students distributing controlled substances will be turned over to the Sheriff’s Department.

5. Fighting

First Offense – 3 days Out-of-School Suspension

Second Offense – 5 days Out-of-School Suspension

Third Offense – 10 days Out-of-School Suspension plus recommend Alternative School

Fourth Offense – Expulsion from school for one (1) calendar year and will receive NO credit

Participants in a fight will be suspended from school and will possibly be turned over to the Sheriff’s Department with charges being filed.

6. Illegal drugs – use of **or** under the influence of **or** distribution of, **or** possession of,

Penalty:

First Offense – 30 days Out-of-School Suspension. This student is also banned from all activities at Neshoba Central for one (1) calendar year.

Second Offense – Expulsion from school for one (1) calendar year and will receive NO credit

Students using or under the influence of illegal drugs will be turned over to the Sheriff’s Department

7. Any “look-alike” drug or counterfeit substance represented to be, or believed to be, any of the aforementioned or described in this policy

Penalty:

First Offense – 30 days Out-of-School Suspension. This student is also banned from all activities at Neshoba Central for one (1) calendar year.

Second Offense – Expulsion from school for one (1) calendar year and will receive NO credit

Students with possession of “look-alike” drugs or counterfeit substance will be turned over to the Sheriff’s Department

8. Skipping school will not be tolerated

Penalty for skipping:

First Offense – 1 day In-School Suspension (ISS) plus parent conference

Second Offense – 2 days In-School Suspension (ISS) plus parent conference

Third Offense – 3 days Out-of-School Suspension

Continued skipping may result in recommendation for alternative school.

9. Tobacco Products - Use of **or** Possession of **or** Distribution of

Penalty:

First Offense – 1 day Out-of-School Suspension

Second Offense - 3 days Out-of-School Suspension

Third Offense - 5 days Out-of-School Suspension

Fourth Offense - 10 days Out-of-School Suspension

Continued use of tobacco products will result in expulsion.

Possession of:

1.* Alcoholic beverage

2.** Cards or gambling paraphernalia

3.*** Electronic devices such as radios, tape/cd players, tapes, CDs, cameras, beepers, trading cards, stamps, etc.

4.* Firearms (Any weapon which expels a projectile)

5.** Fireworks, explosives or incendiary materials

6.* Foreign substances for inhalation

7.* Illegal drug

8.* Knives, slingshots, box cutters or any item that could be used as a weapon

9.** Noise-making devices

10.* Other materials, possession of which is punishable by law

11.** Pornographic Materials

12.** Stolen property

13.** Tobacco products

14.** Water guns, balloons, bottles, etc.

15.** No aerosol spray (deodorant, body spray, etc.)

*** CARRIES PENALTY OF AUTOMATIC SUSPENSION AND WILL BE CONFISCATED AND NOT RETURNED.**

**** Will be confiscated and not returned – plus discipline.**

***** Will be confiscated and not returned for period of 30 days – plus discipline.**

A student who reports immediately to the principal, the inadvertent possession of any articles punishable by suspension, may have the penalty suspension waived.

Parent/Principal Conference

FAILURE TO HAVE PARENT/PRINCIPAL CONFERENCE AFTER SUSPENSION WILL RESULT IN STUDENT BEING ASSIGNED ISS THE DAY HE/SHE RETURNS TO SCHOOL. OUT-OF-SCHOOL SUSPENSION WILL THEN BE ASSIGNED UNTIL PARENT/PRINCIPAL CONFERENCE IS HELD.

The object of discipline is to correct inappropriate behavior. Discipline steps listed in the handbook may be changed if the student's behavior does not change. This will apply to misconduct, tardies and late arrival to school.

C. STUDENT EXPULSION

The board may expel a student for conduct that disrupts the educational process or endangers the health or safety of the student, his classmates or school personnel.

Prior to final action, the board and its administrators must follow the requirements of due process.

1. The district must forewarn the student of the type of conduct that will subject him to expulsion through written and posted rules and regulations.
2. The district must give the student accused and his parents written notice of the charges against him and the nature of the evidence supporting those charges.
3. The district must inform the student in writing where and when the hearing will take place at least five days prior to said hearing.
4. The district shall inform the student of his procedural rights prior to the hearing.
5. The board shall conduct a hearing in accordance with the basic principles of due process. All expulsions will result by action of the school board after review and evaluation of pertinent information.
6. Other disciplinary action may consist of corporal punishment (paddling) under existing school policy, loss of privileges, denial of participation in school activities, probation or a combination of any one or more of such actions, including appropriate constructive assignments, depending on the seriousness and circumstances of the offense and the attitude of the student.

