

O. T. Bonner Middle School
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On behalf of the administration, faculty, and staff, we welcome you to middle school. This student planner is published so all students have easy access to information designed to facilitate a successful school year. It is essential that students and their parents take time to read these handbook pages. We strive to foster a partnership between home and school and look forward to working together throughout the year.

Christie Dawson, Principal
Curtis Gore, Associate Principal **Judy Cox, Assistant Principal**

The School Day

The school day begins with the arrival of buses at 7:15. No student should be dropped off prior to 7:15. Students will report directly to their homerooms or to breakfast. Lockers are off-limits to students until designated locker times when teachers will supervise students. Teachers will issue passes for students to shop at the school store. The school store is located in front of the auditorium. A 7:45 bell will signal the beginning of the academic day. Students not in their homerooms by 7:45 will be considered tardy.

Each school day will begin with the one-minute period of silence and pledge to the U.S. flag as mandated by the Virginia Assembly.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance will be recited in the school and at some school activities. Students have the right to refrain from participation in the Pledge of Allegiance, if the parent/guardian objects on religious, philosophical or other grounds to participation in this exercise. Students may not interfere with the rights of others to participate. Students may be disciplined for disrupting the exercise.

MOMENT OF SILENCE

Under the direction of the office, each student will begin each day with a moment of silence for meditation, prayer or other silent activity. Students will remain seated and silent and make no distracting display that will interfere with others during this time.

Attendance

All students are expected to attend school for 182 days, arrive on time, and remain for the full day except as limited by illness or a family emergency.

In the event a student is absent, parents/guardians are to call the school as early as possible on the day of the absence. On the day that the student returns, a note should be sent by the parents/guardian bearing the date of the absence, the reason for the absence, a contact phone number, and the adult's signature. A student that fails to bring a note or have the parent/guardian make contact with the school will receive an unexcused absence. Excused absences will be given for the following reasons: illness, court appearance, death in the family, religious observance, and medical appointments confirmed by a doctor's note. An administrator should approve all other causes for student absence in advance of the absence.

Students are responsible for all work missed during an absence. It is the responsibility of the student to request make-up work from teachers.

Students with numerous absences face the consequence of being referred to the Truancy Response Team.

Tardiness

A student is tardy if the student is not inside the doorway of the assigned classroom by the appropriate time. Students tardy for homeroom shall report to the office for a pass. A "no fault" process is used for all other tardies throughout the day. Tardies will not be labeled as excused or unexcused. Four tardies are given to each student per semester for which the only consequence is sharing information between the home and school. All steps in the tardy policy are outlined below:

- 1st Offense- warning given to student
- 2nd Offense-Teacher informs parent
- 3rd Offense-Principal or designee informs parent
- 4th Offense- Detention Packet 1; inform parent
- 5th Offense- Parent Conference
- 6th Offense- In School Suspension...
- 9th And subsequent Offenses- OSS

Checking Out of School Early

Students are allowed to be checked out by their parents or legal guardian, or someone else authorized in writing by the parent/guardian. Students must be signed out in the office. Students checking out early will be excused from classes under the same provisions listed in the **Attendance** section above. Parents/guardians are encouraged not to check students out between 1:45-2:15. Only individuals on the students' emergency card will be allowed to check a student out of school for any reason.

Student Assistance Specialist

The Student Assistance Specialist will provide services to reduce barriers to learning and help ensure the success of all students in safe, disciplined and drug-free schools. The role of the Specialist includes collaborating with school personnel, parents, and community agency representatives to enhance the success of students requiring assistance services. The Student Assistance Program uses a multi-disciplinary approach to integrate with other school-based programs. The Student Assistance Specialist is Margaret McLaughlin and she can be contacted at the following number: 434-489-5168.

