

Lafayette High School

STUDENT HANDBOOK

2026- 2027

LAFAYETTE DISTRICT SCHOOLS
MAYO, FLORIDA

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Lafayette

District Schools

Welcome to Lafayette High School

Welcome Hornets to the 2026-2027 school year. You have come to Lafayette High School to receive an education that will allow your dreams and goals to become a reality. It is our staff's mission to assist you in this endeavor. We encourage you to communicate with our faculty and take advantage of the many educational and extra-curricular opportunities available to you.

At LHS, we are proud of our school and community. We trust you will respect the ideals of LHS and take pride in calling it your school! Remember to work hard, stay focused on your goals, and get involved! Together, we will continue to make Lafayette County High School a great place to prepare for your future.



NONDISCRIMINATION NOTIFICATION

The Lafayette County School Board does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age, disability, marital status, or genetic information in its educational programs, services or activities, or in its hiring or employment practices. The district also provides equal access to its facilities to the Boy Scouts and other patriotic youth groups, as required by the Boy Scouts of America Equal Access Act.

For questions, complaints, or requests for additional information regarding discrimination or harassment, written complaints can be sent to 363 NE Crawford Street, Mayo, FL 32066 to the appropriate coordinator as listed below:

District Equity/504 Coordinator - jfitzpatrick@lcsbmail.net - phone # 386-294-4137

District Title IX Coordinator - gpowers@lcsbmail.net - phone # 386-294-2889

Administrative Team and Support Staff

Superintendent of Schools	Robert Edwards	Redwards@lcsbmail.net
Principal	Ray Stewart Hancock	Shancock@lcsbmail.net
Assistant Principal	Paula Ginn	Pginn@lcsbmail.net
Dean	Will Boney	wboney@lcsbmail.net
Athletic Director	Marcus Edwards	Medwards@lcsbmail.net
Guidance Counselor	Melissa Hewett	Mhewett@lcsbmail.net
Guidance Counselor	Becky Sharpe	Bsharpe@lcsbmail.net
Resource Officer	Bobby Lawson	Blawson@lcsbmail.net
Principal's Secretary	Kristy Garrard	Kgarrard@lcsbmail.net
Bookkeeper	Taylor Sodrel	Tsodrel@lcsbmail.net
Records Clerk	Amanda Byrd	Abyrd@lcsbmail.net
School Nurse	Melissa Pearson	Mpearson@lcsbmail.net
School Nurse	Kaitlin Pearson	Kpearson@lcsbmail.net

Lafayette High School 2026-2027 Bell Schedule

REGULAR SCHEDULE		
6 th GRADE	7 th & 8 th GRADE	9 th – 12 th GRADE
1 st 8:10-9:05	1 st 8:10-9:05	1 st 8:10-9:05
2 nd 9:10-10:00	2 nd 9:10-10:00	2 nd 9:10-10:00
3 rd 10:05-10:55	3 rd 10:05-10:55	3 rd 10:05-10:55
Lunch 10:55-11:20	4 th 11:00-11:50	4 th 11:00-11:50
4 th 11:25-12:15	Lunch 11:50-12:15	5 th 11:55-12:45
5 th 12:20-1:10	5 th 12:20-1:10	Lunch 12:45-1:10
6 th 1:15-2:05	6 th 1:15-2:05	6 th 1:15-2:05
7 th 2:10-3:00	7 th 2:10-3:00	7 th 2:10-3:00

**LAFAYETTE DISTRICT SCHOOLS
MAYO, FLORIDA
2026-2027
SCHOOL CALENDAR**

August 3-7, 2026		Preplanning
August 10, 2026		First Day of Classes
September 7, 2026		Labor Day (No School)
September 14, 2026		Professional Learning Day (7.25 hours) (No School for Students)
October 5-9, 2026		FTE Survey Week
October 9, 2026		End of First Nine Weeks
October 12, 2026		Teacher Records Day (5.00 hours) (No School for Students)
October 13, 2026		Professional Learning Day (7.25 hours) (No School for Students)
October 14, 2026		Beginning of Second Nine Weeks
November 11, 2026		Veteran's Day (No School)
November 23-27, 2026		Fall Break/Thanksgiving (No School)
December 18, 2026		End of Second Nine Weeks (Early Release Day)
Dec. 21, 2026 - Jan. 1, 2027		Christmas Break (No School)
January 4, 2027		Teacher Records Day (5.00 hours) (No School for Students)
January 5, 2027		Professional Learning Day (5.00 hours) (No School for Students)
January 6, 2027		Beginning of Third Nine Weeks
January 18, 2027		Martin Luther King Holiday (No School)
February 8-12, 2027		FTE Survey Week
February 15, 2027		President's Day (No School)
March 12, 2027		End of Third Nine Weeks
March 15, 2027		Teacher Records Day (5.00 hours) (No School for Students)
March 16, 2027		Professional Learning Day (7.25 hours) (No School for Students)
March 17, 2027		Begin Fourth Nine Weeks
March 26, 2027		Good Friday (No School)
April 5-9, 2027		Spring Break (No School)
May 13, 2027		Last Day for Seniors
May 21, 2027		Graduation
May 27, 2027		End of Fourth Nine Weeks (Early Release Day)
May 28, 2027		Post Planning
May 31, 2027		Memorial Day
Total Days for Students	177	Professional Learning Days / No Students
Preplanning	5	Teacher Records Day / No Students
Teacher Records Day	3	09/14/2026 7.25 hour day (9 & 10 month employees full day)
Professional Learning Days	4	10/12/2026 5.00 hour day (10 month employees full day)
Post School Planning	1	10/13/2026 7.25 hour day (9 & 10 month employees full day)
	190	01/04/2027 5.00 hour day (10 month employees only)
Paid Holidays for Teachers	6	01/05/2027 5.00 hour day (10 month employees only)
Total Days in School Year	196	03/15/2027 5.00 hour day (10 month employees only)
		03/16/2027 7.25 hour day (9 & 10 month employees full day)

A. SCHOOL PROCEDURES

Cafeteria Program

LHS serves students a nutritious breakfast and lunch every school day. Lafayette High School will be participating in the Community Eligibility Provision which allows ALL students to eat FREE for breakfast and lunch. STUDENTS IN GRADES 6-11 ARE NOT ALLOWED TO LEAVE CAMPUS FOR LUNCH UNDER ANY CIRCUMSTANCES. Students may bring a bag lunch from home. Food/drinks brought to school during the school day by parents/guardians must come through the front office. We ask that you only bring food/drinks for your child and that you please keep these occasions to a minimum. All students should eat in the cafeteria. No food or drink is to be taken from the cafeteria by students NO FOOD OR DRINK WILL BE ALLOWED IN THE CLASSROOMS WITHOUT TEACHER APPROVAL.

Closed Campus

We operate a closed campus. Students stay on the school grounds from the time they arrive, even if the first period has not yet started, until dismissal. Any student leaving the school grounds must check out through the office and return through the office. All seniors have earned privileges to check out for lunch with proper authorization.

Deliveries

All deliveries including, but not limited to flowers, food, clothes, etc. must be delivered to the front office. Every effort should be made to keep these deliveries to a minimum.

Insurance

Parents who do not have their children covered under their own policies are encouraged to take advantage of the school insurance plan approved by the Lafayette County School Board. Students who participate in school athletics and extracurricular activities must provide proof of insurance. The purchase of school insurance can serve as a secondary insurance in some instances. LHS or Lafayette County School Board is not responsible for expenses incurred as a result of injury.

Lafayette High School Internet Safety and Acceptable Use Policy

Lafayette Schools views the use of computers and access to the Internet as essential to the learning environment and will adhere to all CIPA requirements to the best of our abilities by using a web filter and promoting Internet Safety. The District fully supports those materials that will enhance the research and inquiry of the learner with directed guidance from faculty and staff. The district will restrict access considered harmful to minors, though it is impractical to control all materials on the internet, and users may discover inappropriate information. This AUP outlines the guidelines and behaviors users are expected to adhere to. The guidelines contained within are not intended to be an exhaustive list. Users should use their own good judgement when using school technologies.

