

STUDENT AND PARENT ACKNOWLEDGEMENT FORM

This handbook is provided as a convenience to the students of Dorsey Attendance Center. While it contains policies current at the time of printing, the Itawamba County School District constantly reviews and sometimes changes policies, so the handbook may not always reflect the most current policy. All policies and procedures summarized in this handbook are subject to change at the discretion of the Itawamba County School District and/or Dorsey Attendance Center.

The signature below verifies receipt of the 2009-2010 student handbook and acknowledges that the handbook is a work in progress document and that changes may be made throughout the school year in response to unanticipated events.

If additional information or clarification is needed, please contact the school office at 862-3663.

Student Name: _____

Student Signature: _____

Parent Signature: _____

Date: _____

Grade: _____

Homeroom Teacher: _____

**CUT ALONG THE LINE AT LEFT AND RETURN THE FORM TO YOUR CHILD'S
HOMEROOM TEACHER.**

Itawamba County School District

Mission Statement

The Itawamba County School District has as its mission to provide a quality education for the youth of Itawamba County. The District adheres to the principle that the most basic and challenging responsibility of the District is to provide for the academic and vocational development of students. While recognizing that students exhibit a wide range of backgrounds, learning capabilities, needs, and interests, the District strives to provide an educational program broad enough to provide an atmosphere that will meet some of the physical, personal, and social needs of our students. The district also subscribes to the belief that a vital part of our mission is to establish an educational program which reflects the values, needs, and ambitions of our community, state, and nation.

School Board Members

Clara Brown
Eddie Hood
Harold Martin
Jackie Nichols
Tony Wallace

Superintendent of Education

Teresa McNeece

District Web Site Address

www.itawambacountyschools.com

Dorsey Attendance Center

Principal

Mark Hitt

School Web Site Address

www.dorseybulldogs.com

**SECTION 504, TITLE II, TITLE IX, TITLE VI, and ADA
COMPLAINT AND GRIEVANCE POLICY**

The Itawamba County School District does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, sex, age or disability in the provision of educational programs and services or employment opportunities and benefits. Any person who believes that he/she or any class of individuals have been subjected to discrimination, including harassment, on the basis of a disability or handicapped as prohibited by Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (Section 504) or Title II of the Americans With Disabilities Act (Title II); on the basis of sex/gender as prohibited by Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 (Title IX); on the basis of race, color or national origin as prohibited by Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (Title VI); or on the basis of age as prohibited by the Age Discrimination Act of 1975 (ADA) may file a complaint pursuant to the procedures set forth below, on his/her own behalf, or on behalf of another person or on behalf of handicapped persons as a class. All persons are encouraged to file grievances to resolve any disputes arising under these laws. Your filing a complaint will not subject you to any form of adverse action, reprimand, retaliation or otherwise negative treatment by school district personnel.

1. Within ten (10) work days of when a complainant knew or should have known of discriminatory conduct, a complaint shall be given in writing to the Section 504, Title II, Title IX, Title VI or ADA Coordinator, as the case may be. The complaint shall describe specifically the time, place and nature of, and the participants in the alleged discriminatory acts. The complaint shall also include any evidence or documentation, including witness statements, regarding the alleged discriminatory conduct. The Section 504, Title II, Title IX, Title VI or ADA Coordinator shall, within ten (10) work days of receipt of the complaint, conduct or cause to be conducted a thorough, adequate, reliable and impartial investigation including questioning of all parties involved in the complaint. A written record shall be made of the statements by all parties involved within twenty (20) working days of the receipt of the complaint. After the investigation is complete, the Section 504, Title II, Title IX, Title VI, ADA Coordinator shall meet with the complaining party and give a full report of the findings, this must also be done within twenty (20) working days of the receipt of the complaint.
2. If the grievance or complaint is not satisfactorily resolved at Step 1, the complainant shall have ten (10) work days to appeal the Step 1 findings to the Superintendent. The complainant shall present his complaint in writing, describing the reasons for his/her dissatisfaction with the results of Step 1 and produce any evidence or documentation, including witness statements, regarding the alleged discriminatory conduct. The Superintendent or his/her designee shall review all aspects of the complaint and complete an additional investigation if necessary. The Superintendent shall respond to the complainant in writing within ten (10) work days of receipt of the written appeal.
3. If the complainant is not satisfied with the results of Step 2, the complaining party shall have fifteen (15) work days from receipt of the Superintendent's decision to appeal the complaint to the school board. The appeal shall be in writing, describing the reasons for complainant's dissatisfaction with the results of Steps 1 and 2. The complainant shall have the opportunity to present an oral statement to the board before the board makes its decision. The board's decision shall be rendered within fifteen (15) work days after receipt of the appeal.