TRUANCY PREVENTION

- Monitor students who have excessive unexcused or excused absences and refer them to the appropriate school or community resources
- Meet with student, parent, and other school or community personnel as requested to discuss attendance issues.
- Work with school and community personnel to help truant students resolve issues such as substance abuse, violence, behavior problems, etc. which can affect academic success

DROPOUT RETRIEVAL

- Make contact with parents/guardians, community agency personnel, etc. to help retrieve students who are withdrawn for fifteen consecutive absences
- Monitor re-enrolled student to help ensure continued attendance

Bus Change Request

Whenever it is necessary for a student to ride a different bus than normal, the student **must** present a parent/guardian's written note requesting the bus

change. The parental note must be presented in the Main Office by 8:30 a.m. in order that the note can be verified in a timely fashion. The note is to include: the student's full name, the date of the request, the substitute bus number, the destination requested, a reason and the dates of service requested. The note must include the parent/guardian's signature and a contact telephone number. Communication with the parent must take place before the request is granted. Bus changes are granted for emergency purposes only. No phone calls will be accepted to change a student's ride home.

Make-Up Work

Students are required to make up all work missed for any absence. The amount of time granted for the make-up will equal the number of days of absence. Teachers will provide a list of missed assignments to be made up when given advance notice of one school day. Assignments can be picked up in the office. Responsibility for securing make-up work remains with the student and cannot be transferred to the teacher.

Change of Address/Telephone

Parents/guardians should notify the school office any time an address or a telephone number changes. It is important that the school be able to contact parents or guardians throughout the school day if there is an emergency.

School Visitors

Parents/guardians are encouraged to visit the school. Upon arrival, all persons are to report to the school office to register and receive a visitor's pass. Parents or guardians are required to wear the visitor's pass during their visit.

Weather-Related Delays / Closings

Decisions related to the delay or closings of school are made by the Office of the Superintendent. Announcements to the public are made through the public media. Bonner Middle School does not receive early or additional information related to school delays or closings.

Student Enrollment Form

Parents/guardians are expected to complete and return a Student Enrollment Form for each student. The names, addresses, and telephone numbers for all persons authorized by the parent/guardian to take custody of the student, offer transportation, or act in

an emergency situation should be on the card. For emergency reasons, it is necessary for the school to keep up-to-date contact information. In the event of changes, the responsibility for updating the information belongs to the parent/guardian. Please make changes to the student enrollment form in person.

Medicine and Health Services

The distribution of any over-the-counter medication or prescribed medication at school is governed by state laws. Students are never to be in possession of over-the-counter medications or prescription medications. Students in possession of medicine are in violation of the Student Code of Conduct. Parents/guardians should bring the medicine to school in its original container and complete a *Permission to Medicate* Form. The parent/guardian of all students receiving medicines prescribed by a doctor while at school must have a form completed that includes the doctor's signature. Forms are available in the school clinic

State law provides for the proper immunization of all school children against childhood and contagious diseases. Parents/guardians are required to present proof of proper immunization. Failure to comply with the law is grounds for student removal from school until proper immunization has been completed.

Parent-Student Communication and School Telephone Service

School phones are designated for official school business. Neither parents nor students should expect that a phone would be available for routine calls. Parents should make prior arrangements with students or send information in writing. The communication between a parent and student by means of the school phone should be limited to emergency situations only. After-school meetings and activities are not deemed emergencies. Students not making clear plans with parents ahead of time will be sent home on the school bus. Students may not use their cell or a teacher's cell phone to contact parents regarding routine matters during the hours of 7:15-2:15.

Getting Home After School-Sponsored Activities

Parents/guardians are responsible for ensuring students have transportation home immediately following school-sponsored activities. Students must ensure they have a parent/guardian's permission to

attend an activity and must have specific knowledge of how they will get home from the activity prior to leaving for school that morning. A ten (10) minute grace period will be observed between the end of an activity and student pick up. Failure to adhere to this policy may result in the suspension of a student's privilege to participate in after-school activity.

School Pictures

School pictures will be taken on **Monday, October 4, 2010 beginning at 8:00.**

Food Services

Breakfasts and lunches are available each day for students. Parent/guardians may apply for free or reduced meal prices at the beginning of the school year. Applications will be sent home with all students. Questions or concerns regarding food services may be addressed by calling 799-6448 and requesting to speak with the cafeteria manager. No fast food in its' original container will be allowed in the cafeteria.