I will:

- Treat school resources as a privilege, and alert staff if there is any problem with its operation.
- Use school technology at appropriate times, in approved places, and as advised by teachers for educational purposes.
- Follow the same guidelines for respectful, responsible behavior online that I am expected to follow offline.
- Keep my password and personal information confidential and notify my teacher if I believe it has been compromised.
- Not login as any other student.

I will not:

- Attempt to find or access inappropriate content or try to circumvent school safety measures and filtering tools.
- Use inappropriate language or engage in cyberbullying, harassment, or disrespectful conduct toward others.
- Install software, change inappropriate settings, or any other activity not approved by an appropriate staff member.
- Engage in criminal activity, violate copyright, hacking, or any activity that may bring embarrassment to the school district.
- Use electronic mail, chat rooms, or other direct electronic communications to communicate with someone I do not know.
- Use my district owned device or accounts for any purpose not allowed by a school district employee.
- Use my personally owned computer unless previously approved by school administration.
- Disclose, use, or disseminate personal information of other students or staff members.
- Use social media on the Lafayette Schools network unless expressly directed by staff for an educational purpose, or TikTok for any purpose.

By signing the Acceptable Use Policy, you are agreeing to the creation of a student email account for your child to log in to a chromebook, other software programs, and to receive assignments from their teachers. These email accounts may be monitored through the use of classroom management software. If you have any concerns, please contact school administration before signing. School board approved software, along with information being collected, being used by Lafayette County Schools can be reviewed in Skyward under District Links.

Lafayette County Staff will have the ability to monitor all district owned accounts and any traffic flowing in or out of the school network and users should have no expectation of privacy. Failure to comply with the above or any other activity deemed inappropriate by Lafayette High School staff may result in disciplinary action by the school district. Access to online content via the network may be restricted in accordance with our policies and federal regulations, such as the Children's Internet Protection Act. Student information will be protected as required by FERPA and HIPPA. Lafayette schools will not be responsible for unauthorized transactions conducted over the school network, or any damage or harm to persons, files, data, or hardware. This policy applies to all devices, including privately owned.

Lockers

1. Students will use the lock and locker assigned with no trading.
2. Students may not share their locker with others. Students are responsible for the contents of their locker.
3. Students should keep locker combinations secret.
4. Students should make sure their locker is closed and locked.
5. Students should keep their locker clean inside and outside.
6. Trading lockers and/or vandalism, etc. may result in loss of locker use and subsequent discipline.
7. Students who have a problem with their locker may check with the person in charge of lockers at their school.
8. Students are not to use cars as lockers.
9. No loitering at lockers.
10. **Valuables are not to be brought to school. The school is not responsible for personal property damaged, stolen, or lost (to include confiscated items).**

Lost and Found Articles

Students are encouraged to take care of their belongings. Articles found should be turned in to the school's office. The school does not accept the responsibility for lost or stolen articles. SCHOOL LOCKERS ARE AVAILABLE.

Student lockers/storage spaces provided by the school system are the property of the Lafayette County School Board and are subject to search by school authorities at any time. School authorities reserve the right to search and inspect any school owned property, private property or a student's person on school grounds or at school events.

Notice of Limited Supervisory Times

Lafayette County Schools will provide supervision to its students according to FL Statute 1003.31 (2):

- During the time (s)he is attending school;
- During the time the student is on the school premises participating in a school-sponsored activity;
- During a reasonable time (30 minutes) before and after regular school hours or at school-sponsored activities.
- During the time he or she is being transported to or from school at public expense

Signing Out of School

Parents/Guardians may come to the office and personally sign out their child at any time. All students who co-op, dual enroll, or have off campus school lunch privileges must sign out through the front office. Students will not be released from school into custody of anyone except those designated on their emergency release form. EXCEPTION: With a written permission form on file and telephone confirmation with the parent an exception may be made in case of emergencies. PLEASE NOTE: THE SCHOOL CANNOT RELEASE STUDENTS ON THE BASIS OF A TELEPHONE CONVERSATION ALONE. Students may not sign themselves out of school nor leave campus at any time without permission. EXCEPTION: 18 year old students with written documentation from parent/guardian allowing them to check themselves out. Students who sign out of school at their lunch time should not return to school for the remainder of the day. EXCEPTION: (1) Prior arrangements have been made with principal (2) documentation of excluded absence excuse is provided upon return. Neither Lafayette High School nor the Lafayette County School Board can be held responsible for the welfare of students who leave school without permission. Changes in after school pickup should be called into the office (386) 294-1701 prior to 2:00pm.

Student Parking

Student driving and parking on the school campus is a privilege and may be revoked at any time as deemed necessary by the administration. A student parking permit is required to park on campus. In order to receive this permit, a student must provide (1) a valid Florida Driver's License, (2) valid proof of insurance including motorcycles (3) valid proof of vehicle registration and (4) signed student drug testing consent form. A copy of these rules will be signed by the student and parent and kept on file at the school. The school will not be responsible for valuables lost or stolen from student vehicles. All valuables should be removed from vehicles and vehicles should be locked. All vehicles parked on the school campus are subject to search by school authorities or by law enforcement personnel working with them. Searches may be conducted for any reasonable purpose. **Listed below are the rules and procedures that are to be followed:**

1. Vehicles must remain parked during the entire school day in designated parking spaces between the lines.
2. Speed limit on campus is 5 mph.
3. Students must follow all Florida driving laws, including seat belt use and no texting while driving.
4. Students must drive and park on asphalt only.
5. Students must display safe and prudent behavior around any vehicle.
6. When buses are present in the bus loop, students must wait until ALL buses have left before driving in the bus loop area.
7. Upon arriving at school, students are to leave their cars immediately.
8. Prior to going to a parked car during school hours, students must obtain specific permission from the Principal or Designee.
9. All vehicles must display the school parking permit. The number on the permit must be visible.
10. If the parking permit is lost, a new one must be issued. Parking permits are non-transferable and are registered to only one student.
11. School / District is not responsible for damage to vehicle(s) while on campus.
12. All students will have a designated parking area.

Parking Pass for Motorcycle Drivers:

- A motorcycle endorsement must be on the student's driver's license
- Operator of the motorcycle must agree to wear a helmet and protective eye gear
- Motorcycle must be "street" legal (tag, blinkers, head & tail light, no loud muffler, does not include dirt bikes)
- Proof of motorcycle insurance is required

Failure to follow the above rules and procedures will result in disciplinary action by the School Administration. Discipline may result in one or more of the following actions:

1. Administrative warning
2. Revocation of parking privileges
3. Suspension
4. Towing the vehicle or attaching a tire boot
5. Trespassing charges

Student Drug Testing Consent Form

All students in grades 9-12 participating in any extra-curricular activities (including but not limited to sports, clubs, driving on campus, etc.) are required to complete a drug testing consent form pursuant to LCSB Policy 5.14.

Textbooks, School Property, School Debts

1. Students are responsible for any school property purchased/loaned for their use. This includes but is not limited to textbooks, equipment, uniforms, etc. This includes any Dual Enrollment items.
2. Parents or guardians are liable for any loss, destruction, unnecessary damage or failure to return instructional materials (1006.42 Florida Statutes) and any school property loaned for their use.
3. The failure to collect such sum upon reasonable effort by the school principal may result in the suspension of the student from participation in extracurricular activities or satisfaction of the debt by the student through community service activities at the school site as determined by the school principal (1006.28(4)(b) F.S.).
4. A student who loses, severely damages or fails to return a textbook and/school property may not be issued additional textbooks or school property until the debt has been paid for or replaced.
5. Monies collected from students shall be returned in the event the lost books/school property are found and returned to the responsible teacher before June 30th of the current year. No refunds shall be made after that date.
6. Students are responsible for library books and other school materials loaned to them. They shall replace or reimburse the school for loss or unnecessary damage to such items. Report cards and diplomas may be held up until such items are cleared.
7. Students enrolled in Dual Enrollment classes are required to return books and materials to their Guidance Counselor. Students who withdraw or are removed from a dual enrollment program because of non-attendance and/or behavior will be responsible for reimbursing the school for any items already purchased.
8. All Non-Sufficient Funds (NSF) checks for school and district accounts will be processed by Federal Automated Recovery Systems (FARS). All checks must include name, address, and phone numbers.
9. Any student owing a school debt will not be permitted to participate in the Graduation ceremony.

