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## **Booneville Middle School Principal's Message**

I want to welcome you to the 2009-2010 school year at Booneville Middle School. The faculty and staff along with myself wish is for this upcoming school year to be the best ever.

The primary purpose of this handbook is to inform students and parents about the policies and procedures of Booneville Middle School that affect them at school and our school sponsored events.

Please read this handbook and become familiar with it. If you have any questions at anytime, please do not hesitate to call me at the office at 728-5843 or e-mail me.

Sincerely ,

Todd English  
Principal, Booneville Middle School  
[tenglish@booneville.k12.ms.us](mailto:tenglish@booneville.k12.ms.us)

## **Resident Requirements of the State of Mississippi and the Booneville School District**

1. A copy of two of the following items of verification of residence. No post office boxes will be acceptable. These items must reflect the residence street or road address and must be in the name of the legal guardian:
  - A. Filed homestead exemption application form
  - B. Mortgage documents or property deeds
  - C. Apartment or home lease
  - D. Utility bills
  - E. Driver's license
  - F. Voter Precinct Identification
  - G. Automobile Registration
  - H. Affidavit of residency or personal visit by school official.
2. If you are the legal guardian of the student, you must also provide a copy of the court order appointing you as guardian.
3.
  3. Students living with adults other than their parents must provide:
    - A. Two of the items listed above
    - B. A sworn affidavit stating the relationship of the adult to the student and that the student is living in the home full time.
4. If your child fails to provide the necessary documentation, they will not be able to attend the Booneville School District.

### **Tuition**

In order for a student living outside of the Booneville School District to attend, the student must have a release from his/her home school district. Students living outside the Booneville School District must pay \$140 per year tuition for each child of the family

enrolled. One-half of this amount is due upon registration, and the remainder of the balance is due by 4:00 PM on January 8, 2010.

## **Fees**

Each student at Booneville Middle School is required to pay a room fee of \$15.00.

## **ATTENDANCE**

### **Excuses**

Two types of excuses for absences will be issued, excused (work can be made up within three days upon returning to school) and unexcused (missed work cannot be made up- a grade of 0 will be recorded). A student will be allowed to make-up their work for one suspension per year only. All future suspensions will result in a zero (0) being recorded for all work missed.

Definition of an excused absence as defined by MS CODE 37-13-91:

1. Attendance at an authorized school activity with prior approval from the superintendent or his designee.
2. Illness or injury that prevents the student from being physically unable to attend school.
3. When the county health officer or the state board of health orders isolation.
4. Death or serious illness of a member of the immediate family. This includes children, spouse, parents, grandparents, brothers, sisters, stepbrothers, and stepsisters.
5. A medical or dental appointment with prior approval from school authorities.
6. Attendance at the proceedings of a court.
7. Observance of a religious event with prior approval from school authorities.
8. Other conditions sufficient to warrant nonattendance, with prior approval of school authorities.

***\*\*No More than eight (8) absences per semester per class may be excused without a written medical statement signed by a physician.\*\****

**No absence shall be excused when it is due to suspension, expulsion or other disciplinary action. A student will be allowed to make-up their work for one suspension per year only. All future suspensions will result in a zero (0) being recorded for all work missed.**

## **Steps to Follow When Absent**

1. The parent or guardian will be required to call the office to report the student's absence from school. The reason for the absence should be stated. Notice shall be given during each day of the absence. Also, the parent or guardian must send a signed excuse for documentation the day the student returns to school.
2. If the student is absent because of a doctor's appointment, the student shall turn in a doctor's statement the day the student returns to school.
3. It is the responsibility of the student to schedule any make-up work with the teachers. Tests, projects, or any other assignment will be taken or turned in on the day the student returns to school if the student was present the day the test or other assignments was assigned.
4. All make-up work must be completed within (3) three days unless other arrangements have been made in advance with the teacher. If not, a grade of (0) zero will be recorded for any work not made up.
5. Make-up work can be made up at the following times:
  - A. Before or after school.
  - B. During the student's sports/PE period or study hall.
  - C. At a time convenient for the teacher.

## **Perfect Attendance**

Any student having perfect attendance at school on all legal days will receive a perfect attendance certificate from the district. *A student must attend all classes of the school day to be counted present for the purposes of perfect attendance.*

## **Student Tardiness**

Late arrivals to school will not be tolerated. A student who is less than fifteen minutes late for school will be considered tardy. After 15 minutes the student will be considered absent from school. When a student accumulates 4 tardies to school (1<sup>st</sup> period), the parent will receive a phone call or a letter will be mailed home to the parents to be signed and return to school. After receiving 7 tardies the student will be assigned extended day or 1 day ISS. In the extended school day, the student will write a two-page report. Failure to attend the extended day for tardies will result in a one-day In-School Suspension and the suspension from all school activities for the remainder of the nine weeks. This count of tardies will be per semester and will start over after Christmas break. The tardy bell for the first period class rings at 7:50 A.M. **We will not excuse any tardies for school.**

## **Daily Arrival and Dismissal**

Parents who bring their students to school must unload them in front of the main building each morning. Parents should subsequently pick them up in the same place.

Each day at 3 P.M. students will be dismissed to ride the bus or with a parent. All car riders will be picked up out front in the circle drive with the exception of 6<sup>th</sup> grade band students who may be picked up in front of the band hall. Those students who ride with a high school student must bring a note from the parent giving them permission to ride with that high school student.