Celebrations, Flowers, & Balloons

Generally at the middle school level, parties and celebrations honoring students or teachers are not appropriate. The delivery of flowers and balloons to students while at school is prohibited. Presents should not be given or exchanged during the school day. None of these items are allowed on a school bus.

Schedule Changes

Any request for a change in a student's schedule should be addressed in writing by parents/guardians to one of the principals. Homeroom teachers have the forms.

Reporting Student Progress

Report cards are issued each nine weeks for core subjects (English/Language Arts, Math, Science, and Social Studies) and exploratory classes. Interim reports will be sent home the third and sixth week of every marking period. Parents/guardians are encouraged to review the reports with students. Parents/guardians may contact teachers for a conference if they have a concern.

Library Services

The school library is open to students daily from 7:15-2:15. Teachers may give library passes for students to use the library for research, to return a

book, to check out a book, or to use one of the computers.

Books borrowed from the library become the responsibility of the borrower. Failing to pay for lost or damaged books may result in the loss of library privileges.

Grading Policy

Academic:	A	100-94
	B	93-86
	C	85-77
	D	76-70
	F	69 and below

Conduct:	1	Excellent
	2	Satisfactory
	3	Needs improvement
	4	Unsatisfactory

1. Grading periods will be nine (9) weeks in length.
2. A progress report will be issued during the third and sixth week of the grading period.
3. A late work policy will be discussed by each teacher team.
4. Extra credit, bonuses, homework passes, retests, and the dropping of lowest scores will be at the discretion of the teacher.
5. Any work missed due to absence(s) will be accepted within a period of time equal to the number of days missed.
6. The consequences for cheating in any form will be a zero and referral to the administration for discipline under the Student Code of Conduct.
7. Each teacher is to inform students of the format that will be used to calculate grades in advance at the beginning of the grading period.

Awards

Students will be presented awards at an end-of-the-year assembly. Categories of recognition include:

1. A Honor Roll- all A's on the report card throughout the year
2. A-B Honor Roll- all A's and B's on the report card throughout the year
3. B Honor Roll- average of all grades throughout the year is equal to a "B"
4. Citizenship- Satisfactory conduct with no discipline referrals
5. Perfect Attendance- present for each day of the year. Student must be present for a

majority of time to be counted present for the day (parameters for late arrivals or early dismissals).

6. Outstanding achievement- in each core class, students earning all A's shall be recognized for outstanding performance (excluding A Honor Roll students).
7. Other awards may be presented at the discretion of the teachers and administration.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

All students are required to have suitable clothing, including socks and shoes, and are expected to dress for all physical education classes. PE clothing should be laundered a minimum of once a week. Students are required to have a lock for their PE locker. Do not leave valuables in gym lockers. Bonner Middle School is not responsible for stolen property.

Failure to dress-out for Physical Education will carry the following consequences:

- 1st Offense – Student-Teacher conference (Warning)
- 2nd Offense –Parent contact by the teacher
- 3rd Offense – Parent/teacher conference
- 4th Offense – Office referral for parent conference
- 5th Offense and all subsequent violations – Office referral which may result in a suspension

Family Life Education

In accordance with VA Code, and Board of Education, Regulations Establishing Standards for Accrediting Schools in Virginia, as the parent/guardian of a child in an accredited Virginia School, you have the right to be informed about the educational programs that are available for your child.

Although Family Education Life Education is no longer required for all students in Virginia public schools, Danville Public Schools has chosen to continue to provide this service to our students. However, parents/guardians have the right to exclude their child from participation in this program. It is the policy of DPS that a parent notify the child's school if the student is not to participate in the Family Life Education Program. The appropriate opt-out form is available at the school. In order to opt-out of Family Life Education, a parent must go to the child's school and sign the form in the presence of a school administrator.

A parent has the right to review the entire family life curricula including all supplemental materials. A complete copy of all printed materials and a

description of all audio-visual materials are available at the school.