D. OUT-OF-SCHOOL SUSPENSION

Any combination of three (3) out-of-school suspensions could result in recommendation to Alternative School.

E. IN-SCHOOL SUSPENSION (ISS)

In-school suspension begins at 7:55 A.M. and ends at 3:15. You must attend all day to receive credit as one day In-school suspension. The first time a student is sent to the office for a discipline problem while in ISS, the student will receive Corporal Punishment. Second time same day from ISS a student will receive a one day Out-of-School suspension plus In-school suspension.

PART II: PERSONAL APPEARANCE REGULATIONS

The purpose of education in the Neshoba County School System is to aid young persons to prepare themselves to live their adult lives at a maximum level of productivity, happiness, and in harmony with their community. In addition to the development of a perceptive awareness of high standards of behavior, appearance and grooming, which will ease the maturation a young person must make from childhood into the real world of adulthood. With this educational purpose in mind, the Neshoba County School System has defined the minimum standards of dress and grooming which will be acceptable for participants in this school system.

All students are expected to observe certain minimum standards of hygiene, sanitation and personal appearance. The following regulations are to be observed by all students. Any student violating any such regulations will be subject to appropriate disciplinary action.

(A) ALL STUDENTS

1. Hair shall be groomed so as not to extend below the eyebrows and cover or obscure the eyes or any part thereof.
2. Hair shall not be groomed in class.
3. Hair shall be free from obnoxious odors, maintained clean in quality and neat in appearance.
4. Un-natural hair coloring, hair in rollers, spiking of hair, or mohawks will not be permitted.
5. Shoes shall be worn. (House shoes, roller skate shoes, etc. are prohibited.)
6. Tank tops, muscle or body shirts shall not be worn.
7. Midriffs shall not be exposed.
8. Any style of clothing tending toward immodesty in dress is prohibited.
9. Cleanliness of both dress and body is mandatory.
10. Clothing or articles worn or possessed with profane, inflammatory, vulgar, or immorally suggestive language, alcoholic or tobacco slogans shall not be worn.
11. Garments that do not meet the definition of proper dress include bicycle shorts, thigh huggers, cut off frayed shorts, gym shorts or nylon material shorts shall not be worn. All shorts worn must comply with #5 under boys and #1 under girls regardless of what may be worn under them.
12. Any clothing with holes, shall not have holes any higher than the tips of the fingers when the student is standing with his/her arms by his/her side.
13. No hats or caps shall be allowed on school premises. (WILL BE CONFISCATED AND NOT RETURNED)
14. No student shall have their body parts painted with paint, liquid paper, ink, or other distracting marks.
15. No colors, bandannas, symbols, signs or dress associated with gangs or cults will be tolerated. These will result in suspension or expulsion.
16. No see-through clothing shall be worn.
17. No cotton sweat pants, Pajamas, or sleepwear shall be worn.
18. If an item of dress is questionable or may be subject to criticism DO NOT WEAR IT.

19. All coats/jackets/oversize sweaters that fall at hip level will be removed inside school buildings.
20. No body piercing will be allowed except in the ear.
21. Shirts must be buttoned or zipped. **Over sized shirts must be tucked in pants or removed.**
22. No clothing with chains or extended straps will be allowed. No wallet chains will be allowed. **(Chains will be confiscated and not returned)**

(B) BOYS

1. Facial hair must be clean-shaven or neatly trimmed and cannot be bushy.
2. Pants must be worn at the appropriate waist level. Students are not permitted to wear pants which are low riding, baggy, or saggy.
3. Hair in front of the head may be worn to a length not below the top of the eyebrows.
4. No undershirts without an outside shirt shall be worn.
5. Shorts may be worn provided they, at the bottom, extend no higher than the tips of the fingers when student is standing with his arms by his side.

(C) GIRLS

1. Shorts and culottes (divided skirts) may be worn provided they, at the bottom, extend no higher than the tips of the fingers when student is standing with her arms by her side.
2. Underclothing shall be worn.
3. Dresses worn above the knee shall, at the bottom, be no higher than the tips of the fingers when student is standing with her arms by her side.
4. No clothing shall be excessively low in front or back.