****The above information also applies when students are issued a digital text and electronic device to access the digital text.**

Trips / Chaperones

Any approved field trips must enhance units of study taught in the classroom. Each class, grade level, or organization will send specific information to the parent regarding the field trip. All students participating in the field trip activity must have a permission slip signed by the parent/guardian. Students may ride home with parents if a permission slip has been approved by the Principal / Designee. If parents request that their child ride home with someone else, they must submit a notarized request and it must be approved by the principal. Depending upon the activity, parents may be requested to be chaperones. Chaperones must be a minimum of 21 years of age or the biological parent if not 21. The list of chaperones must be approved by the principal or designee. Chaperones will be instructed on their responsibilities during the trip. Only pre-approved chaperones (those who purchased a ticket through school) may supervise children. Those approved chaperones are expected to monitor the students in their charge without the distraction of other adults/children who are not part of the trip. Parents who are chaperones may not take any additional children on the trip. Chaperones must adhere to all school board policies. Bus code of conduct is applied and should be adhered to on all trips.

The requirements for the administration of medication while students are away from school property or on official school business shall be the same as those while on school property.

Visitors / Parents Visiting School Campus

Parents or visitors to school shall be cleared through the office by presenting your drivers license and be issued a visitor's pass. Visitor passes should be visible at all times. Anyone picking up students during the day must be authorized on the registration form and must meet the student in the office. No student visitor permits will be issued. Students found associating with unauthorized visitors on campus may be subject to disciplinary action.

B. SAFETY, PHYSICAL & MENTAL HEALTH

Bullying and Harassment

It is the policy of the Lafayette School District that all of its students and school employees have an educational setting that is safe, secure, and free from harassment, and bullying of any kind. The district will not tolerate unlawful harassment of any type. Conduct that constitutes bullying, as defined herein, is prohibited. For additional information, refer to LCSB policy 5.101 or Florida Statute 1006.147.

Communicable Disease

A student who has been ill with a communicable disease shall in no case be allowed to return to school except upon the written permission of the full-time health officer, nurse or other reputable physician licensed to practice in the State of Florida.

Drug Policy

In accordance with the Lafayette County School Board Policy 5.14 entitled "Student Drug Testing" under chapter 5 of the Lafayette School Board Policy manual, any high school student who wishes to participate in any extracurricular activity and/or student privilege at Lafayette High School must complete a Student Drug Testing Consent Form.

Emergency Evacuation Drills

Evacuation Drills will be scheduled during the school year and should be respected for the protection of life. Instructions are posted in each room and teachers will inform students of proper procedures for evacuating the building. Emergency evacuation drills at school include: fire, tornado, bomb, and Active Assailant procedures.

Enforcement of Immunization Law

Per Florida Statute 1003.22 all students are required to have proof of immunizations. This statute also indicates that the two exemptions to the law would be for medical or religious reasons. If the student does not meet these requirements, they may not be permitted to attend school. Transferring students have 30 days after enrollment to meet this requirement.

Fortify Florida

Any suspicious activity on campus must be reported immediately either directly to school administration or via Fortify Florida.

Head Lice

The Lafayette County School Board's policy is a no nit/head lice policy. Any student found with nits and/or head lice will be excused from school for one day. Students must be checked by school clinic staff before re-entry.

Health and Safety

Schools shall have provisions for caring for students who become ill at school. If a student is injured, first aid shall be given and parents notified. If an injury appears to be serious, medical assistance will be secured as soon as possible. Parents are to furnish the school with the names of persons to contact in case of accidents, injury, or illness (refer to FAC64F-6.004 Emergency Information Form). School health nurses are available at each school. Parents are to provide the school with a doctor's note to return to school. The contact number for the school nurse is 386-294-4175.

All prescription or over-the-counter medications shall be delivered to the health room in accordance with the school board policy.

School Health Medication Policy

Parents/Guardians must bring medications to the School Clinic in the original container, not expired. A Medication Administration Form must be on file with the physician's signature and parent signature before a medication can be administered at school. Parents/Guardians must pick up medications from the School Clinic by the end of the school year or it will be destroyed. School personnel will not provide students with any medications, prescription or over-the-counter. Refer to LCSB policy 5.15. 1002.20 Students can carry headache medication on their person with parent consent. Contact the school nurse for a consent form.

Student Emergency Authorization Information Form

Each student in grades 6-12 must have a completed Student Emergency Authorization Information Form on file in the main office.

Threats

Any threats of violence must be reported to the Administration immediately. Students are obligated to report any such threats or possession of weapons and/or other controlled substances.

C. CODE OF STUDENT CONDUCT

The principal is the designated leader of the school and, in consortium with the staff, is responsible for the orderly operation of the school. In case of discipline violations not covered by prescribed disposition in this plan, the Principal, Assistant Principal, or Dean may enact corrective measures which he or she feels are in the best interest of the school.

JURISDICTION OF THE CONDUCT CODE – This code will be in effect on school property during regular school hours as well as other places and times where teachers and school administrators have jurisdiction over students, including, but not necessarily limited to school sponsored functions, field trips, and athletic events. This code also applies to students when they are being transported on school buses. It should be noted that various state laws and School Board policies mandate certain administrative functions which are not part of this code and this code is not intended to restrict nor to deny those functions. Under all circumstances, if a student places another student or school employee in reasonable fear of harm to his/her person or damage to his/her property; has the effect of substantially interfering with a student's educational performance, opportunities, or benefits; or as the effect of substantially disrupting the orderly operation of a school the conduct code will be in effect. This includes the use of social media on or off school campus. All students, regardless of grade or age, should follow instructions of all school personnel, including but not limited to: teachers, bus drivers, cafeteria workers, and others regardless of school hours.

FORMAL DISCIPLINARY ACTION AND PROCEDURES

After-School Detention

Certified staff members have the authority to assign students to stay after school as a disciplinary action. A student may be required to stay beyond the normal dismissal time provided parents have been notified a day in advance. When after-school detention is necessary, the parent shall be responsible for picking the student up at the designated time.

Disciplinary Probation

Disciplinary Probation is a set amount of time the principal gives for a student to correct his/her behavior. Specific requirements will be established for the student to follow during the period of probation. Staff members who are involved will monitor the student and help the principal determine if the conditions are met.

In-School Suspension

In-school suspension (ISS) occurs when a student is removed from the regular classroom activities, but is not dismissed from the school. The principals have the authority to assign students to in-school suspension for a reasonable and specified period of time. The Principals and their staff have the responsibility of determining the particulars of the program in their respective schools.

Writing Assignments

If writing assignments are used as a consequence for violation of school rules, they will be used as a tool for teaching and learning. For example, a principal may require a student to write a plan for correcting his/her behavior or to write an essay on classroom conduct.

Work Detail

Students may be required to do work on campus before, during, or after a school day.

Class Exclusion

Students removed from normal schedule.

Parking Suspension

The principal has the authority to deny a student the privilege of parking on campus based on the student's violations of the rules. The suspension shall be for a reasonable and specific period of time. In extreme cases, driving privilege may be revoked.

Extracurricular Participation Suspension

Student privilege of attending or participating in extracurricular activities may be suspended. The suspension shall be for a reasonable and specific period of time.

