

Central High School Knoxville, TN

STUDENT AND PARENT INFORMATION GUIDE 2024-2025



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PHILOSOPHY OF PERSONAL CONDUCT

School Leadership

Executive Principal

Danielle Rutig



danielle.rutig@knoxschools.org

Freshman Academy

Assistant Principal

Jeff Black



jeff.black@knoxschools.org

Health & Life Sciences

Assistant Principal

Amanda Cagle



amanda.cagle@knoxschools.org

Automotive Services & Technology

**Assistant Principal
Bill Baldwin**



william.baldwin@knoxschools.org

Business & Design

**Assistant Principal
Colin Kiehlmeier**



colin.kiehlmeier@knoxschools.org

Academy Coach

Cassidy Taylor



cassidy.taylor@knoxschools.org

Athletic Director

Daniel Sharp



daniel.sharp@knoxschools.org

STUDENT SERVICES DEPARTMENT

The Central High School [Student Services Department](#) works with the school staff and various agencies to assist students in recognizing and solving educational, career, and personal problems. Counselors will meet in individual conferences or large groups with students to review and discuss courses of study, post-secondary plans, scholarship information, and other areas of concern. Parents are encouraged to communicate with the counselor whenever they have questions or concerns. Services that may be offered include: personal and academic counseling, orientation and registration assistance, college counseling, testing programs, and records maintenance. (Link to counseling website [here](#))

The faculty and administration of Central High School have high expectations of our students in both classroom work and student behavior. We consider ourselves very fortunate to have students who show pride in the traditions at Central High School, who show pride in their classroom performance, and who help uphold a positive image of our school within the community. The information in this handbook is designed to acquaint parents and students with the policies and procedures of Central High School.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

Plagiarism is a serious offense. By definition, it is the act of stealing and using the ideas or writings of another as one's own. Discipline for students cheating or plagiarizing on daily academic work will be the responsibility of the teacher. Parents will be contacted. Academic grades will be affected as well as academic honors, ranking, standing, and membership to organizations.

BELL SCHEDULES

2024-25 Bell Schedules

Regular Bell Schedule	Early Release Schedule (8:30-1:30) - Lunch in 4th Block
1st Block 8:30-10:00	1st Block 8:30 - 9:33
Class Change 10:00-10:07	Class Change 9:33 - 9:38
2nd Block 10:07-11:45 Homeroom/ Announcements 11:37-11:45	2nd Block 9:38 - 10:42 Homeroom/ Announcements
Class Change 11:45-11:52	Class Change 10:42 -10:47
3rd Block 11:52-1:53	3rd Block 10:47 - 11:51
Class Change 1:53-2:00	Class Change 11:51 - 11:56
4th Block 2:00-3:30	4th Block 11:56 - 1:30

Regular Lunch Schedule

	Location	In Cafeteria	Time In Class
1st Lunch	Freshman	11:51-12:15	12:22-1:53
2nd Lunch	LN, LS, US	12:37-1:02	11:52-12:33 & 1:07-1:53
3rd Lunch	Fine Arts, 109, Gym, ROTC, A01, A02, A03, A04, SV	1:23-1:53	11:52 -1:23

Early Release Lunch Schedule

	Location	In Cafeteria	Time In Class
1st Lunch	Freshman	11:57-12:22	12:27 - 1:30
2nd Lunch	LN, LS, US	12:28 - 12:53	11:57 - 12:24 & 12:58 - 1:30
3rd Lunch	Fine Arts, 109, Gym, ROTC, A01, A02, A03, A04, SV	1:00 - 1:30	11:57 - 1:00

ATTENDANCE

According to School Board policy, maximum effort is made in all classrooms to provide a quality learning experience each day; therefore, time out of a class represents a loss of valuable learning. Knox County's policies for attendance are designed to encourage students to take personal responsibility for their class attendance and tardies, to provide an opportunity for students to make up work missed, and to eliminate excessive absences from their attendance record.