The Board of Education has adopted these standards expecting the support by parents and students in the spirit for which the standards are intended. Students are expected to dress and groom within the limits set by the standards. Students are expected to obey the rules and directions of their principals and teachers in charge of their educational program. **Parents are requested to see to it that their children conform to the limits set by the personal appearance standards. Parents are requested to encourage their students in participating in the spirit intended by the standards for personal appearance and the discipline program.** The personal appearance code will be positively enforced by teachers, principals and administrators.

The standards for dress, grooming and discipline with appropriate methods of enforcement and appeal have been established to provide an environment and conditions whereby the school district's educational program can be so planned, adopted, and conducted as to provide each child the training and opportunity to take his place in a democratic society. The personal appearance code has been developed to establish a standard of decency for covering the body and should be interpreted in the spirit for which it is intended.

PART III: DISCIPLINE POLICY

The Neshoba County School Board shall expect all pupils to be guided by the following standards of pupil discipline:

1. Students shall respect constituted authority. This shall include conformity to school rules and regulations and those provisions of the law which apply to the conduct of juveniles or minors.
2. Citizenship in a democracy requires respect for the rights of others. Student conduct shall reflect consideration for the rights and privileges of others and shall demand cooperation with all members of the school community.
3. High personal standards of courtesy, decency, morality, clean language, honesty, and wholesome relationships with others shall be maintained. Respect for real and personal property, pride in one's work, achievement within one's ability shall be expected of all students.
4. The School Board holds all school personnel, including the superintendent, responsible for the proper conduct and control of students while under legal supervision of the school, and supports all personnel acting within the framework of the district policy. Full support and mutual cooperation shall be expected of all school personnel and the administration.
5. The Superintendent shall establish procedures to carry out school board policy and philosophy and shall hold all school personnel, students and parents, responsible for the carrying out of school policies. The board shall support all school personnel performing their duties within the framework of the district policy.
6. The Principal shall be responsible to the Superintendent for the conduct of the school. The Principal shall be given the responsibility and authority, and may include the faculty in the process, to formulate such procedures as necessary to enforce the district policy. The principals shall give support to teachers performing their duties within the framework of the district policy. The principals shall exercise professional judgment in the disposition of behavior referrals.
7. The School Board believes that discipline in many instances is related to the methods of dress or the appearance of pupils. The School Board shall expect the principals to require pupils to come to school properly dressed and groomed. **Any methods of dress or hair grooming that tends to cause disturbance in the school or that impedes the instructional program of the school shall not be allowed.**
8. Mississippi Code 37-11-53. Distribution of school district's discipline plan; content of plan of discipline conference; fines and penalties; recovery of damages.
 - (1) A copy of the school district's discipline plan shall be distributed to each student enrolled in the district and the parents, guardian or custodian of such student shall sign a statement verifying that they have been given notice of the discipline policies of their respective school district. The school board shall have the official discipline plan legally audited on an annual basis to insure that its policies and procedures are currently in compliance with applicable statutes, case law and state and federal constitutional provisions.

Discipline Conference Fines and Penalties: Recovery of Damages

The 1991 Mississippi Legislature passed legislation requiring public school districts to incorporate certain changes in the discipline plans. The following language is taken from Mississippi Code Section 37-11-53 and applies to acts committed on or after July 1, 1992.

A. A parent, guardian or custodian of a compulsory school age child enrolled in the Neshoba County School District shall be responsible financially for his or her child's destructive acts against school property or persons;

B. A parent, guardian or custodian of a compulsory school age child enrolled in the Neshoba County School District may be requested to appear at school by an appropriate school official for a conference regarding acts of the child in paragraph (A) of this subsection; and

C. A parent, guardian or custodian of a compulsory school age child enrolled in the Neshoba County School District who has been summoned by proper notification by an appropriate school official shall be required under this provision to attend such discipline conference specified in paragraph (b) of this subsection.

D. Any parent, guardian or custodian of a compulsory school age child subject to the provisions of this section who refuses or willfully fails to perform any of the duties imposed upon him or her under the provisions of this section shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and, upon conviction, shall be fined not to exceed Two Thousand dollars (\$2,000).

E. Neshoba County School District shall be entitled to recover damages in any amount not to exceed Twenty Thousand Dollars (\$20,000), plus necessary court cost, from the parents of any minor under the age of eighteen (18) years and over the age of six (6), who maliciously and willfully damages or destroys property belonging to Neshoba County such child has been removed by court order or decree. The action authorized in this section shall be in addition to all other actions which Neshoba County School District is entitled to maintain and nothing in this section shall preclude recovery in a greater amount from the minor or from a person, including the parents, for damages to which such minor or other person would otherwise be liable.