Homework

Homework assignments are an important part of a student's education. The practice provides reinforcement of essential skills learned in the classroom. One cause for low grades is the failure to do homework. Students are expected to use the **Student Planner** to record homework assignments each day for completion that night. Homework is due on the day following its assignment.

CODE OF STUDENT CONDUCT Student Rights and Responsibilities

Student conduct for all schools within Danville Public Schools is governed by the written Student Code of Conduct as distributed annually by Danville Public Schools. As part of the Student Code of Conduct, Bonner Middle School is directed by the School Board to establish clear rules for acceptable behavior that include strong corrective action that is caring, but firm. The rules and consequences listed below should be considered guidelines to maintaining a safe and orderly school environment. As guidelines the consequences do not substitute for the professional judgment of teachers and administrators. The consequences are progressive in nature. Repeat rule violations will yield stricter penalties. Any staff member has the right to discipline a student who is not following school rules.

Students are expected to demonstrate good conduct as a condition for participating in school-sponsored activities such as assemblies, field trips, etc. Teacher teams or grade-level teams may establish criteria for attending an upcoming school-sponsored activity. Students shall be notified verbally of such criteria and a copy of the criteria shall be posted in each homeroom on the team. If an academic assignment or any grade is derived from a field trip or school-sponsored activity, students who are prohibited from attendance shall be given an alternate assignment of equal value.

Rules

The following school rules apply to all students:

- Students are not to bring weapons of any kind, or look-alikes of any kind, to school.
- Students are not to bring tobacco products, alcohol, or any type of drug or drug paraphernalia on the school grounds.
- Students are not to bring tobacco products, alcohol, or any type of drug or drug paraphernalia on the school grounds.
- Students shall not bring toys, games, die/dice, cards, audio players, video players, MP3 players, lighters, matches, laser lights or any type of collectibles to school. Students in possession of any of these items may be charged with possession of contraband. Items confiscated from students may be placed in the "June Box." Parents may pick up items placed in the June box during School Office hours. Items left until the last day of the school year will be returned to students at their request except those items underlined above. Items not claimed from the June Box will be discarded on July 1, 2011. There will be no administrative intervention regarding items brought to school in defiance of this rule and subsequently lost or stolen.
- Students are prohibited from using profanity, threats, inappropriate language, teasing, or using names unacceptable to other students. Students are not to possess books, magazines, song lyrics, rap lyrics, or any reading materials that contains profane or inappropriate language.
- Students are to avoid placing their hands, feet, or any part of their body on any other person in any way that is unwelcome or inappropriate.
- Students should not engage in the sale or distribution of candy, food, or drinks except as part of an official Bonner Middle School activity.
- Students should not distribute flyers, brochures, advertisements, invitations, gratuities or money without permission from the principal.
- Students should not bring cash money in the form of bills or coins to school above the amount necessary for normal school transactions. Examples of appropriate amounts of money would include the cost of lunch or an item from the school store. When parents find it necessary to send larger amounts of cash money to school, it is advisable to send the money in an envelope or to send a note bearing the parent's signature with the amount of money sent. Parents should warn students about telling other students that they are carrying cash money, and warn them about showing the

cash money to anyone else. It is difficult for the school to intervene in settling disputes involving cash money.

Gang/Gang Activity

Bonner Middle School will not tolerate any form of gang activity on the campus or on the bus. The Code of Conduct will be followed to its fullest.

Cell Phone Policy

Middle school students may have cell phones at school but may not turn them on or use them during the school day or on the school bus. During the school day, student cell phones must be turned off and left in their locker, or kept out of sight in a purse or book bag. A student will have their cell phone **taken** away if the phone is seen or heard, whether the phone is **on** or **off**. A parent must pick up the confiscated phone from the office the **next school day**. If the phone is taken away on a **Friday**, it may be retrieved on the following **Monday**. If the phone is taken away the day students gets out for a holiday, the phone may be retrieved the **first school day** the students returns. Any student that refuses to give up a phone when requested will receive additional days suspended out of school. A student who uses a cell phone during a testing situation will have the cell phone confiscated and receive a disciplinary referral for Cheating (Code 3-19 under the Standards for Student Conduct).