When a student has accrued 5 unexcused absences, the parent/guardian will be contacted by the school social worker. After accruing 10 unexcused absences, the parent/guardian and student will be contacted by the school social worker to attend an S-TEAM meeting for attendance. The student will be required to sign a contract for improved attendance at that time. Further excessive absences could result in a court hearing before the juvenile judge.

To see a list of what constitutes excused absences, please see board policy at this link: [J-120](#)

BUS INFORMATION AND EXPECTATIONS

Bus transportation is provided for Knox County students who live outside the Parental Responsibility Zones (PRZ) for each school.

Discipline on our school buses is a priority in order to ensure the safety of all children. Bus transportation provided by the Knox County School System is considered to be an extension of the school day. Therefore, just as appropriate behavior is expected in the classroom, it is expected on the bus. Knox County bus rules are

posted on each bus; failure to cooperate with the driver may result in removal of student riding privileges and/or suspension from the bus. **(J-250)**

To view more information on bus routes, [please visit this link](#). In addition, there is a [Student bus expectation and handbook](#) available that explains the requirements for students who choose to ride the bus to and from school.

GUIDELINES FOR STUDENT MESSAGES, PACKAGES, FLOWERS, BALLOONS, ETC..

To avoid excessive announcements, interruptions, and the overloading of office personnel, only emergency messages or packages (such as forgotten lunches, Chromebook, etc.) from parents or guardians will be accepted for distribution to students during school hours. Students will be called to the office between classes only. On Valentine's Day, deliveries will not be accepted so that the educational process is not disrupted.

CAFETERIA RULES AND GUIDELINES

All food and drinks must be consumed in DESIGNATED AREAS only unless by special permission. Eating areas are to be left **clean and trash-free and trays properly returned to designated area.**

NO commercial food is to be brought or delivered to students on campus during school hours.

Visitors are not permitted in the cafeteria during lunch periods without administrative approval. All school behavior guidelines should be followed during lunch.

Students must remain in the cafeteria, or in designated outside areas during lunch periods. Students should not be in instructional or unsupervised areas.

No food and drink (except water) is permitted in classrooms or other instructional areas without teacher permission.

AREAS OFF-LIMITS

See "Unauthorized Area" in the discipline guidelines for consequences related to these areas. **Please read the list provided below carefully and completely.**

- Automobiles or other vehicles parked on campus during school hours without administrator approval.
- All parking lots and roadways. *Students must exit vehicles immediately once they arrive on campus.
- All rooms set aside for staff only (lounge, restrooms, office, etc.).
- Hallways, lockers, non-scheduled classrooms, and all stairwells:
 - during class time (unless in possession of hall pass).
 - during lunch (unless in possession of a hall pass).
 - library during lunch (unless in possession of a specific pass from the Librarian)
- Back stairwell in the South Hallways.
- Outdoor classroom without staff supervision
- Restrooms (unless in possession of classroom hall pass).
- Handicapped and staff restrooms.
- Auditorium/gym, football field, during non-scheduled time.
- Elevator without a pass.
- Any unsupervised area during classes without permission.

- In the building or on campus after 3:45 pm without staff supervision for a school activity. In the building before 7:30 am in the morning without staff supervision.

Gym area is off limits after school unless you have an after school activity and have a coach present.

HALL PASS

If a student needs to leave class they must request a pass through (Securlypass)
Any student outside of their assigned classroom during normal class times is required to have a class hall pass. Any student found without a hall pass will be escorted to his or her Academy Administrator to determine next steps.

Depending on the circumstances, being in the hallway without a pass could result in disciplinary action as defined in the discipline guideline.

Bathroom passes will NOT be issued during the FIRST 15 minutes or the LAST 15 minutes of class and the LAST 30 minutes of the day. Teachers have the choice of extending these times depending on the class structure. Teachers may also choose to limit the NUMBER of bathroom passes allowed each grading period or semester. See your class syllabi for specific information related to the class in which you are enrolled.