F. The provisions of this section shall apply only to acts committed on or after July 1, 1992.

COOPERATIVE EDUCATION (COOP OR SOEP)

Cooperative Education is a course primarily for juniors and seniors. In addition to their regular academic classes, students spend one period each day in the Cooperative Education or Agriculture class and a minimum of three (3) hours per school day on the job site. They earn one (1) unit for the class work and one and one-half (1 ½) units for on-the-job training. The two and one-half units are inseparable. No credit may be given for on-the-job training if a student fails to pass the classroom work.

The on-the-job training is considered the same as school work. All rules that apply to regular class periods apply to the time spent at work. A student missing regular school

classes should not report to work unless prior arrangements have been made with the coordinator.

CORRIDOR PASSES

No student is to be permitted in the corridor, except at period changes, without a corridor pass. The student should present the pass to any teacher he passes. Students who violate this rule will be punished. Hall and restroom passes are to be used for emergencies only.

CORRIDOR RULES

The hallways are crowded, thus creating a congested traffic problem. However, if you will follow the simple rules dictated by courtesy and common sense, confusion will be kept to a minimum.

1. Make a habit of walking on the right side of hallway.
2. Linger at the bulletin board, if you wish, but do not monopolize it.
3. Do not monopolize the space near your locker; be considerate of others who need to get to their lockers.
4. Do not link arms with friends and amble down the hallways.
5. Do not run in the halls.
6. Stopping to talk with friends blocks traffic.
7. Loud laughter, yelling, whistling, or any other unnecessary noise is not permitted.
8. If you are in the throes of a romance, do not make him or her conspicuous by constant attention. Loitering in the hallways makes you both conspicuous and a nuisance to others trying to get to a class.
9. If a teacher or visitors come through the corridor when it is crowded, courteously move to one side.
10. Be considerate of classes that are being conducted.
11. At appropriate times, speak to those you meet in the corridor.
12. Always move by the nearest route with the least possible confusion.
13. An unsealed drink container will not be allowed outside the cafeteria. (Squeeze bottles, fountain drinks, can or bottled drinks and insulated cups will not be allowed in the school building.)
14. No consumption of food outside the cafeteria will be permitted.
15. Cooperate with the custodians in keeping the corridors free from paper, bottles and mud (make use of mud scrapers and mats at the entrances.)

COUNSELING SERVICE

It is the aim of school personnel through counseling services and instructional programs to help each pupil grow and develop educationally through his school experiences, and to assist in plans of re-employment or further educational study after completing his school program. The principals, teachers and counselor are available to discuss each pupil and/or his parents any problems or questions arising relative to the educational program.

Parents are cordially invited to visit the school and to confer with the principals or counselor at any time concerning the work of their child. Conferences with High School teachers may be arranged by calling the counselor's office (656-6004) to schedule an appointment. Conferences with the Middle School teachers may be arranged by calling the counselor's office (656-4636) for an appointment.

DELIVERY OF FLOWERS, BALLOONS, COMMERCIAL FOODS, ETC.

No balloons, flowers, commercial foods, etc. deliveries will be accepted at Neshoba Central High School from any businesses or individuals.

DIRECTORY INFORMATION

The following publications are furnished to the public during the course of the school year:

Academic Honors

Athletic Rosters to include student's names, classification, weight, height
Honor

Newspaper articles about school activities

Pictures

School website

Student's and Parents' names and address

Videos

Yearbook

If for some reason parents object to their child's pictures, name or other information being published in these publications, please notify the principal at the beginning of the school year.

EMERGENCY SCHOOL CLOSINGS

In case of bad weather or other emergency, the closing of school will be announced on the radio stations WHOC (1490 AM), WWSL (102.3 FM), OR MISS 101 (101.3 FM) between 5:00 A.M. and 7:00 A.M. Be sure to listen for the specific school name as the closing of other schools in our community, or the closing of schools in our adjacent community, may not mean we are closed.

EXEMPTIONS - 4TH 9-WEEK

Students with Perfect Attendance who have passing grades.

Students in grades 6-11 with an A Average for year (93-100).

Seniors with a B Average (85-100).