School Bus Suspension

The principal has the authority to deny a student the privilege of riding a school bus based on the student's violations of the rules. The suspension shall be for a reasonable and specific period of time. When such action is taken, the parent shall be responsible for the student's transportation. In extreme cases, bus privileges may be revoked.

Corporal Punishment

The School Board authorizes the use of corporal punishment in accordance with Florida law and School Board policy. Corporal punishment will be considered only after other appropriate disciplinary measures have been attempted or when warranted by the circumstances.

Whenever corporal punishment is being considered, a parent or guardian will be contacted whenever reasonably possible before it is administered. If a parent or guardian cannot be reached and immediate disciplinary action is determined to be necessary, corporal punishment will be administered only in accordance with Florida law and School Board policy. A written explanation of the incident will be provided to the parent or guardian upon request.

Out of School Suspension

Out of School Suspension (OSS) is temporary removal of a student from a school and the school program. It does not include suspension for less than one complete day, alternative school placement or reassignment to another education program or class where the student will receive instruction under the supervision of the local agency or referral to a certificated employee to provide services. Any student receiving Out of School Suspension (OSS) may be required to attend after school detention during that time period. This will be determined by the student's attendance and class grades at the time of the suspension. All exceptions must be approved by the principal or designee.

Alternative School

Alternative School provides for continuing the education of students who are no longer permitted in the regular school program.

Expulsion

Expulsion is the removal by the Board of Education of a student's right to attend school in a school under the management of the Board of Education. Expulsion is for misconduct beyond the school board's resources for correction.

Habitual Violations

Violations will be considered habitual after the third offense within the same classification. When it is determined that a violation must be treated as habitual, the disciplinary actions listed in the next higher class for subsequent offenses will be used.

The habitual violations concept will apply to Class I and Class II offenses.

Classifications of Violations

Each classroom teacher will deal with general student disruption by taking disciplinary action in the classroom, by making phone calls to parents when possible, by scheduling conferences with parents and/or by involving school counselors. Only when such action taken by the teacher is ineffective or when the disruption is severe should students be referred to the principal or designee. Failure to bring notebooks, pencils, books or other necessary materials to class, failure to turn in homework, or failure to participate in class are not reasons to refer a student to the principal or designee. However, defiance of a teacher in regard to these areas is cause for disciplinary referral.

Violations of the Student Code of Conduct are grouped into three(s) classes:

1. Minor, Class I;
2. Intermediate, Class II;
3. Major, Class III.

Before determining the classification of a violation, the principal or designee will consult with the student(s) involved and with the appropriate school personnel. Once the classification is made, the principal or designee will implement the disciplinary procedure.

Consequences for Behavior

Any formal disciplinary action may be used for Class I and Class II violations excluding Alternative School placement and/or expulsion. All students receiving habitual Class II or a Class III violation will be recommended for Alternative School placement or expulsion.

STUDENT CODE OF CONDUCT- OFFENSES / DEFINITION

Administrators may deviate from the possible consequences with discretion.

MINOR OFFENSES – CLASS I

LEVEL I OFFENSE CODE	LEVEL 1 OFFENSE	DEFINITION OF OFFENSE
1.01	Excessive Distraction of Students	Any behavior which disrupts the orderly educational process.
1.02	Disrespect	Refusal to follow reasonable directions from any School Board employee
1.03	Excessive tardiness	Repeatedly reporting late to school or class
1.04	Profane language	Non-directed use of profane or obscene language
1.05	Non-Conformity to dress code	Refer to school handbook
1.06	School bus disruption	Minor disruption on a school bus
1.07	Displays of public affection	Inappropriate public display of affection including, but not limited to, hugging and kissing
1.08	Unauthorized use of property	Unauthorized use of school or personal property
1.09	Littering	Littering on school property
1.10	Parking/Driving Violation	Parking/driving violation on school property
1.11	Quarreling	Minor offenses that include pushing, shoving, tripping, etc.
1.12	Unauthorized use or possession of non-educational item	Unauthorized use and/or possession of all non-education items which are prohibited at school

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INTERMEDIATE OFFENSES – CLASS II

LEVEL II OFFENSE CODE	LEVEL II OFFENSE	DEFINITION OF OFFENSE
2.01	Defiance of Authority	Any verbal or non-verbal refusal to comply with reasonable orders or directions from school personnel
2.02	Possession and/or use of tobacco products	The possession, use, distribution, or sale of tobacco or nicotine products on school grounds, at school sponsored events or on school transportation by any person under the age of 21 (including vapes or any other device used for smoking).
2.03	Threatening a School Board employee	Any threat made against a School Board employee
2.04	Harassment	Intentionally harassing another student (See Glossary: Harassment)
2.05	Fighting	Any serious physical conflict between two or more students NOTE: If bodily harm is inflicted, the principal may view it as a Class III-Major Offense
2.06	Petit Theft	The intentional, unlawful taking or carrying away of public or personal property valued at less than \$750
2.07	Property Damage/Vandalism	The intentional, deliberate damage of less than \$1,000 to public or personal property
2.08	Possession of stolen property	Possession of stolen property with the knowledge that it is stolen
2.09	Threats/Extortion	Maliciously threatening, verbally or in writing, to injure the person, property or reputation of another with or without the intent to extort money or gain any advantage whatsoever; and/or intentionally attempting to force the threatened person or any other person to do an act against his/her will NOTE: Completion of the extortion, either by the victim's giving in or by the threats being carried out against the victim results in a 2.09 CLASS III – Major Offense
2.10	Trespassing	Willfully entering or remaining in/on property without proper authorization; or having authorization but has been warned by a person in authority to leave but refuses to do so
2.11	Fireworks	Possession and/or igniting fireworks
2.12	Obscene Manifestations	Obscene verbal, written or gesture toward another person
2.13	Profane Language toward a School Board employee	Directing profane or obscene language toward a School Board employee
2.14	Unauthorized absence	Unauthorized absence from school/class or leaving without permission
2.15	Forgery	Intentionally disrupting school/parent communication. Example: changing grades, signing notes to be allowed to check out of school, etc.
2.16	Possession and/or transfer of dangerous objects	Possession and/or transfer of objects that are potentially dangerous (including pocket knives)
2.17	Inciting Disorder	Inciting student disorder or malicious mischief
2.18	Providing False Information	Intentionally providing false information to or withholding information from School Board employees
2.19	Disorderly Conduct	Any act which substantially disrupts the orderly conduct of a school function
2.20	Excessive offenses	Excessive disciplinary offenses
2.21	Cheating	Cheating on any school assignment
2.22	Inappropriate Technology Use	Inappropriate use of technology
2.23	Unauthorized Cell Phone Use	Unauthorized use of cell phone during school day including, but not limited to the videoing, recording, or photographing of another person without their consent
2.24	Physical Attack	An actual and intentional striking of another person against his/her will, or the intentional causing of bodily harm to an individual