Any student that refuses to comply with a request from a staff member related to the absence of a hall pass will immediately be in violation of Non-Compliance with a Staff Request

VISITORS

Visitors must check into the Main Office and show a photo ID. It is the discretion of administration to issue a pass to visitors. School doors will be locked at 8:30.

ILLNESS OR INJURY AT SCHOOL

If a student becomes ill or injured, he or she should notify a faculty member immediately. The teacher is then to notify the main office. **If a student spends a class period in a restroom, this will be treated as an unexcused absence and class cut.**

If a student has a medical diagnosis that requires accommodations the appropriate medical documentation must be presented to the school nurse in the main office.

GUIDELINES FOR MEDICATIONS

No medication of any kind shall be self-administered by students, even with assistance from school nurses or other school personnel, except when medication must be given on a long term basis and is necessary to affect an improvement in, or control of, a health problem during the school hours. Medications such as Tylenol, aspirin, and other over-the-counter (O.T.C.) medications are included in these regulations. Any student who is required to take medication during the regular school hours must comply with the medication policy. [\(J-352\)](#)

FIRE, DISASTER, AND LOCKDOWN DRILLS

Fire and disaster drills at regular intervals are required by law and are an important safety precaution. It is essential that when the first signal is given, everyone obeys promptly and clears the building by the prescribed route as quickly as possible.

EARLY DISMISSAL

All Students Who Are Checking Out Of School Must Be Signed Out By A Parent Or Someone Designated On Their Emergency Card. The parent or legal guardian or others noted on the emergency contact card must come into the Main Office and provide photo ID before checking students out.

INTERNET ACCESS

Before any student may access the Internet at school, an application and agreement form outlining terms and conditions for Internet use must be completed, signed by parent/guardian and returned to school. Students who misuse or abuse the Internet access or computers will be subject to loss of privilege, disciplinary action and possible legal action.

[\(Guidelines for Acceptable Use of Electronic Media\)](#)

GRADING SCALE

Class % Range	Grade	Regular Quality Points	Honors Quality Points	AP/Dual Enrollment Quality Points
90-100	A	4	4.5	5
80-89	B	3	3.5	4
70-79	C	2	2.5	3
60-69	D	1	1.5	2
0-59	F	0	0	0

[Knox County Schools Grading Policy](#)

END-OF-COURSE TESTS

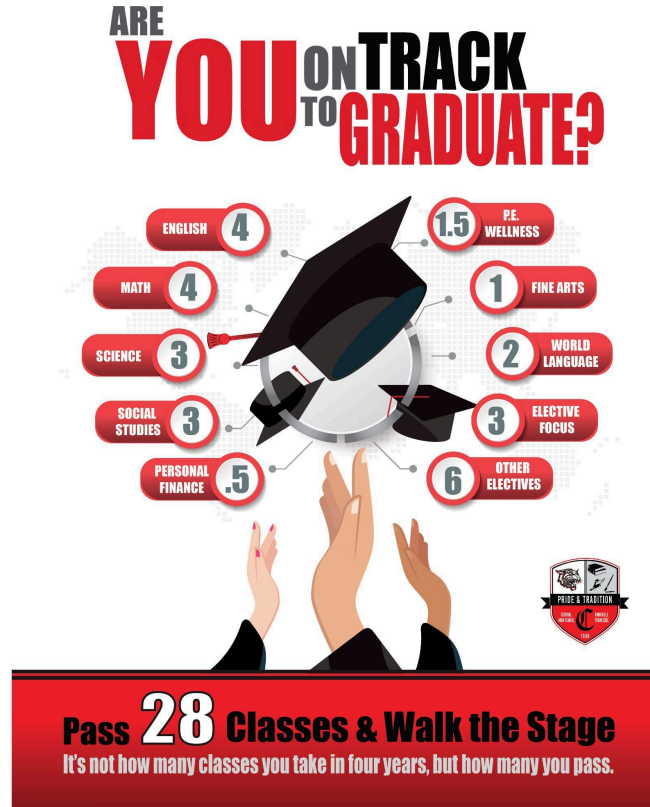
Examination dates for the entire school year are published well in advance so that families may plan accordingly to avoid conflicts on examination testing dates. **Our staff will not be asked by the administration to give examinations early except in instances that are verified emergencies.**