Disciplinary Responses for Cell Phone Use (School Board Policy)

- First Offense - Cell Phone Confiscated and Parent Conference
- Second Offense - Cell Phone Confiscated, Parent Conference, 2 days In-School Suspension
- Third Offense - Cell Phone Confiscated, Parent Conference, 3 days of Out of School Suspension
- Fourth Offense - Cell Phone Confiscated, Parent Conference, 5 days of Out of School Suspension
- Fifth Offense - Recommendation for Long-term Suspension

USE OF PORTABLE COMMUNICATION DEVICES

Due to their tendency to interfere with the learning process and in order to protect students from personal loss, electronic games, radios, tape players, MP3

players, CD players, beepers, and other paging devices will not be used or seen during school hours. Violations will result in the same disciplinary action as cell phones. Items will be taken away and must be picked up by a parent the next school day.

Dress Code

Our dress code is designed to support a climate where learning and academic achievement are the focus. It is based on comfort, appropriateness, modesty, safety, and affordability. Students are expected to comply with the dress code at all times except during Physical Education classes. No apparel, dress, or grooming that is disruptive to the classroom atmosphere or educational process will be permitted. No over-sized clothing may be worn. In any case where there is a question about the applicability or appropriateness of dress, the judgment and decision of the administration shall prevail. Clothing without logos is preferred, if manufacturer logos are visible, these logos are to be small and discreet.

Shirts: Any solid color or patterned polo shirt, turtleneck, or collared shirt may be worn. Polo style shirts are defined as knit with a button placket on the front chest area and a fold-over collar with long or short sleeves. Shirt tails must be tucked into the pants, shorts, or skirt at all times. Shirts are to be sized so that the sleeve seam rides on the shoulder. Jean jackets constitute light outerwear, not collared shirts. Athletic wear, including athletic suits, are not acceptable. Shirts are not to bear slogans, graphics or messages. Manufacturer logos, if present, are to be small and discreet. When desirable, undershirts in solid colors of short or long sleeves may be worn and when worn must be worn under the polo or collared shirt.

Pants: Black, blue, brown, solid color, plaid, or khaki twill, chino, corduroy, jean, or dress pants may be worn. Cargo, camouflage, or athletic pants are not acceptable. Styles that are tight-fitting, that are over-sized, that sag, or that include holes are not acceptable. All pants must be worn at the waist. Capri pants are acceptable provided these are not tight-fitting. Decorative stitching on and around pockets and hems is acceptable, however, pants are not to bear slogans, pictures, or messages. Manufacturer logos, if present, are to be small and discreet.

Shorts: Black, navy, solid color, plaid, jean or khaki shorts that extend below the reach of the finger tips while at attention are acceptable. Cargo shorts are

not acceptable. Styles that are tight-fitting are not acceptable. Shorts are not to bear slogans, graphics, or messages. Manufacturer logos, if present, are to be small and discreet.

Skirts: Black, navy, jean or khaki skirts that extend below the reach of the finger tips while at attention are acceptable. Skirts may not have a split above the knee. Skirts are not to bear slogans, graphics, or messages. Manufacturer logos, if present, are to be small and discreet. Leggings may NOT be worn.

Shoes and socks: Shoes must be worn at all times. No sandal, slipper, bedroom shoe, or beachwear is appropriate. Athletic shoes with socks are to be worn to school on days when the student is scheduled for physical education class. Shoes are not to be changed during the day for P.E.

Belts: Belts are to be worn with any pants, skirts, or shorts designed with belt loops.

Outerwear: Coats and all such outerwear must be stored in the locker during the school day. Light outerwear may be worn in classrooms during the day when classroom temperatures require it. "Light" outerwear includes thin nylon windbreakers, fleece, hoodies, and sweatshirts of waist-hip length. Light outerwear worn in classrooms may be solid in color or have a pattern. Light outer wear may not portray images that suggest drinking, smoking, gambling, gang activity, physical attraction, dating, or flirtations.