**EXTRACURRICULAR
(INTRACURRICULAR) ACTIVITIES**

1. The purpose of establishing standards for participation in extracurricular activities is to provide an atmosphere conducive for students to satisfactorily complete requirements for graduation from high school at a normal pace.
2. Participation by a student in extracurricular activities should be considered, by all concerned, a privilege rather than a right.
3. All students who are enrolled in grades 9 – 12 in a Mississippi public school and who are participating in extracurricular activities, must have at least a 75 over all average in courses that amounts to 5 credits required for graduation each year.
4. A student shall be in school for the major portion of the day for the student to participate in a school sponsored activity. (In case of extreme emergency exception may be granted by the principal.)
5. A student in the seventh or eighth grade must pass his/her grade level and maintain promotion by achieving at least a grade of 75 in the four (4) basic courses. A basic course is a course that meets five (5) days a week. A 6th grade student must be promoted to be eligible to participate in extracurricular activities.

FEE POLICY

1. All students who participate in extracurricular activities such as sports, band, etc., will be charged an activity fee of \$10.00.
2. This school board hereby authorizes the superintendent to charge reasonable fees, but not more than the actual cost, for the following:
 - A. Supplemental instructional materials and supplies, excluding textbooks;
 - B. Other fees designated by the superintendent as fees related to a valid curriculum educational objective, including transportation; and
 - C. Extracurricular activities and any other educational activities of the school district which are not designated by the superintendent as valid curriculum educational objectives, such as band trips and athletic events.
3. All fees authorized to be charged under this policy, except those fees authorized under subsection (2) (C) of this policy, shall be charged only upon the condition that a financial hardship waiver may be granted upon request pursuant to the following:

FINANCIAL HARDSHIP WAIVER POLICY

All fees authorized to be charged under subsection (A) and (B) of the Fee Policy above shall be charged only upon the following conditions:

1. Applications for hardship waivers shall be kept in the strictest of confidence with all files and personal disclosures restricted from review by the general public.
2. Pupils eligible to have any such fee waived as a result of an inability to pay for said fees, shall not be discriminated against nor shall there be any overt identification of any pupil who has received a financial hardship waiver by use of special tokens or tickets, announcements posting or publication of names, physical separation, choice of materials or by any other means.

3. In no case shall any of this school district's procedures expose any pupil receiving a hardship waiver to any type stigma or ridicule by other pupils or school district personnel.
4. The confidentiality provisions of this policy shall apply equally to any students who have inability to pay any fees authorized under section C of the Fee Policy above. In no case shall the inability to pay the assessment of fees authorized under the provisions of the Fee Policy above result in a pupil being denied or deprived of any academic awards or standards, any class selection, grade, diploma, transcript or the right to participate in any activity related to educational advancement.

The superintendent shall establish administrative procedures consistent with this policy for its implementation.

GRADING SYSTEM

The district grading system is as follows:

25% = Homework, projects, etc.

15% = Attendance/participation.

40% = Graded test (weekly, daily) term papers, etc.

20% = 9-week test.

(A equals 93-100) (B equals 85-92) (C equals 75-84)

(D equals 70-74) (F equals failing, below 70).

GRADING SYSTEM - WEIGHTED (High School)

The following courses will be weighted at 1.10 x the student's grade for figuring a student's GPA for those entering the 10th grade 2000-2001 or later.

AP English IV

Chemistry II

Trig/Pre-Calculus

AP Physics

AP Calculus

AP U. S. History

GRADUATION CEREMONY

The graduation ceremony is a time honored event at Neshoba Central High School. It is important to protect the integrity of this event; therefore, it is the responsibility of graduating seniors and their parents to meet the following requirements in order to participate in the ceremony:

1. Meet all academic graduation requirements.
2. Order and remit payment for cap and gown as soon as possible but no later than two weeks prior to graduation.
3. Attend mandatory graduation practice at the scheduled time.
4. Adhere to graduation dress code requirements.

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

Neshoba Central High School offers a wide range of courses in attempting to meet the needs of all students. NCHS was accredited by the Mississippi Accrediting Commission during the first year of operations. The requirements set for graduation have been designed to provide flexibility of courses for students of different needs and interests, and at the same time give assurance to students, patrons, higher institutions of learning and employers that graduates of NCHS are prepared either for further education or for immediate entry into vocational activities.

A maximum of one unit may be earned by successful completion of correspondence courses or online courses administered through an approved university and with the approval of the principal.

A student must pass all applicable Subject Area Tests, Algebra I, Biology I, English II, and U. S. History.

Each student graduating shall have earned at least two of the last four Carnegie units at Neshoba Central.