## **Early Check Out**

Any student finding it necessary to leave school during school hours must be checked out through the office by a parent, someone on the sign-out sheet, or have a note from the parent stating who the student may leave with. *Any student who is signed out more than 8 times must have a doctor's excuse or an unexcused absence will be recorded.*

## **Student Phone Use**

Students will be allowed to use the school phone only if the student is sick and the principal, secretary, or teacher deems it necessary. Also, the student must remain in the office while using the phone. Student will not be allowed to call home for reasons such as forgetting homework or to go home with other students. Please make all arrangements prior to your child leaving home each morning.

## **Backpacks**

**Backpacks are not allowed.**

## **Grading Policy and Code**

Instructional management plans which include the state framework competencies and objectives will be used for instruction. The following formula will be used to determine a student's six weeks average.

50% Chapter/Unit Tests  
25% Homework/Daily Grades/Projects  
25% Nine Weeks Tests

**The following grade scale has been adopted beginning in the 2009-2010 school year.**

**A:** 90-100  
**B:** 80-89  
**C:** 70-79  
**D:** 65-69  
**F:** below 65

## **Exemption Policy**

Any student who maintains an average of 85 or above in each class for all grading periods and has 6 or fewer absences for the school year, will be exempt from the final exam. Exemptions are on a class-by-class basis. Students may elect to take the final exam. In addition to academic and attendance requirements if a student accumulates 6 tardies per class in any class per semester the student will not be exempt from final exams in any class. Any student who has been suspended during the school year will not be eligible for exemption status on the final exams. *Also, signing out to leave school early more than 8 times per year will result in removal of exemption for the final exams.*

## **Report Cards**

*Report cards will be sent home with the students at the end of the first, second, and third nine weeks grading periods. Report cards for the fourth nine weeks will be mailed home. One copy must be signed by the parent and returned to the school on the next school day. Progress reports will be sent home every three weeks and likewise need to be signed and returned. There is a schedule of when both report cards and progress reports will be sent home in the school testing calendar at the end of the handbook.*

**Active Parent is an Internet based program that allows parents instant access to their students' grades, attendance, discipline, and the daily school news. Any parent who wishes to get an Active Parent account needs to contact the school counselor or administration.**

## **Honor Roll**

*At the end of the school year, all students who have earned an average of 85 or above on all courses attempted (through the third nine weeks grading period) will be recognized at the academic awards program. Also, at the end of each grading period, students who have earned an 85 or above average in all courses attempted for that grading period will be recognized in our local newspapers.*

## **Promotion Retention Policy**

Students must pass at the mastery level (65%) Math, English, Science, and Social Studies to be promoted to the next grade. 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> graders must also pass reading.

## **Visitors**

Campus visitors shall report to the office upon their arrival to school to receive a visitor's pass and be directed to the proper place.

## **Parent Conferences**

Parents are welcome and encouraged to set up a parent/teacher conference to discuss their child's educational progress. To do so, you may call the school office and talk to the school counselor or the principal.

## **Schedules**

Students will be given their schedule on their respective orientation nights. These schedules will not be changed unless there is a conflict, an error, or it can be determined by the principal or counselor, or the teacher that the change will be beneficial to the student. Changes will not be made for reasons such as dislike of the subject or dislike of the teacher or fellow classmates. No schedule change will be made after the third week of school.

## **Flowers, Balloons, and Candy**

The school will not accept delivery of flowers, balloons, candy, etc., for Valentines. Birthday deliveries are acceptable.

## **Textbooks**

Textbooks are furnished by the state of Mississippi. The condition of the book issued to a student is checked at the close of school year. Each student is responsible for the book while it is in his or her possession. The Mississippi State Law requires the teachers to collect for a damaged book and for the loss of a book.

## **Library Services**

Students may visit the library with a teacher, a class, or by themselves with an official hall pass. Any book checked out to a student is the responsibility of that student. Lost or damaged books are subject to a fine/cost of the book.

## **Pledge of Allegiance to the U.S. Flag**

The Board of Trustees of the Public School of this state shall require the teachers under their control to have all pupils repeat the oath of allegiance to the flag of the United States of America Daily.

**MS Code 37-13-7**

## **DRESS CODE**

Clothing and general appearance are to be appropriate for school. Cleanliness and good grooming are essential for appropriate appearance. There is a definite correlation between proper grooming, dress, and good conduct. Student's dress should be in keeping with the following principles:

1. Any clothing considered by the principal or his designee to be too revealing shall not be worn! School officials will determine the appropriateness of clothing and cleanliness.
2. Shoes or sandals shall be worn at all times, and they must be worn properly. (Ex. Tied and Strapped).
3. Clothing which exposes the midriff shall not be worn.
4. Tank tops, muscle shirts, sun-dresses, halter-tops, or see through clothing shall not be worn.
5. Clothing that is considered pajamas shall not be worn
6. Clothing with vulgar, indecent, or suggestive writing shall not be worn. No clothing with writing across the rear or below the waist shall be worn.
7. Backless or low-cut tops or dresses shall not be worn.
8. Proper undergarments must be worn and not exposed
9. Shorts, skirts, and dresses must touch the top of the knees.

10. Clothing making reference to alcohol, drugs, or tobacco products shall not be worn.
11. Pants must be worn at the waist. Belts and suspenders shall be buckled.
12. All Males' Shirttails that extend below the zipper of the pants must be tucked in.
13. No coats that reach below the waist shall or clothing that could hide contraband and be hazard to themselves or others can be worn.
14. Jerseys cannot be worn.
15. *Gym shorts, sweat pants, and other athletic attire shall not be worn during the school day.*
16. All clothing must be worn in the manner in which it was designed to be worn.