State EOC examinations will be given in English I, English II, Algebra I, Geometry, Algebra II, US History, and Biology. The results of these tests will be calculated as 15% of the final grade (in accordance with TCA 49-1-302(2)). Students will take KCS final exams for all other classes and results will also be calculated as 15% of the final grade. Students will not be required to pass any one examination, but instead must achieve a passing score for the final cumulative grade.

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

[Counseling Department Page](#)

A diploma shall be awarded to students who have earned the prescribed 28 credits, take the ACT and the civics exam and have a satisfactory record of attendance and discipline.



SECONDARY SCHOOL PROGRAM

The guiding principle for organizational framework at the secondary level is to provide support for tailoring educational opportunities to the interests, needs, and aptitudes of the individual student. The use of state and locally adopted instructional materials is required. High schools are supported with an Academy Coach to bridge classroom and industry connections for student experiences and networking.

High schools in the 865 Academies will have a freshman academy and sophomore career-themed academies including a team of math, science, social studies, ELL, and English teachers, special education educators, the freshman counselor, and the freshman principal. The team will share a common set of heterogeneously grouped students and will meet regularly to plan Tier I student supports, career connections, and interdisciplinary connections to the 865 Ready Portrait of a Graduate. ([I-190](#))

[Academies FAQ](#)

TEXTBOOKS

Textbooks are furnished by the state of Tennessee with the understanding that parents are responsible for lost, stolen, or damaged books. Report cards/grades will be withheld until Central High School is reimbursed. Textbooks will not be issued until all debts are cleared.

SCHOOL DAY

Upon arrival to the school campus, students are not to leave unless they have obtained administrative permission and signed out. Students must immediately exit personal vehicles when they arrive on campus. Students are not allowed to go in or around vehicles during the school day. Students on field trips must not leave assigned areas without permission. Any of the above may result in disciplinary action.

7:30 am- School building opens. Students are only allowed in the cafeteria or library.

8:15 am- First bell rings- students are allowed in all parts of the building so they may get to their 1st class. Students arriving after 8:15 need to enter the building through the main entrance.

8:25 am- Instructional day begins- 1st classes of the day starts.

3:30 pm- Instructional day ends- last class of the day is dismissed and students must leave campus.

3:45 pm- Students must have exited campus unless under supervision of a staff member and/or coach.

TARDIES AND LATE ARRIVALS

The student is expected to establish a habit of punctuality to school and all classes.

Students are to report on time to all classes.

- The teacher will document all tardies, both excused and unexcused, in the Aspen gradebook for attendance.
- Parents will receive Parentsquare notifications for every Tardy recorded.
- Reoccurring tardy will be addressed in SLC, and WCST+ meetings.

CELL PHONES AND ELECTRONIC DEVICES

Personal Communication Devices (PCD) and personal electronic devices including, but not limited to, cell phones, cameras, recorders, CD players, iPods, MP3 players, netbooks, laptop or notebook computers or iPads may be stored in backpacks, purses, or personal carryalls.

The use of the devices during class-time is forbidden. Improper use or storage of PCDs and electronic devices may result in confiscation of the device until it can be released directly to a student's parents and/or guardians. A student in violation of this policy is subject to related disciplinary action.

Teachers will provide a space in the classroom for students to store their phones (including headphones and/or AirPods) during class time. Phones should be turned off or silenced. Students will not be allowed to take their phones with them when taking a restroom break.