MAJOR OFFENSES – CLASS III

LEVEL III OFFENSE CODE	LEVEL III OFFENSE	DEFINITION OF OFFENSE
3.01	Drugs	The unauthorized possession, transfer, use or sale of drugs, drug paraphernalia, or counterfeit drugs
3.02	Alcohol	The possession, transfer, sale, purchase, or use of alcoholic beverages
3.03	Arson	The malicious and willful burning of or attempting to burn property
3.04	Battery upon a School Board employee	The unlawful and intentional touching or striking of a School Board employee
3.05	Robbery	The taking of money or property from another by force, violence, assault or the instilling of fear
3.06	Theft	The intentional, unlawful taking, or carrying away of public or personal property valued at more than \$750
3.07	Criminal Mischief/Vandalism	The intentional, deliberate damage of more than \$1,000 to public or personal property.
3.08	Burglary of school property	Entering or remaining in a structure or conveyance with the intent to commit an offense when the premises are closed to the public
3.09	Criminal Mischief	Willful and malicious injury or damage of \$200 or more to public or private property
3.10	Weapons Possession	Possession of a firearm or any instrument or object as defined by Section 790.001, F.S. that can inflict serious harm on another person or that can place a person in reasonable fear of serious harm
3.11	Discharging a firearm	Discharging any pistol, rifle, shotgun, air gun or any other device
3.12	Bomb Threat	Any such communication regarding school board property which causes the interruption of the education environment
3.13	Explosions	Preparing, possessing or igniting on school board property explosive substances likely to cause serious bodily injury or property damage
3.14	Sexual Acts	1. Acts of sexual nature including, but not limited to, intercourse, battery, rape or attempted rape 2. Indecent exposure 3. Any form of sexual harassment whether written or verbal
3.15	Aggravated Battery	A battery where the attacker intentionally or knowingly causes more serious injury, such as: great bodily harm, permanent disability, or permanent disfigurement; uses a deadly weapon; or where the attacker knew or should have known the victim was pregnant
3.16	Inciting or participating in student disorder	Leading, encouraging or assisting in major disturbances which result in destruction/damage to property and/or injury to others during any school-sponsored activity
3.17	Distributing, producing or selling school records	Distributing, producing or selling school records such as report cards, grade sheets, etc.
3.18	Fire alarms	Activating fire alarms with malicious intent
3.19	Off campus arrest	Arrested off-campus
3.20	Violation of Alternative School Contract	Any violation of the Alternative School Contract
3.21	Repeated Class II Offenses	
3.22	Refusal to be searched when reasonable suspicion has been established	

Student Rights

Due Process

Due process will include appropriate hearings and reviews and, in all cases, the rights of individuals will be insured and protected.

Student's Rights and Responsibilities

A student has a full right and citizenship as defined by the Constitution of the United States and assumes the responsibility to take positive action relative to the Constitution, the laws of the State of Florida, and the policies, rules, and regulations of Lafayette County School Board.

Student Property Searches

The following rules shall apply to the search of school property assigned to a specific student and the seizure of items in his possession: (1) There should be reasonable cause for school authorities to believe that the student possesses an item or items which constitute a crime or rule violation. (2) A search for specific items which constitute unlawful possession or other items which would be used to interfere with orderly operation of the school. (3) General housekeeping inspection.

Student Complaint Process

Some students may feel that they have been treated unfairly under the code and other rules and regulations. The following steps provide a fair resolution of student grievances involving grades and/or some disciplinary actions, including complaints alleging any action which would be prohibited by Title IX or Section 504: (1) student/teacher conference (2) student/assistant principal conference (3) Submit a written statement to the main office (4) student/principal conference. Complaints alleging harassment/discrimination should be handled through the steps outlined in School Board Policy 2.16. Specific information regarding the grievance procedure for students may be obtained through the office (see Lafayette County School Board Policy 2.16-Prohibiting Discrimination, Including Sexual and Other Forms of Harassment). All School Board policies are available on the district website at www.lafayette.k12.fl.us.

Articles Prohibited At School

All non-educational items are prohibited from school grounds. All items which may be dangerous or hazardous to one's health, safety, and welfare are prohibited. In the event that a teacher is using an electronic device in an instructional setting, the item is allowed to be used. Skateboards or skates are not allowed at school and are prohibited on sidewalks. Bicycles are prohibited on the sidewalks. Shoes with rollers on the soles cannot be worn to school. Knives (including pocket knives) of any size are not allowed at school.

LHS Dress Code

1. Shirts and tops must be long enough to cover the midriff area when arms are extended horizontally. "Spaghetti straps", halter tops, "off the shoulder" tops and 'see through' tops are not appropriate. Necklines should be modest, shirts that show a large amount of the chest area or display cleavage are not appropriate for school.
2. Shorts, skirts, & dresses must be at least finger-tip length when arms are extended at the side.
3. Any article of clothing with holes: holes must be at least finger-tip length when arms are extended at the side.
4. Articles of clothing must be free of profanity, reference to controlled substance, reference to or endorsing political candidates, sexually suggestive, or culturally insulting remarks.
5. Articles of clothing should be worn in such a manner that underclothing is not exposed (i.e. sagging pants).
6. Individual classroom teachers will decide if hats, beanies and/or hoodies are allowed in their classroom.

***All dress code violations will be deemed a class II disciplinary offense.**

Exposure of Undergarments 1006.07 (2D)

A student may not wear, while on the grounds of a public school during the regular school day, clothing that exposes underwear or body parts in an indecent or vulgar manner or in a way that disrupts the learning environment.

Any student who violates the dress policy is subject to disciplinary action pursuant to s. 1006.07 (2D), Florida Statutes.

1. For a first offense, a student must be given a verbal warning and the school principal must call the student's parent or guardian.
2. For a second offense, the student is ineligible to participate in any extracurricular activity for a period not to exceed 5 days and the school principal must meet with the student's parent or guardian.
3. For a third or subsequent offense, a student must receive in-school suspension for a period not to exceed 3 days, the student is ineligible to participate in any extracurricular activity for a period not to exceed 30 days, and the school principal must call the student's parent or guardian and send the parent or guardian a written letter regarding the student's in school suspension and ineligibility to participate in extracurricular activities.

Wireless/Electronic Device Policy

While a student may be in possession of a wireless device (cell phone, ear buds, beats, etc), it may not be used during the regular school day (unless approved by teacher or administration). The device should be in the "OFF" position and should not be visible on a student's person during the school day. Failure to follow the rules regarding the possession and use of the wireless device will result in disciplinary action. Disciplinary action may include any of the following: 1st offense- confiscation of wireless device. 2nd offense- the parent/guardian of the student will have to pick up the wireless device and the student loses the privilege to have a wireless device on campus for the remainder of the school year. 3rd offense- 3 days of out of school suspension. All other offenses will be considered defiance of authority and will result in a discipline referral.

***Florida HB1105 bans the use of wireless devices by students in Elementary and Middle school during the school day and bans the use of wireless devices by High School students during instructional time.**

Tobacco/Vape Policy

2.02 in Code of Conduct - Having or using tobacco products, including "vapes", on the school premises or during school sponsored activities.

- Products will not be released back to the student. Parents or guardians will be permitted to pick up vapes, cigarettes, and other tobacco products within 10 days of infraction. All contraband will be discarded after 10 days. Parents will be contacted after each offense.

1st Offense- One (1) day of after school detention (ASD)(assignment pertaining to offense must be completed). Students will lose the privilege to participate in extracurricular activities until the after school detention has been completed.

2nd Offense- Four (4) days of after school detention (ASD). Students will lose the privilege to participate in extracurricular activities until the after school detention has been completed.

3rd Offense- A minimum of three days Out of School suspension (OSS). Students will lose privilege to extracurricular activities for four (4) weeks. Students will not be allowed to have a backpack, purse, etc. on campus for a minimum of one month.

- Any additional offenses may result in alternative placement.

Transportation Rules, Regulations and Discipline

1. Bus drivers have control of students on the bus to ensure safe operation of the bus. Students who do not obey bus rules are subject to loss of riding privileges and school disciplinary actions.
2. The bus driver may assign seats if he/she feels it is necessary for the safe operation of the bus.
3. Students should be courteous at all times toward the driver and other bus riders.
4. Students must keep their hands and head inside the bus at all times.
5. Students may not get off the bus at any location other than school or at the designated bus stop.
6. Students must sit in the passenger compartment. Students may be asked to sit three (3) to a seat.
7. There will be no smoking, eating, drinking, profanity or other misbehavior of any kind on the bus. Students must not push or shove while loading or unloading the bus.
8. Students may not use the emergency exits for routine loading and unloading.
9. Students should remain seated while the bus is in motion and keep feet and legs out of the aisles.
10. Use of electronic devices on school buses is at the discretion of the bus driver.
11. No students shall damage the bus in any way by writing or scratching on the seats or body. Violators will have to make financial restitution and/or clean up the bus where defaced.
12. Students are to act in an orderly fashion while on the bus. All rules apply on bus routes and on field trips as well. All sponsors on field trips will help the driver insure rules are followed.
13. ALL containers are subject to inspection.