### **Accessories**

17. Clothing and jewelry that could cause a disturbance or interfere with the instructional program will not be allowed. In addition, clothing and jewelry that could cause a safety or health hazard will not be allowed.
18. Clothing, accessories, or manner of grooming which by nature of its color, arrangement, trademark, symbol, or any other attribute that indicates or implies membership, affiliation, or association with gangs or gang activity is prohibited. No towels, shoestrings, wristbands, arm bands, rubber bands, or bracelets that are not considered jewelry, or rolled up pants shall be worn.
19. Sunglasses shall not be worn inside the building including on top of the head.
20. Hats, caps, head-dress, and bandannas shall not be worn on school property or brought into the building throughout the day.

### **Consequences**

Any student who violates this code shall be subject to the following disciplinary actions:

1. **First offense**—Parents called and problem corrected.
2. **Second offense and each one thereafter**- Immediate in school suspension.

### **Metal Detectors**

In an effort to promote the safety of the students, teachers, administrators, and other employees of this school district, and to discourage violation of state laws and school policy, metal detectors either stationary or hand-held or both, shall be used on a random basis at each school building and school facility in this school district.

The principal in each school or their designee shall be responsible for utilizing the metal detectors in a random manner, and in such a way as not to discriminate on the basis of race, color, age or sex. If a stationary metal detector is activated, the person involved shall be subject to a further examination by a hand held detector in order to pinpoint the specific location of the object activating the detector. The person in question will then be requested to produce the object for inspection.

If the person declines to do so, and if such person is a student, the student's parent or guardian shall be requested by phone to come to school and participate in a further inspection. If the parent or guardian cannot be reached, and if such student continues to refuse to produce the object for inspection, the student will be turned over to the police, and face appropriate disciplinary action (i.e. expulsion). If such a person is a visitor, such person shall be denied access to the school facility or school event and the proper authorities shall be contacted.

Any student or employee who feels aggrieved by the action taken shall have the right to appeal to the school board.

### **Overnight Trips**

Overnight trips with students must be cleared through the office and the superintendent. The following arrangements must be made before leaving. Students and staff members who violate the stipulations below will be disciplined upon returning to school. In severe cases, parents may be notified and must come to pick up the student immediately.

1. No school trips shall be taken during a school day for a period of 2 weeks prior to exams or state testing.
2. There must be one adult chaperone per every eight students.
3. Boys and girls cannot visit each other's room unless there is a chaperone present at all times.
4. Students must be accompanied by a chaperone at all times.
5. All handbook rules are in effect for the duration of the trip.

6. An 11:00 curfew is in effect unless participating in a special event.
7. Students cannot visit other schools hotel rooms.
8. The sponsoring teacher/coach will be responsible for ensuring these rules are followed.

## **Discipline**

The following are forbidden on campus or during any school- related activity, or on school property:

1. Possession/use of illegal substance or alcohol.
2. Vandalism
3. Theft [More than \$100]
4. Fighting
5. Hazing/Initiation
6. Sexual Harassment
7. Verbal, written, or physical threats against students or teachers

The seven acts listed above are considered serious disciplinary problems. After school officials conduct an investigation, which may include requiring the student to display items at his access or in his possession, disciplinary action may result in suspension from school. This suspension may be in effect until appropriate school board action is taken or the student may be placed at alternative school. Local law enforcement officials will be notified if the need arises.

The following acts will result in appropriate disciplinary action:

1. Theft [Less than \$100]
2. Minor damage to school property
3. Cheating
4. Profanity
5. Lying
6. Violation of dress code
7. Aggression [either verbal or physical]
8. Inappropriate touching
9. Loud talking/ noises
10. Possession of radios, IPODS, MP3 players, electronic games, digital cameras, and video cameras.
11. Cell phone possession

12. Possession or use of tobacco
13. Gambling or possession of cards/dice
14. Refusing to follow directions of school personnel
15. Disruption of the educational process

**CELL PHONES AND OTHER ELECTRONIC  
DEVICES**

**\*\*BOTH POSSESSION AND USE OF CELL PHONES, IPODS, DIGITAL CAMERAS, PORTABLE GAMES, AND OTHER ELECTRONIC DEVICES ARE PROHIBITED AT SCHOOL. EACH TIME AN ELECTRONIC DEVICE IS DISCOVERED AT SCHOOL THE FOLLOWING CONSEQUENCES WILL OCCUR:**

**1<sup>ST</sup> OFFENSE-- \$10 TO BE PAID BY PARENT AND THE DEVICE RETURNED TO PARENT ONLY**

**2<sup>ND</sup> OFFENSE AND EACH OFFENSE THEREAFTER— \$25 TO BE PAID BY PARENT AND THE DEVICE RETURNED TO PARENT ONLY**

**Consequences for Disobeying Rules**

The consequences for disobeying rules will be determined by the appropriate school official. Some of the consequences used are parent/student conferences, detention, work assignments, corporal punishment, in-school suspension, out of school suspension, expulsion, and placement at alternative school. When a student has been placed at alternative school, they must attend there a minimum of nine weeks. If this is at the end of the year, and the nine weeks requirement has not been met, then the student will begin the next school year at alternative school.

*Any student placed in in school suspension will not be allowed to participate in any extracurricular activities until they have completed their time in ISS. This rule includes practice.*

### **Suspension of Pupils**

The superintendent and principal of a school shall have the power to suspend a student for good cause or for any reason for which the student might be suspended, dismissed, or expelled by the school board. This action shall be subject to review by the school board. If the parent of the student feels aggrieved by the action taken by school officials, then they have the right to a due process hearing. The parent shall be advised of this right by the principal or superintendent and the proper form shall be provided for requesting such a hearing. This is covered in Code 37-97-1 of the State Department handbook.