Students may possess PCDs while on school property. The devices may be used before and after school, during lunch periods and during class change times. At all other times the PCD must be in the silent mode. The principal or the principal's designee may grant a student permission to use a PCD during class time for a specific academic purpose or at other times for other purposes that the principal deems appropriate.

IMPORTANT NOTE: Students are prohibited from taking unauthorized photographs or making unauthorized recordings of others at school, on school transportation or at school sponsored events. This may result in up to a 4 day out of school suspension.

In addition to the parameters established above, use of a PCD or other electronic device to bully, harass or intimidate others will be subject to related disciplinary action. Using a PCD or other electronic device for any illicit activity including but not limited to take, disseminate, transfer, or share obscene, pornographic, lewd, or otherwise illegal images, photographs, or similar material whether by electronic data transfer or otherwise may constitute a crime under State and/or Federal law. Any student taking, disseminating, transferring, possessing or sharing obscene, pornographic, lewd, illegal, or otherwise inappropriate images or photographs of other students or any other individual, particularly underage, at school, on a school bus or while attending any school event or activity will be subject to the disciplinary procedures of the school district and reported to law enforcement and other appropriate State or Federal agencies.

Use of Personal Communication Devices Policy (J-240)

The use of cell phones, iPods and electronic devices with headphones will be allowed in the cafeteria before 8:15, during the student's assigned lunch, and between classes.

VEHICLE REGISTRATION

Driving to school is a privilege, not a right, and may be revoked at any time if students abuse their privilege. When a student is granted permission to drive to and from school, he/she agrees to abide by these guidelines:

(J-510)

- Be in possession of his/her own valid Tennessee driver's license.
- Pay the annual, non-refundable parking fee (\$45.00). The presence of a security officer at Central High School is in no way a guarantee by the school, or by the Knox County Board of Education, that either the school or the Board will assume responsibility for any damage incurred by vehicles parked on campus. It is the intent that the presence of the security officer will decrease the chances of vehicles receiving any damage due to accident or vandalism, but that cannot be guaranteed.
- Abide by all rules relating to student driving. These include, but may not be limited to:
 - Park only in a lined space in an area designated as student parking. .
 - Arrive promptly to avoid tardiness.
 - Leave vehicles immediately.
 - Do not return to vehicles after arrival unless receiving approval from the office.
 - Do not leave campus after arrival unless receiving permission from the office.
 - Observe the speed limit on campus of 10 m.p.h.
 - Properly display parking permit.
 - Maintain the volume on radios or other sound systems in vehicles at a level so that they are not a nuisance to others nor disruptive to classes.
- Every student driver must purchase a non-transferable parking permit designed to be placed inside the windshield on the driver side of the vehicle. In the event a permit is lost or stolen, it must be reported immediately. A replacement permit may be issued for a \$5.00 fee. Otherwise, the student may lose the privilege of driving.
- Student parking will be limited to the spaces available. Once this number is reached no further permits will be sold.
- If a non-registered vehicle is parked on campus, the vehicle is subject to being towed at the owner's expense.
- Students should use the steps next to the gymnasium when walking from the school parking lot to the main building.

EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES (I-170)

Athletics

Interscholastic athletics shall be administered as a part of the regular school program and shall be the principal's responsibility. The principal or his designee must accompany an athletic team on trips.

The Bylaws of the Tennessee Secondary School Athletic Association (TSSAA) shall regulate the operation and control of secondary athletics. ([I-171](#))

Central High School has a proud tradition of excellence in athletics. Although academics are of primary importance and participating in athletics is a privilege, an excellent athletic program can be a meaningful learning experience. Athletics enhances a student's opportunity to learn and to develop academically, physically, intellectually, and personally. Students interested in participating in college sports should start the NCAA process by the end of their junior year.

Eligibility requirements include that each student athlete:

1. must have earned at least 6 term credits the previous year.
2. must be in compliance with TSSAA eligibility.
3. must not be 19 years of age on or before September 1st
4. is permitted 8 terms of eligibility beginning in 9th grade.
5. must complete 3 subjects per term.
6. must pass a medical examination before participating.
7. must have a completed Parent Consent Form.