D. ACADEMIC INFORMATION

Benchmark Assessments

- All students are required to take cumulative benchmark assessments at the end of the first three grading periods
- All benchmark assessments will count in the assessment category of student's nine week grades
- Exams may be performance based
- Students with more than five unexcused absences must pass these exams in order to pass the course

End of Course Exams

- All state End of Course (EOC) exams will count as specified by DOE/FL Statutes (currently 30%) of the final course grade
- For ELA and Math courses, state FAST assessments will count 20% of student's second semester grade
- For all other courses, the local EOC will count as 20% of the student's second semester grade

Middle School Requirements for Grade Promotion

Beginning with students entering grade 6, promotion from a school composed of middle grades 6, 7, and 8 requires that:

The student must successfully complete academic courses as follows:

1. Three middle school or higher courses in English. These courses shall emphasize literature, composition, and technical text.
2. Three middle school or higher courses in mathematics. Each middle school must offer at least one high school level mathematics course for which students may earn high school credit.
3. Three middle school or higher courses in social studies, one course of which must include the study of state and federal government and civics education. (30% of the student's grade will come from the state Civics EOC assessment)
4. Three middle school or higher courses in science.
5. Career and Education Planning – a career and education planning course must be completed per FS 1003.4156(e) .

"The equivalent of one class period per day of physical education for one semester of each year is required for students enrolled in grades 6 through 8. FS 1003.455"

Academically Challenging Curriculum to Enhance learning (ACCEL) Options

Effective July 1st, 2012, House Bill 7059, Relating Acceleration Options in Public Education, became law. The intent of this law is to create options for students to accelerate their progression through school through a variety of means. This flexibility will allow students move through high school more quickly to suit their individual needs. The law requires each school to offer the following ACCEL options: whole-grade and mid-year promotions; subject-matter acceleration; (Dual Enrollment, etc.); virtual instruction in higher grade-level subjects; and Credit Acceleration program under FS 1003.4295. For more information, please contact the High School Guidance Office at 386-294-4144.

Dual Enrollment

A. Academic Dual Enrollment §1007.271, Florida Statutes

1. Section 1007.271(1) of Florida Statutes says that a "dual enrollment program is the enrollment of an eligible secondary student or home education student in a postsecondary course creditable toward high school completion and a career certificate or an associate or baccalaureate degree. A student who is enrolled in postsecondary instruction that is not creditable toward a high school diploma may not be classified as a dual enrollment student."

B. Career and Technical Dual Enrollment, §1007.271(7), Florida Statutes

1. Career dual enrollment was established by the Legislature as a positive measure to expand the scope of the dual enrollment program. Students may take up to 330 vocational clock hours per term part time Career Dual Enrollment.

2. This type of dual enrollment shall be provided as a curricular option for eligible secondary students to earn industry certifications pursuant to 1008.44, FS which count as credits toward the high school diploma.

***Eligibility for Academic and Career Dual Enrollment is contingent upon the Annual Articulation Agreements with individual Post-Secondary Institutions.**

Students must meet the following eligibility criteria:

Be enrolled as a student in a Florida public or nonpublic secondary school (grades 6-12), or in a home education program. The College limits eligible students in grades 6-8 to one course per semester. The number of semester hours that an eligible student in grades 9-12 enrolls each term is at the discretion of the high school counselor. The College recommends that eligible students in grades 9 and 10 limit coursework to two courses per semester and students in grade 11 limit coursework to three courses per semester.

- Achieve and maintain, with no exceptions, an unweighted 3.0 high school grade point average to enroll in college credit courses.
- Achieve and maintain, with no exceptions, an unweighted 2.0 high school grade point average to enroll in career dual enrollment courses.
- Achieve a minimum score for reading, writing, and math preparation through submission of appropriate placement test scores pursuant to Rule 6A-14.064, Florida Administrative Code (F.A.C.). No student shall be enrolled in a college credit course on a dual enrollment basis unless the student has demonstrated adequate preparation through submission of appropriate placement test scores in reading, writing and math.
- Earn a minimum of four (4) high school credits.
- Program admission requirements/exit requirements (Appendix A) for CTE programs and other DE eligible limited access programs. The TABE can be exempted if the student meets a cut score on a college placement test (ACT, SAT, PERT, or CPT). Students are responsible for costs for placement and/or exit tests.
- Cannot be scheduled to graduate from high school prior to the completion of the dual enrollment course.

The student is responsible for applying for admission and meeting admission requirements prior to the published deadlines. Incomplete applications will cause delays that may prevent registration into the desired course or program. **The deadline for registration and qualifying test scores for fall term is August 1. The deadline for registration and qualifying test scores for spring term is December 1.**

The high school guidance office is responsible for verifying that the student has earned the required scores on the proper placement test(s) in order to register for a specific course(s). The guidance counselor or designee at the high school will sign the registration form to verify that the student is eligible to take the dual enrollment course(s). Students enrolling in dual enrollment courses must identify a postsecondary education objective. The Dual Enrollment Coordinator will work closely with students and high school guidance professionals in the development of student academic and education plans. NFCC will only send a letter grade to the high school for each dual-enrolled course. The grading scale transfer will be as follows:

NFC TO LAFAYETTE HIGH SCHOOL Dual-Enrollment Grade Conversion

GRADE	PERCENT	GRADE POINT VALUE
A	100	4
B	89	3
C	79	2
D	69	1
F	59	0

ADVANCED PLACEMENT COURSE TO LAFAYETTE HIGH SCHOOL Dual-Enrollment

Grade Conversion:

AP Courses completed prior to senior year with a score of 3 or higher on the AP exam will be converted as follows:

A	100
B	89
C	79
D	69
F	59

Courses taken during a student's senior year will earn the numerical average earned in the class. (AP exam results are not released until July after graduation).

Schedule Changes

Students or parents requesting a schedule change must do so within the first five (5) days of the school term. A change will be considered only if it meets the school's criteria (guidelines) for change.

Grade Point Average

Students will be required to have a cumulative minimal grade point average of 2.0 on a 4.0 scale to meet the three graduation option requirement. This would require the inclusion of all high school courses taken in the student's educational program, except those courses to which a forgiveness policy has been applied.

Grading and Ranking Procedures

A. GRADING SCALE

Numerical guidelines (Florida Uniform Statewide Grading Scale) are as follows:

GRADE	PERCENT	GRADE POINT VALUE	DEFINITION
A	90-100	4	Outstanding
B	80-89	3	Above Average
C	70-79	2	Average
D	60-69	1	Lowest Acceptable Performance
F	50-59	0	Failure
I	0	0	Incomplete

B. GRADE REPORTS

A grade report will be issued to all students at each three weeks of the regularly established grading period. A deficiency notice will be mailed by the 5th week of the nine weeks period if the student has a grade of "D" or "F". All grades reports will reflect the numerical grade for the course. Any fraction of a point on the final grade will be rounded to the next higher number.

Valedictorian/Salutatorian

1. Eligibility is based on the successful completion of the Scholar Diploma Designation Requirements.
2. All course work taken in each academic area of study (English, Math, Science, Social Studies and Foreign Language) will be averaged into the Final NUMERICAL Grade Point Average Calculation to determine Valedictorian and Salutatorian.
3. Minimum test scores as follows:

ACT: English – 17 Reading – 19 Math – 19 OR a minimum composite score of 20

SAT: Reading – 24 Mathematics – 24 Writing -- 24

PERT: Reading-106 Writing-103 Math-114

CLT: Writing/English - 38 Math - 16

4. Must be in attendance at LHS for 3 consecutive semesters prior to graduation.

5. Valedictorian will be the Scholar Diploma Designation recipient with the highest numerical Grade Point Average.
6. Salutatorian will be the Scholar Diploma Designation recipient with the second highest numerical Grade Point Average.
7. Grade Point Average within 0.01 of a point will be considered identical.