### **Suspension, Expulsion or Alternative Placement of Students**

The school superintendent, principal and school board shall have the authority to suspend or to expel a pupil or to change the placement of a pupil to the school district's alternative school or homebound program for misconduct in the school or on school property, as defined in Section 37-11-29, on the road to and from school, or at any school-related activity or event, or for conduct occurring on property other than school property or other than at a school-related activity or even when such school superintendent or principal renders that pupil's presence in the classroom a disruption to the educational environment of the school or a detriment to the best interest and welfare of the pupils and teacher of such class as a whole.

**Sections 37-7-301, 37-9-71, and 37-13-92 amended in 2000.**

### **Drugs and Alcohol**

The Board of Trustees has adopted the following regarding alcohol and drugs:

1. Students responsible in any way for drugs or alcohol being in a school building, on a bus, on school property, or on a school sponsored trip will be suspended from school and placed at alternative school for a minimum of nine weeks.
2. Students under the influence of alcohol or drugs at school or at a school sponsored event or trip shall be suspended from school and placed at alternative school.

3. Possession of these substances includes student lockers, automobiles that they drive to school, or any other of their possession.

### **Sexual Harassment (37-11-55)**

Sexual harassment is a serious offense. Any student who considers him or herself to be sexually harassed should report this to a teacher, counselor, or administrator immediately.

### ***Sexual Misconduct***

The Booneville School District supports each student's right to be free from inappropriate sexual acts from staff or students at school or school functions.

Inappropriate sexual acts include, but are not limited to those acts specifically defined as a crime pursuant to the Mississippi Code of 1972, as amended with federal law. Other sexual acts may also be inappropriate sexual acts, if they are of such nature that would reasonably offend the recipient of such act, considering the context of the act, the age of the students, the degree the recipient engaged in similar conduct, and other relevant factors in each case.

A student engaging in inappropriate sexual acts may be suspended, expelled, or placed in the alternative school program or otherwise disciplined consistent with due process.

All allegations of physical abuse and sexual harassment will be reported by the student to his or her immediate teacher, or counselor. All allegations of physical abuse and sexual harassment between all other members of the district shall be reported to the principal. Provided, further, however, all allegations of physical abuse and sexual harassment perpetrated by the principal shall be reported to the Superintendent of Education.

### **School Violence Prevention Act**

Effective July 2, 1994, Section 97-37-17, Mississippi Code of 1972, was amended to make it a felony for any person to possess or carry any gun, rifle, pistol, or other firearm of any kind, any dynamite,

cartridge, bone, mine or powerful explosives on educational property; and to make it a misdemeanor for any person to possess or carry any BB gun, air rifle, air pistol, bowie knife, dirk, dagger, slingshot, leaded cane, switchblade knife, blackjack, metallic knucks, razors, razor blades, or any sharp pointed or edged instrument on education property.

#### **Fighting at school or school events**

Fighting at school or at school-sponsored events will not be tolerated. Anyone fighting will be suspended from school for a minimum of three days. A second fight may result in a ten day suspension from school. A third fight may lead to expulsion and placement at alternative school. A student may be placed at alternative school on the first offense if the fight is considered violent enough or if the student refuses to stop fighting when the teacher(s) try to break it up. This also includes the use of vulgar language by the student.

## **Bus Regulations School Bus Policy**

Students who live one or more miles from Booneville Middle School are entitled to transportation at public expense. Students who ride buses are responsible to the driver while they are on the bus. Should a student misbehave, they will be reported to the principal for disciplinary action. A student will not ride the bus to school and then leave campus. It shall be unlawful for any individual, other than a student scheduled to be a passenger upon that particular bus, a member of the public school administration or faculty, or a law enforcement official, to directly or indirectly interface in any way with passenger ingress and egress or the operation, including unauthorized boarding thereof, of a bus used in public school student transportation unless permission has been obtained as prescribed by pertinent rules and regulations promulgated by the State Board of Education or the local school authorities.

The following general instructions are given to students who ride buses:

1. Be at your assigned loading zone on time.
2. Exercise extreme caution in getting to and from your assigned stop.
3. Look in both directions before crossing any roadway.
4. Always cross in front of the bus and wait on your signal from the driver.
5. Talk to your friends in a normal tone. Do not shout.
6. Keep head, hands, and other articles inside the bus.
7. Do not bring unauthorized articles on the bus.
8. Follow the driver's instructions.
9. Treat the driver with respect and courtesy.

The driver is empowered to enforce the regulations by reporting all violations to the principal. If violations occur, the bus driver will present to the principal a transportation referral form. The following will be used as a procedure for handling violations of bus rules:

1. 1<sup>st</sup> offense—Parent will either receive a phone call or a written notice sent home with the student or in the mail.
2. 2<sup>nd</sup> offense—The child will be removed from the bus for five days and the parents notified.
3. 3<sup>rd</sup> offense—The child will be removed from the bus for ten days and the parents notified.
4. 4<sup>th</sup> offense—A recommendation will be made to the school board to permanently remove the student from riding all buses. The parents will be notified of the recommendation to the school board and of their decision.

Riding a bus is a privilege that can be taken away from students by suspension from riding the bus if the student's conduct becomes a problem.