Student athletes are expected to maintain good sportsmanship, give respectful attention to classroom activities, and show respect for other students and faculty. Student athletes are expected to attend and participate in classes. An athlete must be present in school at least 3 hours and 15 minutes to participate that day in a game or practice. Student athletes who are assigned OSS will face athletic program consequences.

Practice schedules are determined by the coaching staff and student athletes should inform the coach if they will miss practice or a game. Any equipment issued to the athlete is the property of Central High School and is on loan to the student. Any loss of equipment is the financial responsibility of the student.

Students must have a current physical on file and complete all required paperwork to participate in any sport.

Athletic insurance coverage is for a secondary coverage that covers only after parents have filed on their insurance plan. Cost for a catastrophic/serious injury is assessed for each participating athlete. Athletic insurance is mandatory for all KCS athletes.

New TSSAA policy states that anyone ejected from a contest by an official will pay a \$250 fine. Individuals will be responsible for paying this fine, will serve suspension, as well as participate in a mandatory education program before they will be allowed to return to events at a Knox County School.

Clubs and Organizations

Student organizations are an extension of the academic curriculum and are intended to complement the basic instructional program.

The principal, in cooperation with the faculty and student body representatives, shall approve all clubs and organizations within the school. ([J-460](#))

INTIMIDATION, BULLYING, SEXUAL, RACIAL, ETHNIC, AND RELIGIOUS HARASSMENT OF STUDENTS

Knox County Schools prohibits acts of harassment, intimidation and bullying. Harassment, intimidation or bullying means any gesture, written on **paper or electronically**, verbal, physical or psychological act that takes place on school property and any school-sponsored function or on a school bus. ([J-211](#))

Students are expected to treat their fellow students with dignity and respect at all times on school property and during school programs and activities. **Students must report acts of harassment to teachers or administrators immediately.** The school will investigate any report of such behaviors, take prompt and fair action to resolve the situation and prevent its continued occurrence.

Students are prohibited from taking unauthorized photographs or making unauthorized recordings of others at school, on school transportation, or school sponsored events.

PERSONAL ARGUMENTS, CONFRONTATIONS, AND FIGHTING

If a student is having a problem with another student, he or she should report it to an administrator, teacher, counselor, or any other adult in the building. A mediation conference to settle the argument can be scheduled immediately. After mediation, students may be asked to sign a behavior contract. Upon observing an argument or confrontation in progress, teachers or students should immediately report those involved to an administrator. Restorative practices will be used throughout the process.

KNOX COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD GANG POLICY

Knox County Schools prohibit the activities of criminal gangs on school property.

[\(J-300\)](#)

MISBEHAVIORS AND DISCIPLINARY OPTIONS

The behavior code addresses the language used by students, respect for all school employees, fighting, threats, weapons on school property or at school functions, damage to the property of person or others, misuse or destruction of school property, drug or alcohol abuse, the sale or distribution of drugs or alcohol, student conduct on school property, conduct in classes and on school buses. [\(J-191\)](#)

ZERO TOLERANCE OFFENSES

In order to ensure a safe and secure learning environment free of drugs, violence and dangerous weapons, any student who engages in the behaviors listed in [J-194](#) shall be removed from the base school for a period of not less than one (1) calendar year, and shall be offered an alternative placement to complete school work. The Director of Schools has the authority to modify this suspension requirement on a case-by-case basis. [\(J-194\)](#)

SUSPENSIONS AND EXPULSIONS

Out-of-school suspension is considered an excused absence. Make-up work will be allowed. **If a Disciplinary Hearing is scheduled, the child cannot return to school until the meeting is held. Students under suspension or expulsion are not allowed on any Knox County School property and may not attend any school function. Failure to adhere to this policy may result in additional disciplinary actions and possible legal action.**

SEARCHES OF STUDENTS

If an administrator has a reasonable suspicion that a student is concealing anything, the possession of which is prohibited by law or school rules, a search of that student's person, personal possessions, locker, or car will be conducted. Permission for such searches by school

officials is provided by law. When deemed necessary, police dogs are used to search the building and parking lot. Parents/Guardians will be notified by an administrator.