Honor Student

1. Must be in the top 25% of the senior class within the scholar diploma designation track.
2. Top 3 candidates are determined by vote of students in grades 9-12.
3. The top 3 candidates are voted on by the 6-12 instructional staff at LHS.

E. ATTENDANCE INFORMATION

School attendance is the responsibility of the parent. Since there is a strong relationship between attendance and academic performance, it is important that parents take an active role in working with the school to ensure their child's attendance on a daily basis. Florida Statutes 1003.24 and 1003.26

Absences of a medical or dental nature which are documented by a licensed physician or dentist will be considered excluded (excused) absences. Other excluded absences are death in the immediate family or recognized religious holidays of the student's faith, or an ordered court appearance by the student. Exceptions may be made by the principal on an individual basis.

The following protocol will be followed for LHS students (Grades 6-12):

1. On the 4th unexcused absence in a 9-week period, the school will communicate with the student and parents notifying them of the student accumulated absences (Each class period stands alone).
2. On the 7th unexcused absence in a 9-week grading period, the student must pass their benchmark assessment for that class to pass the class. If the student fails their benchmark assessment, their 9-weeks grade will be defaulted to 59% (If the student's actual grade is below 59%, the student will receive the lower grade).
 - These students will be assigned to one week of after school detention during the 1st week of the next 9-week grading period (equals 4 days) and a face-to-face meeting will be held with the student, parents, and school staff where an attendance contract will be created. Students will be suspended from participating in any extracurricular activities until these two things are completed.

***Students who fail a class due to attendance will not be allowed to retrieve the credit for that class using our credit retrieval program. The student will have to retake the class (brick and mortar) with Lafayette High or retake the class via one of the district's approved virtual options.**

3. If a student violates the attendance policy for #2 for a second time during the same school year, all extracurricular activities will be taken away. This includes athletic participation, attendance at athletic events, club participation, driving privileges, dances, prom, grad bash, OJT, etc.
4. Students who meet the following criteria at the end of each semester, will be exempt from attending classes on the last two days of each semester.
 - a. No more than 5 unexcused absences in any period for the semester.
 - b. No more than 5 unexcused tardies in all classes for the semester.
 - c. No Class II or Class III referrals for the semester.
 - d. No more than one Class I referral for the semester.
 - e. No D or F in any class for the semester.

*For students who do not qualify for this reward, but do not attend school during these two days, they will be required to make up the amount of time they missed in After School Detention at the beginning of the next semester.

**This reward does not apply to Seniors during the 2nd semester.

Suspension/Expulsion

Students under suspension or expulsion from schools inside or outside the district will be denied admission unless approved by the Superintendent or his designee.

Notification of In Loco Parentis

A special power of attorney or certification form is used for admission purposes in cases in which a student is not residing with his or her parents/guardian. This form designates that the adult person with whom the student resides stands in loco parentis.

Suspension of Driver's License

Florida Statute 232.19 states that minors between the ages of 14 and eighteen years of age who dropout of school or who accumulate 15 unexcused absences during the 9 week grading period will not be issued a learner's permit or will have their driving privilege suspended by the Florida Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles. Students must attend school for 30 consecutive school days with no unexcused absences to get their Florida driver's license, learner's permit or driving privileges reinstated.

Make-Up Work

One of the main responsibilities a student has is coming to school on time, to class on time, and being prepared for the day's work. It is difficult for any student to learn unless he is physically present at school. Each time a student is absent, he really misses two days, the day missed, and the day he comes back not having his homework. It is the student's duty to contact his/her teacher to receive make-up work. There is no excuse for not having the work done. "I was absent" will not be accepted. Make-up tests will be administered at the teacher's convenience after regular school hours. Students have two school days for each day of absence to turn in missed assignments. For example, if a student is absent from school for two days and returns to school on a Monday, their make-up work is due after the fourth day, which would be a Friday. They should contact the teacher of the classes they missed when they return to school in order to get class assignments. The office will get homework assignments for students who will be absent for an extended period, upon request. Students who are absent for up to two days are asked to get make-up assignments upon their return. In addition, students who miss class to participate in a school related activity are required to set make-up work expectations for each class they miss. Because students who are on school-related trips are still considered to be 'in school', they are responsible for make-up work while away from campus. Individual teachers will provide expectations to students for make-up work.

Returning to School Following an Absence

For an absence to be excused a student must present appropriate documentation (doctor note, etc) to the data clerk within five days of absence. No attendance records will be changed after 5 school days of the return to school following an absence.

Tardy Policy

In order to provide the most efficient use of class time, students are required to be in the classroom, in their seats and ready to work when the tardy bell rings. Students who are tardy will be given a verbal warning from the teacher on first offense. The second offense will be reported to the front office and the parent will be contacted. On the third offense students will receive a discipline referral and unexcused absence. Each subsequent tardy in the class through the end of the 9 weeks will result in a discipline referral. For the first period, students are allowed three tardies each nine weeks before a referral is written.

Truancy/Pattern of Nonattendance

1. A student may be exhibiting a pattern of nonattendance if he/she has had at least five (5) unexcused absences within a calendar month or 10 unexcused within a 90-calendar-day period.
2. "Habitual truant" means a student who has 15 unexcused absences within 90 calendar days with or without the knowledge or consent of the student's parent, is subject to compulsory school attendance under Section 1003.21(1) and (2)(a), and is not exempt under Section 1003.21(3) or Section 1003.24, or by meeting the criteria for any other exemption specified by law or rules of the State Board of Education.

Enforcement of School Attendance (F.S. 1003.26)

The student's primary teacher shall report to the school principal or his/her designee that the student may be exhibiting a pattern of nonattendance if a child has 5 unexcused absences within a calendar month or 10 unexcused absences within a 90-calendar-day period. The principal or his/her designee shall, unless there is clear evidence that the absences are not a pattern of nonattendance, refer the case to the school's child study team to determine if early patterns of truancy are developing. If the school's child study team finds that a pattern of nonattendance is developing, a child study team meeting with the parent must be scheduled to identify potential remedies/interventions, and the principal shall notify the Superintendent and the school district contact for home education programs that the referred student is exhibiting a pattern of nonattendance.

F. ATHLETICS

ATHLETIC PHILOSOPHY

- Athletics is an important and vital part of the total educational program at Lafayette High School.
- The athletic program and the academic program both serve the same purposes—to build character and to give each student qualities that will equip him or her for a productive life.
- Lafayette High believes in the scholar-athlete, the person who places academics first, but who participates in athletics as a valuable and necessary part of the learning experience in school.
- Lafayette High seeks to encourage as much participation as possible at each level of interscholastic competition. In middle school athletics, our policy is to keep “cuts” to a minimum and to distribute playing time with participation as a goal. Ultimately, the overwhelming goal at the middle school level will be to provide opportunities that allow the student-athlete to gain skill as an athlete and develop personal confidence. For junior varsity we continue to view participation as an important goal, but playing time begins to depend more on individual ability and effort than at the younger level. Our goals for varsity are more narrowly focused and fielding a competitive team is a high priority. Coaches decide playing time based upon many objectives.

Athlete/Parent/Coach Communication Process

If at any time, an athlete or parent has an issue/concern with a coach or program, the below process should be followed:

- 1) Athlete meets with the coach to discuss the problem
- 2) Parents and/or athlete meet with the coach
- 3) Parents and/or athletes meet with the Director of Athletics.

STUDENT ELIGIBILITY FHSAA

Lafayette High School is a member of the Florida High School Athletic Association, which is the governing body of high school athletics in Florida. Questions pertaining to FHSAA rules and regulations should be directed to the Director of Athletics.