#### **Permission to Ride a Different Bus:**

Any student who wishes to ride a different bus than they normally do is required to bring a note signed by their parents or guardians. Also, the note must be verified by a phone call to the office by the

parent during the school day. The student will then present the note to the bus driver.

## **SERVICES**

### **Guidance Services**

The guidance program is operated under the direction of one full time counselor. She confers with parents and students concerning scheduling, vocation, and educational plans, academic achievement, interprets data from tests, and assists the student with personal and individual counseling. Guidance is an essential part of the educational program that is available to students, parents, and teachers on a continuing basis. Students are encouraged to see their counselor at any time a need arises.

### **Student Records**

Booneville Middle School collects, maintains, and disseminates student records in compliance with Mississippi Codes 37-3-49, 37-15-3, and the family educational rights and privacy act of 1974.

Parents may set up an appointment with the counselor if they desire to see their son or daughter's records.

### **School Lunch and Breakfast**

The Booneville School District subscribes to Public Law 94-105, requiring students to be offered five food items for a lunch plate. Students must choose a minimum of three of the five items for the lunch to be eligible for reimbursement.

For a breakfast plate to be reimbursable, a student shall choose three of the four food items offered.

School breakfast and lunch may be paid in advance on Monday only. Breakfast and lunches may be paid daily if preferred. Breakfast- \$1.00 paid and \$.30 reduced. Lunches \$2.00 paid- \$.40 reduced. Meals may not be charged.

Applications for free and reduced meals will be sent home on the first day of school with the students. These forms are to be completed and signed by the parent. Any child who does not have an application on file from the previous year will have to pay until they have one on file.

Students may bring their lunch from home and purchase milk products from the cafeteria. No food deliveries from outside commercial establishments are allowed.

## **SCHOOLBOARD POLICIES**

### **Student Conduct**

#### **Expulsion, Suspension or Alternative Placement of Pupils**

- A. Automatic Expulsion: As provided by 37-11-8, Mississippi Code of 1972 as amended, possession of a weapon or controlled substance shall result in automatic expulsion.**

#### **Possession of controlled substances and possessions of guns, and weapons school property or at school activities.**

Any student in any school in the Booneville School District who possesses on any school property any controlled substances in violation of the Uniform Controlled Substances Law, a knife, a handgun, other firearm or any other instrument considered to be dangerous and capable of causing bodily harm or who commits a violent act on school property shall be subject to automatic expulsion for a period of one calendar year by the superintendent or principal of the school in which the student is enrolled; provided however, that the superintendent shall be authorized to modify the period of time for such expulsion on a case by case basis, subject to approval by the Board of Trustees, such expulsion shall take effect immediately subject to constitutional rights of due process, which shall include the student's right to appeal such expulsion to the School Board of Trustees.

School property shall mean school buildings, buses, school campus, grounds and recreational areas, athletic fields and any other property owned or used by the Booneville School District for the administration of public activities or during a school related or sponsored activity whether or not said activity is on or off of school property. Knife, handgun, other firearms or any other instrument considered to be dangerous and capable of causing bodily harm shall include the following: any gun, shot gun, rifle, pistol, or other firearm of any kind or

any dynamite, cartridge, bomb, grenade, mine or powerful explosive, any BB gun, air rifle, air pistol, Bowie knife, dirk, dagger, sling shot, leaded cane, switch blade knife, black jack, metallic knuckles, razors and razor blades (except solely for personal shaving) and any other sharp point instrument, except instructional supplies.

**B. Suspension or Expulsion for Other Misconduct:**

The superintendent and the principal shall have the power to suspend any pupil for good cause, including misconduct at school or on school property as defined by 37-11-29, Mississippi Code of 1972 as amended, on the road to and from school, or any school related activity or event, or conduct occurring on property other than school property or other than at a school related activity or event when such conduct by a pupil in the determination of the superintendent or principal, renders that pupil's presence in the classroom a disruption to the educational environment of the school or a detriment to the best interest and welfare of the pupils and teachers of such class as a whole, or for any reason for which such pupil might be suspended, dismissed or expelled by the school board. However, such act of the superintendent or principal shall be subject to review by and the approval or disapproval of the school board. If the parent, guardian or other person having custody of any child shall feel aggrieved by the suspension or dismissal of that child, then such parent, guardian or other person shall have the right to a due process hearing. The parent or guardian of the child shall be advised of this right to a hearing and shall be provided the proper form for requesting such a hearing.

Misconduct on school property as defined in 37-11-29 of the Mississippi Code of 1972 as amended as follows:

1. Possession or use of a deadly weapon as defined in Mississippi Code 97-31-1
2. Possession, sale or use of any controlled substance
3. Aggravated assault as defined in Mississippi Code of 1972 as amended 97-3-7
4. Simple assault upon any school employee, as defined in Mississippi Code of 1972 as amended 93-3-7
5. Rape, as defined under Mississippi law;

6. Sexual battery, as defined under Mississippi law;
7. Murder, as defined under Mississippi law
8. Kidnapping, as defined under Mississippi law;
9. Touching, fondling, handling, etc. a child for lustful purposes as defined in 97-5-23 of Mississippi Code of 1972 as Amended
10. If any pupil shall willfully destroy, cut, deface, or damage any school building, equipment or other school property, such pupil shall be liable for suspension or expulsion and such pupil's parents or guardians or person who has custody shall be liable for all damages caused by such students.
11. If any pupil shall report to another by any means that a bomb or other explosive device has been, or is to be, placed or secreted in any place, knowing that such report is false, such pupil shall be subject to suspension or expulsion.