Each complainant shall have the right to be represented by legal counsel at Level 3, at their own expense, and each complainant shall have the right to present witnesses and other reasonable evidence at any Level, and each complainant shall have the right to question and cross-examine witnesses at each level and any parent complaining on behalf of their child shall have the right to examine records relevant to their child.

The Section 504, Title II, Title IX, Title VI, ADA Coordinator is Patti Thrash who may be contacted at 605 South Cummings, Fulton, MS 38843, 662-862-2159.

Itawamba County Schools Asbestos Inspection and Management Plan

This is to notify teachers, employees, students, and parents of Dorsey Attendance Center that the Itawamba County School District's Asbestos Inspection and Management Plan is completed and filed at the Superintendent's office and in the Dorsey Attendance Center Principal's office and is subject to your review.

Notice of Non-Discrimination

The Itawamba County School District does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, sex, age or disability in the provision of educational programs and services or employment opportunities and benefits.

The following person has been designated to handle inquiries and complaints regarding the non-discrimination policies of the Itawamba County School District: Patti Thrash, 605 South Cummings, Fulton, MS 38843, 662-862-2159.

Handicapped/Accessible Parking Policy

Only motor vehicles displaying a special license plate, license plate decal, placard or parking certificate or permit bearing the International Symbol of Access shall be allowed to utilize handicapped/accessible parking spaces on Itawamba County School District property. Each school principal or his/her designee shall patrol their respective school parking lot(s), including all auxiliary parking lots, at least one time each day to help ensure that only vehicles displaying the International Symbol of Access are utilizing the handicapped/accessible parking spaces at their respective schools.

First offense - A warning shall be placed on the windshield of the motor vehicle which is utilizing a handicapped/accessible parking place without bearing the International Symbol of Access, said warning shall notify the violator that the Handicapped/Accessible Parking Policy has been violated and that any subsequent violation(s) within one (1) calendar year of the first violation will result in the vehicle being towed from the Itawamba County School District property at the owner's/driver's expense.

Second and subsequent offenses - The motor vehicle which utilizes a handicapped/accessible parking place without bearing the International Symbol of Access within one (1) calendar year of being issued a warning for violating the Handicapped/Accessible Parking Policy shall be towed from the Itawamba County School District property at the owner's/driver's expense without further notification.

Each principal shall maintain a record of the make, model and tag number of each violator of the Handicapped/Accessible Parking Policy and shall submit a copy of same to the Superintendent of Education who will maintain and disseminate to each school principal a master list of each violator.

DORSEY ATTENDANCE CENTER FACULTY & STAFF

2009 – 2010

Mark Hitt, Principal

BAILEY, DEBRA
BEAN, NANCY
BELL, BARBARA
BLACKMON, LOTTIE
BLACKMON, NATALIE
BURNS, MAVILOU
BURROWS, DONNA
BROWN, KEVIN
CATES, VICKI
CHENAULT, BETH
CHRISTIAN, LISA
COLLIER, KATHY
COMER, EMILY
COMER, NANCY
COOPER, SHERYL
COX, BRENDA
DABBS, GENEVA
DAVIS, DIANE
ESTES, FRANCINE
ELLIOT, RUBIE
FRANKS, JUDY
GUNTARP, BRENDA
HALLMARK, DENNIS
HARPOLE, KAYELA
HUMPHRES, ALICIA
JAGGERS, MICHAEL
JONES, PATSY
JONES, STEPHANIE
LEATHERS, LANA
LINDSEY, CHARLA
LOAGUE, LEDELL
LONG, CHARLES
MARTIN, DESHANNA
MARTIN, GRANT