Jewelry: Any personal jewelry or fashion accessory that is a safety hazard or that is a distraction to the learning environment will not be permitted. Dangling chains represent a safety hazard.

Headgear: No headgear is permitted inside the building. Bandanas may not be brought or worn on campus.

Grooming: No grooming style or personal accessory that represents a safety hazard or that is a disruption to the learning environment will be permitted.

Special days: The administration may designate special days as out-of-dress code days. On these days, clothing will be worn that is appropriate for the school environment. After consulting with the school administration, coaches, club advisors, and directors of school programs may modify the school dress code on particular occasions. Jerseys, organizational T-shirts, and uniform parts must be tucked into the pants. Examples include: members of the school

band wear their uniform on concert day, or members of the football team wear their official school jersey on game day.

Cafeteria Conduct

- Teachers will bring their classes to the cafeteria in a single-file line without student talking.
- Students must wait quietly in the serving line in single-file. Students who get out of line will be sent to the end of the line. There will be no giving or receiving "cuts" in the serving line.
- Students will be given an assigned seat in the cafeteria and may not move unless reassigned.
- Students may go through the serving line only once. Care should be exercised to pick up all utensils and food items the student needs or wants.
- As students move through the serving line, they are not to touch food items. Students will be required to purchase items that they place their hands on.
- Students purchasing vending products should make their purchases prior to taking their assigned seats.
- Once seated students should raise their hands for permission before they may leave their seats.
- Students are expected to talk quietly to their immediate neighbors.
- Nothing is to be thrown or flicked.
- Games are not to be played at the lunch table. This prohibition includes arm wrestling, playing with sporks, etc.
- Students should not touch any item on another person's tray or from another person's lunch. Students are not to share food from their tray with others.
- Each student is responsible to pick up all trash and food whether on, around, or under the table regardless of how the trash or food got there.
- The adult on duty in the cafeteria will dismiss students to empty their trays. Students may not remove food or drink items from the cafeteria.
- Students will remain seated until their teacher arrives. Teachers are to inspect their students' lunch table area before having them stand. Upon the teacher's instruction, students are to stand and place their chairs under the table. Then, students may line up

in a single-file line to return to their classroom.

- Students are not permitted in the Teachers' Dining Room, nor are they allowed to make purchases from the vending machines located in the room.

Conduct in the Halls

While moving in the halls, students will obey the following rules:

- When moving with your class, stay in a single file line. There should be no talking.
- During a change of classes, or at any other time when moving through the hall, stay to the right. There is to be no running, pushing, or play. Students are not to stop and talk or visit with one another. Voices are not to be heard in the halls.

Conduct in the Restroom

When using the restroom, students will enter quietly, if necessary wait in a courteous way, and exit in a timely manner. Students should not enter the restroom while in possession of any writing instrument. Any vandalism or the writing of graffiti will be dealt with to the full extent provided in the Student Code of Conduct. Students will wash their hands before leaving and will deposit all waste products in the appropriate receptacle.

Conduct on a School Bus

While on a bus, students are under the driver's care and must obey the driver. Drivers may assign seats to students. Students are only permitted to ride the bus assigned to them and to embark and disembark at the bus stop assigned to them. Any exception requires a written request from a parent/guardian and signed approval by a principal. Principal approval will be denied if the bus has reached its safe maximum load, or if a special stop is required.

The bus is an extension of the school and is treated as such according to the Student Code of Conduct. Riding the school bus is a privilege that students may lose for misconduct. In addition to other school rules, the following special rules apply to riding the bus:

- Refrain from excessive noise
- Do not eat or drink on the bus
- Keep the bus clean
- Do not smoke
- Do not be destructive

- Stay in your seat
- Keep head, hands, and feet inside the bus
- Seats are not to be reserved
- Cell phones **can not** be used

Conduct on Field Trips

Student participation in field trips will be contingent upon good conduct during the course of the school year. During a field trip all school rules and the Student Code of Conduct remain in effect. Students not in compliance with the student dress code may not board buses or otherwise participate in the field trip. Students will be informed in advance of any special dress codes governing a field trip. Failure to cooperate during a field trip or trashing a bus will result in a discipline referral and the loss of further field trip privileges.