In the event that the misconduct listed herein results in charges being brought against the pupil in youth court, justice court, county court or circuit court or any other court for a felony or an offense which would be a felony if committed by an adult the suspension will continue until the charges are dismissed by an adjudication of not guilty or a dismissal by the appropriate officials and in the event of a conviction or adjudication of guilty may result in expulsion of a pupil.

In the case of offenses which amount to a misdemeanor and any other misconduct, including disruptive behavior, the pupil may be suspended or assigned to the alternative school for such period of time as, in the judgment of the principal or superintendent, is appropriate for the misconduct, subject to the right of the pupil to a due process hearing before the school board as herein set out.

## **Extra Curricular Activities**

### **Sportsmanship**

Disruptive behavior at athletic events or rude behavior toward visiting teams and officials is frowned on by the MHSAA and could lead to our school being on probation or suspension. Students and fans are reminded that their behavior is being monitored by the MHSAA. Students are also reminded that all handbook rules are in effect during all school activities.

Students going on any activity trips must ride home on the bus unless the student's parent(s) sign the athletic sign-out sheet from the coach/sponsor that the student will be riding home with them.

### **Booneville School District Policy Regarding Eligibility of Students to Participate in Extracurricular Activities**

#### **Commission of offenses on or off of school property**

Any student who participates in any athletic or extracurricular activities who is charged with a felony or an offense in youth court which would be a felony if the student were an adult, any misdemeanor offense involving the possession or use of alcoholic beverages, the use or possession of any substance, which is in violation of the uniform controlled substances act, any offense involving physical violence, public disturbance, disorderly conduct, shoplifting, petit larceny, embezzlement or any other charge which involving an act of dishonesty will be suspended from participation in athletic or extracurricular activities until the charges are dismissed or the student is adjudged not guilty by the court in which the charges are brought. At such time, as the student is adjudged not guilty by the court in which the charges were pending or the charges are dismissed, the student will be eligible to resume participation in

athletic or extracurricular activities. The retiring to the files of a charge will not be considered to be an adjudication of not guilty of dismissal charges.

In any case in which a student is charged with a felony offense or an offense in youth court which would amount to a felony if committed by an adult and the student so charged is adjudged guilty by any court of any such offense, or is adjudged to be delinquent by the youth court or on a plea of guilty or nolo contendere, the student will be ineligible to participate in any athletic or extracurricular activities at any time in the future while a student in the Booneville School District. In cases in which the student is charged with a misdemeanor as above described, on an adjudication of guilty, a plea of guilty or nolo contendere, the student will be ineligible to participate in such athletic or extra curricular activities for a period of time to be determined by the principal and superintendent.

*Any student charged with a felony drug sale or possession, felony DUI, felony possession of a weapon, or a violent felony offense will be placed at the alternative school until such time as they are found not guilty or the charges have been dismissed.*

*Disciplinary action regarding any student charged with a felony offense other than those enumerated above shall be within the sole discretion of school administrators and shall be determined on a case-by-case basis, subject to review by the Board of Trustees.*

*Any student adjudicated guilty of any felony offense will be placed at the alternative school for the remainder of their time as a student of the Booneville School District.*

**Booneville School District  
Academic Requirements  
For  
Extra-Curricular Participation**

**MHSAA Rule**

New state guidelines are pending. Eligibility will be on a semester basis.

**BMS Academic Rule for Extra-Curricular Activities**

After each grading period, a student not passing (below 65) one or more subjects taken will be pulled from sports or band the next nine weeks. If the student passes all subjects the next nine weeks, they will be reinstated. The cheerleaders will abide by the cheerleading constitution.

**Club Participation**

To be eligible to participate in any club activities and trips, all students must be in good academic standing according to MHSAA and the Booneville School District Academic Requirements for Extra-Curricular Participation previously mentioned.

**BMS/BHS Cheerleading and Pom/Dance  
Try-outs**

The following are a list of the academic requirements to try out for Cheerleading and Pom and Dance for the 2009-2010 School Year.

BMS Cheerleading (Applies to current 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> graders): To be eligible to tryout, each participant must have a 2.0 overall grade point average for the current school year.

BHS Cheerleading (Applies to current 8<sup>th</sup> graders): To be eligible to try out, each participant must have a 2.0 overall grade point average for the current school year.

BHS Pom and Dance (Applies to current 8<sup>th</sup> graders): To be eligible to try out, each participant must have a 2.0 overall grade point for the current school year.

### **Asbestos Notification Policy**

Based on certified inspection it has been determined a small amount of asbestos is in the floor tile at Anderson Elementary and Booneville Middle School. This asbestos is non-friable (stable, non-airborne) and does not pose a health risk. A detailed management plan has been approved by the Mississippi Department of Education. A copy of the plan may be reviewed in the principal's offices or the central office.

### **Prescription Drugs and Medicines**

All prescription drugs and over the counter medicine brought to school must be surrendered to the principal's office upon arrival to school. Students that fail to surrender prescription drugs or medicines to the office will be in violation of school regulations and will be subject to disciplinary action which may include suspension. State law states that any student who has asthma can keep his/her inhaler on his person but must have a doctor's explanation of his/her disease filed in the office.