Academic Eligibility

1. Students in grades 6 through 8 must have a 2.0 GPA at the conclusion of each semester.
2. A student entering the ninth grade shall be eligible during the first semester of the ninth-grade year provided that it is the student's first entry into the ninth grade.
3. A student in grades 9-12 must have a cumulative high school grade point average of a 2.0 or above on a 4.0 unweighted scale in all courses as required by the Florida Statutes at the conclusion of each semester to be eligible during the following semester.

Lafayette High School Standards

Lafayette High School reserves the right to impose higher academic and discipline standards than those listed above. Students on academic or discipline probation may be restricted by the school from participating in athletics. School administration has the right to suspend the participation of students in athletic events depending upon academic, behavior, and/or attendance issues.

Limit of Eligibility

- Each student shall have four consecutive calendar years of eligibility from the date he or she first enrolls in the ninth grade.
- Four years from the date he or she first enrolls in the ninth grade, he or she will become ineligible for further interscholastic athletic competition.
- Students may participate in interscholastic athletics one year as eighth graders, one year as seventh graders, and one year as sixth graders.

Age

- A student who reaches the age of 19 prior to July 1 shall become permanently ineligible.
- A middle school student who reaches the age of 16 prior to September 1 shall become permanently ineligible.

FHSAA Requirements

- All student athletes must have up to date physical and consent forms required by the FHSAA. These forms are good for 365 days once signed by physicians/parents.
- All student athletes entering the 9th grade (or in grades 10-12 who have not previously participated in interscholastic athletics) must have completed an EKG/ECG screening within the previous 2 years.
- All students must watch and sign off on viewing various FHSAA videos in regard to common health issues
- Non-traditional students (Home School, PEP, Ect...): Must participate in the county in which they reside. [Participation Options - Florida High School Athletic Association](#)
- All students must have current medical insurance. Students who do not have insurance can purchase team sport policies through a third party vendor. Please see the Athletic Director for more information.

Playing Time

There are many benefits to be gained by participation in athletics at the high school level. Student-athletes learn discipline, to perform under stress, teamwork, sacrifice, commitment, effort, accountability, sportsmanship, confidence, leadership and to play within the rules. Although there are many measures of success in the minds of each athlete, perhaps the most emotional is “playing time” during contests. If an athlete has a question about the amount of playing time he/she is getting, he/she should be encouraged to discuss it with the coach. Being a member of a team at Lafayette High School does not guarantee “playing time”. The playing time of each participant is the sole prerogative of the coach of the sport in his/her discretion and judgment; however, there are some guidelines mentioned above in athletic philosophy.

EQUIPMENT AND UNIFORMS

- Uniforms are the property of Lafayette High School
- School colors are red, white, and grey.
- Students must pay for any lost or damaged equipment and uniforms. Grades, transcripts, and diplomas may be held until all uniforms are turned in or paid for if lost or damaged.

MULTI-SPORT ATHLETES

In order to have a successful athletic program, it is of utmost importance that our student-athletes participate in as many sports as possible. Therefore, when possible, athletes will be allowed to participate in more than one sport during a season. For this to happen, a spirit of cooperation and shared goals must exist among members of the coaching staff and athletes. Knowing that this can be a very sensitive area, the following guidelines will be in place:

- Student-athletes that wish to participate in more than one sport during an athletic season may do so depending on coaches' agreement

*However, he or she must designate their primary and secondary sport.

- Student athletes may participate in activities involved in overlapping sports with the understanding that the in-season sport takes priority over the upcoming sport.
- Coaches are encouraged to communicate with the student athlete and coaches involved in overlapping seasons to provide the best opportunity for the student to participate in both. Having this opportunity can greatly enhance our athletic program, as well as the high school athletic experience for our student-athletes. Coaches should always use good judgment and have a shared vision for athletic department success. At all times the interest of the student-athlete should be at the forefront with regard to conflicts over sharing athletes.
- The Director of Athletics will resolve any and all conflicts regarding the sports that the student-athlete participates in.

STUDENT MANAGERS

Student managers are valuable assets to our athletic teams.

1. Students desiring to serve as managers for teams should contact the head coach of that team.
2. Student managers are required to meet and follow all rules and regulations pertaining to interscholastic athletics.
3. Student managers will go by the instructions of the head coach on a day-to-day basis.

G. FEDERAL AND STATE STATUTES

1003.3101 Additional Educational Choice Options

Each school district board shall establish a transfer process for a parent to request his or her child be transferred to another classroom teacher. This section does not give a parent the right to choose a specific classroom teacher. A school must approve or deny the transfer within 2 weeks after receiving a request. If a request for transfer is denied, the school must notify the parent and specify the reasons for the denial. An explanation of the transfer process must be made available in the student handbook or a similar publication.

1003.44 Pledge of Allegiance

The pledge of allegiance to the flag shall be recited at the beginning of the day in each public elementary, middle, and high school in the state. According to F.S. 1006.07(2), a student has the right not to participate in reciting the pledge. Upon written request by his or her parents, a student must be excused from reciting the pledge, including standing and placing the right hand over his or her heart. When the pledge is given, unexcused students must show respect to the flag by standing at attention. All written requests should be submitted to a school-based administrator.

1006.07 District School Board Duties Relating to Student Discipline and School Safety

Each code shall be organized and written in language that is understandable to students and parents and shall be discussed at the beginning of every school year in student classes, school advisory council meetings, and parent and teacher association or organization meetings. Each code shall be based on the rules governing student conduct and discipline adopted by the district school board and shall be made available in the student handbook or similar publication.

1006.53 Religious Observances

Each public postsecondary educational institution shall adopt a policy which reasonably accommodates the religious observance, practice, and belief of individual students in regard to admissions, class attendance, and the scheduling of examinations and work assignments. Each policy shall include a grievance procedure by which a student who believes that he or she has been unreasonably denied an educational benefit due to his or her religious belief or practices may seek redress. Such policy shall be made known to faculty and students annually in inclusion in the institution's handbook, manual, or other similar document regularly provided to faculty and students.

1012.42 Teacher Teaching Out of Field

When a teacher in a district school system is assigned teaching duties in a class dealing with subject matter that is outside the field in which the teacher is certified, outside the field that was the applicant's minor field of study, or outside the field in which the applicant has demonstrated sufficient subject area expertise, as determined by district school board policy in the subject area to be taught, the parents of all students in the class shall be notified in writing of such assignment, and each school district shall report out-of-field teachers on the district's website within 30 days before the beginning of each semester. A parent whose student is assigned an out-of-field teacher may request that his or her child be transferred to an in-field classroom teacher within the school and grade in which the student is currently enrolled. The school district must approve or deny the parent's request and transfer the student to a different classroom teacher within a reasonable period of time, not to exceed 2 weeks, if an in-field teacher for that course or grade level is employed by the school and the transfer does not violate maximum class size pursuant to s. 1003.03 and s. 1, Art. IX of the State Constitution. If a request for transfer is denied, the school must notify the parent and specify the reasons for the denial.

SB 6A-1.09421/22/23 Required Instruction

Resiliency Education, Substance Use and Abuse Education, and Child Trafficking Prevention Education must be completed by all students annually in grades 6-12. Implementation plans for the required education can be found on the district website.

SB 436 Crime of Making Threats of Terror or Violence

This bill prohibits making false reports concerning planting a bomb, explosive, or weapon of mass destruction, and also prohibits making a false report concerning use of a firearm in a violent manner. Per HB 165, amends 836.10, F.S. to include the actions of making, posting, or transmitting threats of mass shooting and terrorism in any manner that would allow another person to view the threat.

HB 529 Section 1003.45 Moment of Silence

In accordance with Florida HB 529, Section 1003.45, teachers in first period classes in all grades shall set aside at least one minute but no more than two minutes each day for a moment of silence, during which students may not interfere with another students' participation. A teacher may not make suggestions as to the nature of any reflection that a student may engage in during the moment of silence.