Conduct During an Assembly

Assemblies are a part of the curriculum of middle school and provide programs that are educational as well as entertaining. An assembly is an opportunity to learn formal audience behavior. Regardless of the type of program, courtesy demands that students are respectful and show appreciation. Clapping with the hands is an appropriate manner to show appreciation. During musical concerts, all applause should be held until the conductor faces the audience. Students are to sit up and not to slouch in their seats. Behavior that is disruptive or rude will not be tolerated. Examples of unacceptable behavior include, but are not limited to talking, whistling, or yelling out. Misconduct may result in removal from the program, loss of participation in future assemblies or events, and possible discipline referral.

Conduct with Adults

Every member of the faculty and staff has the responsibility to address misconduct on the part of students. Students are to show respect to adults by the use of the following courtesy:

When responding to adults, students should answer by saying, "Yes" or "No", or "Yes, Ma'am" or "No, ma'am" and "Yes, sir" or "No, sir." Just nodding a head or saying any other form of yes or no is not acceptable.

The following behaviors are some, but not all, examples of disrespect:

- Smacking your lips, sucking your teeth, "tsk", or rolling your eyes.

- Words, expressions, or idioms that end or cut off conversation. An example is the term, “Whatever.”
- Calling an adult out of their name or by using a first name to address an adult without the adult’s consent.
- Talking back when being corrected. An example is this scenario—
TEACHER: “William, please stop talking.”
WILLIAM: “I wasn’t talking! You didn’t see me talking. I always get blamed. I wasn’t doing anything.”
- Meddling in a situation where a teacher is correcting or speaking to any other student.
- Making a judgment of a teacher’s decision in the presence of any other person. Examples are: “That’s dumb.” “That’s not fair.” “You didn’t say anything to them!”

Following Directions (And Violation 2-8)

Students are expected to follow all reasonable requests by a teacher or staff member in the school. This request should be followed immediately and without argument or discussion. A reasonable request is defined as a request that will not induce harm to any individual or property. If a student does not understand the request or disagrees with the request, the student should take the following steps:

1. Follow the request immediately without argument or discussion
2. Request a meeting to speak privately to the teacher or staff member
3. Ask the school counselor to assist if a resolution cannot be reached
4. Ask an administrator to assist if the aforementioned steps do not solve the problem

Important Note on Behavior

One of our standing school rules is that students are not to place their hands on one another. Each year the administrators encounter a number of discipline referrals for physical confrontation or fighting where the students say, “We were just playing.” This common excuse will no longer be considered in the dispensation of consequences. This year there will be no tolerance for “horseplay” of any kind between or among students. The Student Code of Conduct defines Physical Confrontation (2-16) as

showing disagreement, especially strong disagreement, by pushing and/or shoving and/or striking. When handling discipline referrals of this kind, the administrators will accept the teacher’s observation and interpretation of what was seen.

IN-SCHOOL SUSPENSION RULES AND PROCEDURES

1. Information packets will be available for all students assigned to ISS. Character development, anger management, and SOL materials will be available for student assignments while in ISS.
2. Unacceptable behavior in ISS will result in students being assigned out of school suspension.
3. Students assigned to ISS will have scheduled restroom breaks at the discretion of the ISS teacher.
4. Teachers will be alleviated from assigning work while students are in ISS. The procedure for making up missed assignments will follow the make up work policy.
5. Students will be individually isolated during lunch to eliminate social contact with other students in ISS.
6. Students will not be assigned ISS for individual classes. If student behavior warrants ISS, the student **WILL** serve a full day.
7. Students will not leave ISS for books, assignments, or any other excuses.
8. Food, candy, drinks, and chewing gum are prohibited in ISS.
9. Students are not allowed to leave their seat or stand without the instructor’s permission while in ISS.
10. Sleeping is prohibited while in ISS. This behavior is not acceptable!
11. Failure to comply with these rules and regulations will result in further disciplinary action by an administrator which may include, but not limited to, an out of school suspension.