**Policy of the Booneville School District for Self-Administration of Medications by a Student of the Booneville School District**

**Section I**

1. The Booneville School District will permit self-administration of medications by a student if the student's parent or guardian:
  - A. Provides written authorization for self-administration to the school and;
  - B. Provides a written statement from the student's physician or health care practitioner that the student has asthma and has been instructed in self-administration of asthma medications. The statement shall also contain the following information:
    1. The name and purpose of the medication.
    2. The prescribed dosage;
    3. The time(s) the medications are to be administered and under what additional circumstances the medications are to be administered; and the length of time for which the medications are prescribed.
2. The statements required in subsection (1) of this section shall be kept on file in the office of the school principal.
3. The school district shall incur no liability as a result of any injuries sustained by the students from the self-administration of asthma medications and the parent or guardian, requesting the self-administration of such medication, shall be notified and shall sign a statement acknowledging that the school district shall incur no liability and that the parent or guardian shall indemnify and hold harmless the school and its employees against any claim relating to the self-administration of asthma medications.
4. The permission for self-administration of medications shall be effective for the school year in which it is

granted and shall be renewed each following year upon fulfilling any requirements of subsection 1 through 3 of this section.

5. Upon the fulfilling of the requirements of this section, a student with asthma may possess and use asthma medications when at school, at a school sponsored activity, under the supervision of school personnel or before and after normal school activities while on school properties including school sponsored after school programs.

## **Title IX**

Title IX of the education amendments of 1972 prohibits gender discrimination in educational programs and activities that receive federal funds. To facilitate compliance within the Booneville School District Mrs. Martha Spearman has been designated to monitor allegations of gender discrimination under Title IX. Any Title IX complaints should be forwarded to Mrs. Spearman at the Booneville School District Central Office at 662-728-2171.

### **504 Plans**

The Booneville School District does not discriminate on the basis of sex, race, religion, age, handicap, national origin or veteran status. The Booneville School District's Section 504 Coordinator can be reached at the following:

Lisa Kilgore & Martha Spearman  
201 N. First Street  
PO Box 358  
Booneville, MS 38829  
662-728-2171

## **Gifted Education Program**

The Gifted Education Programs are designed to meet the individual needs of gifted students and are in addition to and different from the regular program of instruction. "Intellectually gifted students" (grades 2 – 7) are those who are found to have an

exceptionally high degree of intelligence as documented through the identification process. “Artistically gifted students” (grades 9 – 12) are those students who are found to have an exceptionally high degree of creativity and an exceptionally high degree of ability in the visual arts as documented through the identification process.

The referral process timeline is May 1 through September 1 of each year. A parent, teacher, counselor, administrator, peer, self, or anyone else having a reason to believe that the student might be intellectually gifted or artistically gifted can refer a student. Once the referral form has been initiated, signed and dated, the identification process will proceed.

For additional information, contact your child’s principal or counselor.

## **BOONEVILLE SCHOOL DISTRICT**

### **INTERNET ACCEPTABLE USE POLICY**

The Booneville School District will be providing Internet access as an educational tool to all students and faculty for the 2008-2009 school year. This high speed access is provided by the Booneville School District and the Mississippi Department of Education. Our goal is to promote educational excellence by facilitating resource sharing, innovation, and communication.

The Internet is an electronic highway connecting thousands of computers all over the world. Internet services provide access to electronic mail, public shareware of all types, many university card catalogs, and massive databases on computer networks at universities, government agencies, and private industry.

Along with Internet access to computers and people all over the world comes the availability of material that may be considered inappropriate and not considered of educational value in a school setting. We have taken precautions to restrict access to these sites by allowing our Internet traffic to be monitored by an Internet filtering system provided by the Mississippi Department of Education and by instructing our teachers and administrators on the importance of supervising students while on the Internet. However, no system is perfect. The Booneville School District cannot and does not represent that users will not have

access inappropriate material. Parents and guardians must consider this in deciding whether to permit their children access to the Internet.

## **RESPONSIBILITIES:**

Internet access is coordinated through a complex association of government agencies and regional and state networks. The smooth operation of the network relies upon the proper conduct of the end-users who must adhere to strict guidelines. These guidelines are provided so that you are aware of the responsibilities that you are about to acquire. In general, your responsibilities require ethical, efficient, and legal use of the network and Internet resources. Each teacher having access to the Internet will participate in a discussion with the district administration regarding acceptable behavior and use of the network. Likewise, each student will participate in the same discussion with a member of the Booneville School District faculty.

If a District user violates any of these terms and conditions, his or her Internet access will be terminated and future access could be denied. The signature(s) at the end of this document is (are) legally binding and indicate(s) the party (parties) who signed has(have) read the terms and conditions carefully and understand(s) their significance and agree(s) to abide by these terms.

## **TERMS AND CONDITIONS:**

**1. Acceptable Use:** Internet use must be consistent with the educational objectives of the Booneville School District.

- Only students and faculty that have returned a signed acceptable use policy and participated in a discussion of this policy will be allowed to access the Internet. No attempt to gain unauthorized access to the Internet is permitted.
- Attempts to obtain access to restricted sites, servers, files, databases, etc. are prohibited. Unauthorized access to other systems (e.g. "hacking") is prohibited.
- Use of Internet games, MUDS (Multi User Dungeons), and IRCs (Internet Relay Chats) are not allowed. This includes, but no limited to, MSN Messenger and Yahoo Messenger.
- Transmission of any material in violation of any law is prohibited. This includes, but is not limited to: copyrighted material, threatening or obscene material, or material protected by trade secrets.
- Personal addresses, phone numbers, and financial information shall not be included in network communication.

- Vandalism is not permitted and will be strictly disciplined. Vandalism is defined as any attempt to harm or destroy data of another user or of another agency or network that is connected to the Internet. Vandalism includes, but is not limited to, the uploading, downloading, or creation of computer viruses. It also includes attempts to gain unauthorized access to a network that is connected to the Internet.
- Internet and computers are to be used for educational purposes.