Minimum Requirements for Graduation

Academic Core	12th (9th 04-05)	11th (9th 05-06)
English	4 Units	4 Units
Mathematics	3 Units	4 Units
Science	3 Units	3 units
Social Studies	3 Units	3 Units
Health	½ Unit	½ Unit
Computer Education	2 Units	2 Units
Fine Arts	1 Unit	1 Unit
Electives	7 ½ Units	6 ½ Units
TOTAL	24 Units	24 Units
	Plus Pass all Subject Area Tests in Algebra I, U. S. History, English II, Biology I	Plus Pass all Subject Area Tests Algebra I, U. S. History, English II, Biology I

Academic Core	10th (9th 06 – 07)	9th (9th 07 – 08)
English	4 Units	4 Units
Mathematics	4 Units	4 Units
Science	3 Units	3 units
Social Studies	3 Units	3 Units
Health	½ Unit	½ Unit
Computer Education	2 Units	2 Units
Fine Arts	1 Unit	1 Unit
Electives	6 ½ Units	6 ½ Units
TOTAL	24 Units	24 Units
	Plus Pass all Subject Area Test in U. S. History, English II, Biology I and Algebra I	Plus Pass all Subject Area Tests in U. S. History, English II, Biology I and Algebra I

HONOR ROLL

Students may earn recognition for the Special Honor Roll by having a 95 or better average per 9 weeks in *academic courses.

Students may earn recognition for the Honor Roll by having a 90 – 94 average per 9 weeks in *academic courses.

*We do not average art, Band, Cheerleader, chorus, sports, physical education, stage band, T.A.G., or yearbook for Special Honor Roll or Honor Roll.

LEAVING SCHOOL BEFORE DISMISSAL

Students are not allowed to leave school before dismissal unless they are personally “signed out” in the attendance office by their parents. A student’s signature is required before leaving campus. Exceptions to this rule will be made only in the case of extreme hardship, at which time parents may call the principal.

Under no circumstances is a student to leave school before dismissal without “signing out” in the attendance office. After signing out, the student should leave the campus immediately.

No student should take part-time employment on the assumption that he will be allowed to “sign out” early each day. This practice is strictly prohibited. If a student signs out for any reason and returns to school that day, he should report to the Attendance office immediately to sign in.

Students will not be allowed to sign out to go to lunch.

MEDICAL TREATMENT

If a student becomes ill, he should ask his teacher for a pass to the office. Medical treatment will never be administered except in case of emergency and then only in the form of “first aid”. Students must provide the office with their parents’ telephone number as they may be called if deemed necessary. Middle School students should bring prescription drugs to the office along with a note from parent as to directions for taking prescription.

PROMOTION/RETENTION

(Middle School) Pupil progression in the Neshoba Central Middle School is based on each pupil’s achievement in terms of established instructional goals. Students must pass all four (4) core curriculum courses each year. These courses include Language Arts, Math, Science, and Social Studies.

THOSE ENTERING 9TH GRADE IN 2002 OR LATER

Needing 24 credits & Pass all required Subject Area Tests

9th 0 - 4.5 Credits

10th 5 - 9.5 Credits

11th 10 – 16.5 Credits

12th 17 - 24 Credits

12th Credits passed + credits attempting must equal to number units required for graduation.

Pupil progression in grades 9-12 is based on each pupil's achievement in terms of established instructional goals. The basis for making promotion or retention decisions should reflect teacher judgement based on the following standards:

Minimum Standards

1. Pupils must master 70% of the CORE objectives as measured by district-wide tests for each academic course in which enrolled.
2. Pupils must obtain passing average grades at end of course (70 or above) on tests and assignments.
3. Student must achieve a passing score, as determined by the State Department of Education, on all applicable subject area tests.

Pupils Not Meeting Minimum Requirements

1. Students who have not earned the minimum cumulative units will be retained at the appropriate grade level.
2. Students who do not meet the minimum performance standards established for a given academic course must repeat the course during summer school or during the next regular school term.
3. High school students failing to achieve the minimum score required on Subject Area Tests may be required to take remediation in the areas of deficiency.
4. May attend an extended school year program during the summer. If they meet the minimum performance standards, they will be promoted. If they do not, they will be retained.

REPORTS TO PARENTS

At the end of each nine-week period, a report for the period will be taken home by the student to the parents or guardian.

Progress reports will be sent to parents after the end of the fourth week of each nine-week term. It is our hope that through close cooperation of parents, students, and teachers, failures may be kept to a minimum. High school parents are urged to call the counselor's office (601-656-6004) or Middle School parents call the counselor's office (601-656-4636) for an appointment for a conference with students' teachers about progress at any time.