(J-200)

RESTORATIVE LEARNING CENTER (RLC)

The purpose of the Restorative Learning Center (RLC) is to help students manage conflict and tensions by repairing harm and building relationships. Our mission is to work “WITH” students and away from doing “TO” students. Students are assigned to RLC based on discipline referral by a school administrator.

If a student refuses or disrupts RLC they will be referred to their administrator for further discipline. Students in RLC are expected to meet the same expectations set forth by the school.

OUT OF SCHOOL SUSPENSION (OSS):

This is a consequence given for persistent misbehavior of such a serious nature as to warrant being prohibited from school attendance. Students who receive OSS are subject to the following rules:

- The student is not allowed at any time on any Knox County School property.
- The student is not allowed to attend any school function, including, but not limited to, athletic events, dances, or school performances.
- **Long Term Suspension:** Any out-of-school suspension that is longer than four consecutive days is considered “long term.” A disciplinary hearing will be held before any long-term suspension has been given.
- **Initial Hearing / Disciplinary Hearing:** When information is received by the Administration indicating that a student has committed a violation that could result in a suspension of more than four days, meetings will be scheduled for the following purposes in the order given below:
- **Notice of Disciplinary Hearing**
 - Document informing parent or guardian: the day, time and place of the upcoming disciplinary hearing.
 - Document will also include the alleged violation as well as student signature verifying the form will be delivered to parent or guardian.
 - Support Team (S-Team) or Manifestation will take place prior to a Disciplinary Hearing Meeting.
- **Disciplinary Hearing (Family, Student, and Admin attending)**
 - To present information concerning the violation
 - To hear the student’s statement or statements of others who may have information relative to the violation.
 - To determine guilt or innocence.
 - To determine the appropriate consequences for the violation

SCHOOL COUNSELOR

Central High School has a school counselor assigned to each of the four academies. Each counselor is in place to assist students in individual academic planning and decision making, provide leadership in career development of all students, and coordinate and facilitate school wide testing. School counselors work collaboratively with school staff to better surround each student with layers of support. While counselors assist students in selecting courses needed for graduation, Central strongly encourages each student to be aware of his/her own academic standing. School counselors also work collaboratively with the Learning Center instructors to coordinate students in Recovery Credit and Dual Enrollment options.

SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICER

In addition to regular school security, School Resource Officers have been assigned to Central High School by the Knoxville Police Department. The School Resource Officers have full police authority.

SCHOOL SECURITY OFFICER

Knox County Schools has school security officers on staff here at Central. These officers provide support for security, searches, and other safety needs.

PUBLIC NOTICE

The Knox County School System affirms that it will comply with Title IX of the Educational Amendment of 1972, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, Title II of the Genetic Information Nondiscrimination Act of 2008, Title VI and Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, and Age Discrimination Act in Employment Act of 1967.

No person shall, on the ground of race, color, national origin, sex, genetics, religion, age, disability or veteran status, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any program or activity receiving Federal financial assistance or be subjected to discrimination in employment opportunities or benefits.

Anyone who believes that Knox County School System has discriminated against them or another individual may file a complaint. Knox County Schools has designated the following people to handle such grievances to comply with the law. Student complaints of discrimination on the basis of disability under the IDEA should be directed to Karen Loy, Director of Special Education, 865-594-1535.. All other complaints of discrimination on the basis of disability, sex, race, color, religion, national origin, age, genetics or veteran status should be directed to Cheryl Martin,, Federal Programs Director, 865-594-8009..

and/or

Title VI Coordinator

Tennessee Department of Education

and/or

The Office for Civil Rights

U.S. Department of Education

P.O. Box 2048, 04-3010

Atlanta, Georgia 30301-2048

SAFE AND DRUG FREE SCHOOLS AND COMMUNITIES

The Safe and Drug-Free Schools and Communities Act supports programs to prevent violence in and around schools; prevent the illegal use of alcohol, drugs and tobacco by young people; and foster a safe and drug-free learning environment that supports academic achievement. Without a safe and orderly learning environment, teachers cannot teach and students cannot learn. Students and school personnel need a secure environment, free from the dangers and distractions of violence, drug use, and lack of discipline, in order to ensure that all children achieve their full potential.