Health Screenings

The following screenings are performed in conjunction with state mandates:

- Vision Grades 3, 7, 10
- Hearing Grades 3, 7, 10

The screening process will begin 30 days after the start of school and be completed within 6 weeks.

Parents wishing to remove their students from the screening for religious reasons must contact the school.

- Height/Weight screening grades 1-10 may occur anytime throughout the year.

Students who are new to Danville Public Schools are screened for vision and hearing. New students K-3 are screened for fine and gross motor function.

Scoliosis

Scoliosis is a lateral spinal curve that can have adverse affects. The American Academy of Pediatrics recommends scoliosis screening at routine health visits at ages 10, 12, 14, and 16 years of age. If you would like your child to be prescreened at school, contact your child's School Nurse/Medical Liaison.

Child Find

During the 2010-2011 school year, the Danville Public Schools will provide for a free and appropriate public education for all children with disabilities in a variety of specially designed programs. Special Education and related services are available for persons, ages 2-21 inclusive, who have disabilities in the following areas: Autism, Deaf-Blindness, Deafness, Developmental Delay, Emotional Disability, Hearing Impairment, Intellectual Disability, Multiple Disabilities, Orthopedic Impairment, Other Health Impairment, Specific Learning Disability, Speech or Language Impairment, Traumatic Brain Injury, and Visual Impairment.

If you are aware of a child who may be eligible for services and is not receiving them, contact the principal of your school or the Office of Exceptional Children, P.O. Box 9600, Danville, VA 24543. Phone: 434.799.6400 extension 260.

Promotion and Retention Guidelines

Middle School (Grades 6 - 8)

Promotion and retention decisions are based on teacher judgment of student's daily performance, formal and informal assessments, mastery of the Virginia Standards of Learning, and other objective data. However, student mastery of the Virginia Standards of Learning is the primary basis for promotion or retention decisions. The final decision for retention rests with the principal and the Superintendent or designee.

The Danville Public Schools will require students who do not master the reading, math, science, and history and social science Standards of Learning (SOL) objectives for the current grade level or course, to attend summer school sessions, remediation sessions, and/or intercessions. Summer school instruction will be based on the Standards of Learning objectives not mastered by the individual student during the school year. As required by the Virginia Board of Education, students in kindergarten through grade 8 will not be required to attend summer school solely based on failing a SOL test in science or history and social science. In reaching final decisions about promotion or retention, principals and teachers will take into account all of the promotion and retention guidelines, successful completion of summer school, or other individual assessments.

Attendance and Tardies: Students should be present each day. However, students who are absent ten or more days or have excessive tardies or check outs will be at risk for retention.

Guidelines

GRADE 6 - Students in the sixth grade must pass all core classes (language arts, math, science, and US History I) and three SOL tests (reading, math, and US History I) or locally created alternate SOL assessment(s) to be promoted to the seventh grade.

GRADE 7 - Students in the seventh grade must pass all core classes (language arts, math, science, and US History II) and three SOL tests (reading, math, and US History II) or locally created alternate SOL assessment(s) to be promoted to the eighth grade.

GRADE 8 - Students in the eighth grade must pass all core classes (language arts, math, science, civics and economics) and four SOL tests (reading, math, science, civics and economics) or locally created alternate SOL assessment(s) to be promoted to the ninth grade.

Any eighth grader who is promoted to ninth grade will participate in the end-of-the year promotion exercise.

Concerning High School Credit Courses in Grade 8

Upon satisfactory completion of prerequisites, students in Grade 8 may attempt courses for high school credit. The list of courses includes foreign language and some mathematics courses. For students not receiving a satisfactory grade, parents may request the course be expunged from the student's permanent record by submitting a request in writing to the principal within five (5) days of the end of school.