**2. Privileges:** Internet use is a privilege, not a right. Any use in violation with the terms and conditions of the policy will result in a loss of network and/or Internet privileges. An administrator may request that a faculty member suspected to be in violation of this contract be suspended from Internet access until an investigation is conducted. Any student suspected of violating this contract will be reported to the school administration and have Internet privileges suspended pending an investigation. Upon investigation, if the faculty member and/or student are found in violation of this policy, Internet and network use can be suspended indefinitely. Investigations may include, but not limited to room visits, email and file scanning, and remote access and monitoring. In addition, other disciplinary actions may apply in accordance with other school and district policies.

**3. Netiquette:** You are expected to abide by the generally accepted rules of network etiquette. These include (but are not limited to) the following: Be polite. Do not be abusive in your messages to others. Use appropriate language. Do not swear, use vulgarities or any other language inappropriate in a school setting.

**4. Services:** The District makes no warranties of any kind, whether expressed or implied, for the service it is providing. The District will not be responsible for any damages you suffer while on this system. These damages include loss of data resulting from delays, non-deliveries, mis-deliveries, or service interruptions caused by negligence, errors, or omissions. Use of any information obtained via Internet is at your own risk. The District specifically denies any responsibility for the accuracy or quality of information obtained through its services.

**5. Security:** Security is a high priority on computer networks. If you identify a security problem, you must notify the system administrator immediately. Do not demonstrate the problem to other users. You may not use the Internet to discuss or disseminate information regarding security problems or how to gain unauthorized access to sites, servers, files, etc.

## Photograph

There are times that pictures/videos will be made and put in the local newspapers/television or used for public relations reasons. If you do not want your child's picture taken or used please come to the office and fill out the appropriate paperwork.

### BOONEVILLE SCHOOL DISTRICT 2009-2010 OFFICIAL SCHOOL CALENDAR

DATE	DAY	EVENT
August 3	Monday	Staff Development
August 4	Tuesday	Staff Development
August 5	Wednesday	Staff Development
August 6	Thursday	First regular Day for Students
September 7	Monday	Labor Day Holiday
September 18	Friday	End 1st Six Weeks (K-4)
October 9	Friday	End 1st Nine Weeks (5-12)
October 12	Monday	Columbus Day Holiday
October 30	Friday	End 2nd Six Weeks (K-4)
November 23-27	Monday-Friday	Thanksgiving Holidays
December 18	Friday	End First Semester 60% Day End 3rd Six Weeks (K-4) End 2nd Nine Weeks (5-12) Christmas Holidays Begin
January 4	Monday	Staff Development (no teacher assistants)
January 5	Tuesday	Students Resume School
January 18	Monday	Martin Luther King Holiday
February 15	Monday	Presidents Day Holiday
February 19	Friday	End 4th Six Weeks (K-4)
March 12	Friday	End 3rd Nine Weeks (5-12)
March 15 – 19	Monday-Friday	Spring Break Holidays
April 2	Friday	Good Friday Holiday
April 9	Friday	End 5th Six Weeks (K-4)

May 14	Friday	Graduation
May 21	Friday	Last Student Day
		End 6th Six Weeks (K-4)
		End 4th Nine Weeks (5-12)
May 24	Monday	Memorial Day Holiday
May 26	Wednesday	Last Teacher Day

Student Days		Teacher Days	
First Semester	90	First Semester	93
Second Semester	91	Second Semester	94
	181		187

## REPORT CARD/ PROGRESS REPORT/ TEST SCHEDULE 2009-2010

There will be no homework in any class during nine weeks test. Dates for progress reports & report cards to be sent home are the following:

### First semester

**Aug. 27-** Progress Reports sent home (with student)

**September 17-** Progress Reports sent home (with student)

#### 1<sup>st</sup> 9 weeks test schedule:

Oct. 7- Math, Science, Music

Oct. 8- English, Career, Art

Oct. 9- Social Studies, Computer, Health

**October 15-** Report Cards sent home (with student)

**November 5 -** Progress Reports sent home

**December 3 –** Progress Reports sent home

#### 2<sup>nd</sup> 9 weeks test schedule:

Dec 15- English, Career, Art

Dec 16- Social Studies, Computer, Health

Dec. 17- Math, Science, Music

Dec. 18- make-up test

**Jan. 6 -** Report Cards sent home (with student)

**Jan. 28-** Progress Reports sent home (with student)

**February 18 –** Progress Reports sent home (with student)

#### 3<sup>rd</sup> 9 weeks test schedule:

Mar. 10- Social Studies, Computer, Health

Mar- 11 Math, Science, Music  
Mar. 12- English , Career, Art  
**Mar. 24 - Report Cards sent home (with student)**

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**April. 8- Progress Reports sent home (with student)**  
**April 29- Progress Reports sent home (with student)**  
**4<sup>th</sup> 9 weeks test schedule:**  
May 18- Math, Science, Music  
May 19- English, Career, Art  
May 20- Social Studies, Computer, Health  
**May 21 - Report Cards MAILED**

## STATE TESTING SCHEDULE

Mississippi Science Test  
Grades 5 & 8

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March 3, 2010

Mississippi Writing Assessment  
Grade 7

March 10, 2010

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Mississippi Curriculum Test 2- (MCT 2)  
May 11, 12, 13, 14, 2010

I have read and understand the contents of the 2009-2010  
Booneville Middle School Handbook.

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Student Signature

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Parent Signature

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Date

2009-2010  
Booneville Middle School



# Student Handbook

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