Knox County has established effective disciplinary policies that prohibit disorderly conduct, bullying and harassment, the illegal possession of weapons, and the illegal use, possession, distribution, and sale of tobacco, alcohol, and other drugs by students. There are crisis management plans developed for all entities of our district and the approved code of conduct is published in each student handbook that was sent home at the

start of the school year. Copies are available at the main office and library at each school and may also be accessed on our website www.knoxschools.org under the “Board of Education” link.

Board of Education policy, in accordance with state and federal law, prohibits the carrying of guns and other weapons on school property.

Under the Tennessee State Board of Education’s Unsafe School Choice Policy, any public school student who is the victim of a violent crime as defined under Tennessee Code Annotated 40-38-11(g), or the attempt to commit one of these offenses as defined under Tennessee Code Annotated 39-12-101, shall be provided an opportunity to transfer to another grade-level appropriate school within the district. Additional information regarding this option may be obtained by contacting Brian Hartsell at phone 594-1506.

KNOX COUNTY SCHOOLS STATEMENT OF COMPLIANCE

Knox County Schools (KCS) is an equal opportunity provider of services and employment. KCS respects, celebrates and encourages diversity that positively contributes to the community. KCS believes diversity encompasses but is not limited to: ethnicity, race, age, age, gender, economic circumstances, sexual orientation, physical and mental abilities, education level, philosophy and geographic location. The Knox County Schools will not discriminate or limit access to any educator, principal, student, or community member on the basis of gender, race, national origin, religion, color, disability, or age. The participants of this proposal are reflective of the above commitment to compliance. The resources of the Knox County Schools (TN) and their grant partners are broad in their support of the various needs of the students and families and ensure equitable access. At a minimum, reasonable accommodations are offered as defined by federal law. KCS will also meet the needs of participants’ if/when unique situations and circumstances occur. Support services include but are not limited to hearing, speech and vision services, physical access management, health related support for various limitations, curricular differentiation and advisement for multiple skill levels and learning sites, academic mentorship, and broadly focused guidance for students. The Knox County Schools (TN) continue to be committed in its support of all equity statutes as required by Federal law and actively pursues compliance on an ongoing basis. A formal grievance process that is open and accessible has been established for monitoring compliance and addressing concerns. Inquiries regarding nondiscrimination policies should be made to the Knox County Schools, director of Human Resources, 400 W. Summit Hill Drive, Knoxville, TN 37902.

CIVILITY CODE

The Knox County Schools’ Civility Code can be found in its entirety at [this link](#). It is applicable to all teachers, students, parents, and other visitors to a Knox County Schools’ property.

PHILOSOPHY OF PERSONAL CONDUCT

It is the intent of the Board to promote mutual respect, civility and orderly conduct among district employees, parents and the general public. This policy provides rules of conduct that both permit and encourage participation in school activities and communication between parents, community members and school district personnel. This policy also identifies those behaviors that are considered inappropriate and disruptive to the operation of a school or other school district facility. It is not the intent of the Board to deprive any person of his or her right to freedom of expression.

Knox County Schools and Central High School reserve the right to add, delete, or change any information within this handbook without prior notification.

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Central High School Contact Information

Central High School
5321 Jacksboro Pike
Knoxville TN 37918
(865) 689-1400 (phone)
(865) 689-1401 (fax)

www.centralhs.knoxschools.org