RESTROOMS

All students are expected to observe acceptable rules of behavior in the restrooms. Loitering in restrooms will not be tolerated. Linger in the restrooms causes overcrowding and inconveniences other students. Stalls are designed for only one person at a time. More than one person per stall will not be tolerated.

Failure to observe these rules will lead to disciplinary action.

SCHOOL INSURANCE

The School System contracts with a reputable company to offer School Accident Insurance to all students for a small premium which is paid by the student himself.

This insurance provides very limited coverage and should be considered only a supplement to your regular insurance.

No student is required to take this insurance.

All claims must be verified by the teacher supervising the activity in which an accident occurs. Claims must be filed and bills presented within the specified time. All claims should be reported to the Principal before a doctor is seen except in a case of emergency.

SCHOOL TRIPS

All school trips must be approved in writing by the High School/Middle School principal on designated forms. This is for all trips except Athletic and Band which have prior approval.

A student shall be in the school for the major portion of the day for the student to participate in a school sponsored activity. (In case of extreme emergency, exception may be granted by the principal.)

SOFT DRINK POLICY – (Middle School)

No soft drinks purchased from the NCHS Band Hall, Field House, or Gymnasium shall be brought into the Middle School building. If a student purchases a drink at Break, it must be consumed in the Break area, and disposed of before returning to class.

SOLICITATIONS OF MONEY

Students may not solicit money from individuals or businesses for any school activity except when authorization has been given by the principal. In case of solicitation of a business, students will be given written credentials signed by the principal.

STATEMENT OF POLICY ON EQUAL RIGHTS

The Neshoba County School System does not discriminate on the basis of sex, race, color, religion, national origin, physical or mental handicaps. The system is in compliance with Title IX directives.

Anyone having a complaint concerning adherence to this policy should contact Mr. Gene Cliburn at 656-4484.

STUDENT DROP-OFF/PICK-UP PROCEDURE (High School)

High School students not riding a bus and whose parents bring them to school will be dropped off in the mornings between the old band hall and old field house at the rear of the building. Pickup in the afternoons will be in front of the high school office. Parents will enter the campus through the front west gate (next to the central office annex).

(Middle School)

Middle school students not riding a bus will be dropped off in the mornings and picked up in the afternoons at the rear of the Middle School building. Parents will enter the campus through the front west gate (next to the central office annex).

Middle school students signing in after 8:00 A.M. may exit vehicles in front of the building. Pick-ups before 2:00 P.M. may also occur in front of building.

STUDENT RECORDS – TRANSFER OF

The Neshoba Central School District forwards students' records upon request from the school in which a student seeks or intends to enroll.

TELEPHONES

The school telephones are business telephones and are not for student use. Students will be allowed to use office telephones only in case of emergencies. However, in no case are social calls to be made over school telephones. Students will not be called to the telephone except in emergencies. When emergency calls arise, they may be monitored. The High School telephone number is 601-656-3654. The Middle School number is 601-656-4636.

TEST - ADMINISTRATION AND EXAMINATIONS

A schedule for the administration of nine-week tests will be established by the Board of Education and included as a part of the official calendar.

The principal shall be responsible for establishing a schedule for the administering of tests.

All nine-week tests will be administered in accordance with the schedule as developed by the Board and Superintendent of Education. No exceptions will be made to the schedule.

Nine week tests may be taken later than scheduled, if prior approval is given by the Principal and only in cases of extreme emergencies. No nine week tests will be given early.

VALEDICTORIAN AND SALUTATORIAN

In order for a student to be eligible for Valedictorian or Salutatorian he/she must be a bona fide student enrolled at Neshoba Central high School on or before the opening day of school his/her senior year.

Senior class rank will be calculated by averaging each semester grade* from 9th grade through the 1st semester of the 12th grade. Vocational courses where 2 units or 2½ units are awarded will be considered as two grades each semester.

Any student graduating in three (3) years is not eligible for Valedictorian or Salutatorian.

* We do not average art, band, cheerleader, chorus, sports, physical education, stage band, T.A.G., or yearbook for class rank.

VISITORS

Parents who wish to visit the school are welcome, however, prior arrangements must be made for a teacher conference. They should come to the office and ask for a guide to show them the school. All visitors must report to the office upon arrival. Any visitor without a pass should be reported to the office immediately.

WITHDRAWAL FROM SCHOOL

If it becomes necessary for a student to withdraw from NCHS or NCMS, he should obtain a “withdrawal form” from the counselor’s office. Upon completion of the withdrawal form, it must be turned in along with all textbooks, at the counselor’s office.

All students must obtain this clearance before records will be transferred to another school.

POLICY ON RESIDENCE

As a result of the Residency Verification Procedure adopted as a policy of the Mississippi State Board of Education on April 20, 1990, each parent or legal guardian or other adult with whom a student lives, must provide to School Administration the following documents:

1. A copy of TWO of the following items of verification of residence. No post office box address will be acceptable. These items must reflect a street address or designated road address.
 - (a) Filed Homestead Exemption Application Form
 - (b) Mortgage Documents or Property Deed
 - (c) Apartment or Home Lease
 - (d) Utility Bills
 - (e) Driver’s License
 - (f) Voter Precinct Identification
 - (g) Automobile Registration
 - (h) Affidavit of Residence and/or personal visit by a designated school district official
 - (i) Any other documentation that in the determination of the school board will objectively and unequivocally establish that the parent or guardian resides in the School District.
2. If you are the legal guardian of the student, you must also provide a copy of the court order appointing you as guardian. If a petition for guardianship has been filed and the decree is pending, you must provide a certified copy of the filed petition for guardianship. NOTE: Any legal guardianship formed for the purpose of establishing residency for school district attendance purposes shall not be recognized by the affected board. Legal reference, Mississippi Code Ann. Section 37-15-31 (1989 Supp.)
3. If your child fails to provide the necessary documentation, he/she will not be allowed to attend the Neshoba County School District.
4. Any pupil admitted under false information is not legally enrolled and is subject to penalty.

**Notification of Compliance
With Laws relating to Asbestos**

To: Parents or Guardians of Students, Faculty, and Employees of Neshoba County Schools:

On October 22, 1986, the Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act (AHERA, Public Law 99-519) was signed into law. The law requires schools to inspect for friable and nonfriable asbestos and develop ASBESTOS INSPECTION AND MANAGEMENT PLANS that address asbestos hazards in school buildings and implement response actions in a timely fashion.

The Neshoba County School District has taken and shall continue to take steps to comply with these guidelines. All asbestos building material has been removed from the school plant with the exception of asbestos-containing floor tile. Due to the nonfriable nature of asbestos-containing floor tile, consultants advise that it should remain undisturbed.

As required by law, the LEA designee has conducted and shall continue to conduct an inspection of the school plant every six months. There has been no significant change in the condition of the remaining asbestos in the floor tile. No new asbestos has been found. The district will continue to inform the public of the status of the Asbestos Program. Copies of the ASBESTOS INSPECTION AND MANAGEMENT PLAN are in the offices of the superintendent and each principal and are available for public review.

Due to the action taken above and the plans set forth, the Neshoba County School District is in compliance with AHERA, Public Law 99-519.

If you have any questions concerning the Asbestos Program, please contact V. C. Manning, Superintendent of Education, 656-3752.

Notes

We the parents or guardian of

----- Grade -----
Student's Name

Did receive a copy of the 2007-2008 Student Handbook of Neshoba Central High/Middle School. We agree to familiarize ourselves with the information contained in this handbook which was adopted by the Neshoba County School Board as part of the official school policy for the 2007-2008 school year.

Parents/Guardian

Date _____

Neshoba Central High/Middle School has permission to conduct student surveys.

Parents/Guardian

Date _____

This is to certify that I have read the Policy relating to Alcoholic Beverages and Drugs of Neshoba Central High/Middle School on pages 12 - 14.

Parents/Guardian

Date _____

Please detach and return by your child to his/her homeroom teacher by August 13, 2007.

DECLARATION OF LEGAL RESIDENCE

**Neshoba County School District
Philadelphia, Mississippi**

A SEPARATE FORM IS REQUIRED
FOR EACH PUPIL

Pupil _____ Grade _____
 Last First Middle

Name of Parent or Guardian

Address of Parent or Guardian

Home Telephone _____

1. I declare my legal residence to be that given above.
2. I understand that a pupil is not legally enrolled in Neshoba County School District until this form is completed and signed by the parent or guardian.
3. I understand that a pupil admitted under false information is not legal and is subject to penalty.

I hereby certify that the information given above on this form is a true and correct statement of my legal residence and that the above address has not changed since my child enrolled in school last year.

Signature of Parent, Guardian
or other Adult

Date

Please detach and return by your child to his/her homeroom teacher by August 13, 2007.