MARTIN, JAIME
MCMILLEN, SANDRA
MILLER, JEANNIE
MILLER, MELANIE
MILLER, PAULA
MOORE, RODNEY
PARMAN, SHELLY
PEARCE, CARLA
PHILLIPS, CINDY
PHILLIPS, STEPHANIE
ROBERTS, DIANE
ROBINSON, SHELIA
ROGERS, DEBORAH
SHEFFIELD, JULIE
SHUMPERT, JENNIFER
SNIPES, CHERYL
STANLEY, JEANNIE
THACKER, CHRISTY
VANDAM, JO
WARREN, SUSIE
WHITE, RENE'
WIYGUL, KERRY

MUSIC TEACHER
SECRETARY
ELEMENTARY SPED
CAFETERIA
CAFETERIA MANAGER
KINDERGARTEN TEACHER
3rd GRADE TEACHER
ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL, 7th HISTORY
5th GRADE TEACHER
TAG TEACHER
4th GRADE TEACHER
COMPUTER DISC., 8th SCIENCE
7th & 8th GRADE READING
7th & 8th ENGLISH
6th & 7th MATH
CAFETERIA
TITLE I AIDE
PRESCHOOL TEACHER
LIBRARY AIDE
CAFETERIA
TITLE I AIDE
2nd GRADE TEACHER
PRE-ALGEBRA
1st GRADE TEACHER
CAREER DISCOVERY, AR LAB
JUNIOR HIGH SPECIAL EDUCATION
1st GRADE TEACHER
KINDERGARTEN ASSISTANT
MAINTENANCE, GROUNDS
TITLE I AIDE
GUIDANCE COUNSELOR
CUSTODIAN
KINDERGARTEN ASSISTANT
6th & 7th SCIENCE,
FOOTBALL & BASEBALL COACH
LIBRARIAN
2nd GRADE TEACHER
NURSE
ISS, TUTORIAL
SECRETARY
PE, BOYS BASKETBALL COACH
PE, GIRLS BASKETBALL & SOFTBALL
CUSTODIAN
6th & 8th SOCIAL STUDIES
1st GRADE TEACHER
SPEECH TEACHER
PRE-SCHOOL ASSISTANT
ELEMENTARY SPECIAL EDUCATION
KINDERGARTEN TEACHER
CUSTODIAN
4th GRADE TEACHER
2nd GRADE TEACHER
CAFETERIA
5th GRADE TEACHER
3rd GRADE TEACHER
6th READING & 6th ENGLISH
READING SPECIALIST

DORSEY SCHOOL BUS DRIVERS

BUTLER, ALVIE	BUS 33
COMER, DOUG	BUS 39
COMER, NANCY	BUS 47
DABBS, GENEVA	BUS 70
MANN, GEORGE	BUS 28
SCHUMPERT, TOMMY	BUS 30
SHUMPERT, CHARLIE	BUS 65
SULLIVAN, BETTY	BUS 62
WHITE, RENE	BUS 71

2009 DORSEY FOOTBALL SCHEDULE

August 24	Hatley	Home	6:00
September 8	Plantersville	Away	6:00
September 15	Ripley	Home	6:00
September 22	TCPS	Home	6:00
October 6	North Pontotoc	Away	6:00
October 13	TCPS	Away	6:00
October 20	Mantachie	Away	6:00

*Game times are subject to change

2009-2010 DORSEY BASKETBALL SCHEDULE

October 26	Baldwyn	Home
October 29	Fairview	Home (8 th only)
November 2	Mooreville	Home
November 5	Fairview	Away (8 th only)
November 9	Fulton	Away
November 12	Guntown	Home
November 14	Baldwyn Tournament	Away (Times TBA)
November 16	Belmont	Home
November 19	Mooreville	Home
November 30	Belmont	Away
December 1	Guntown	Home
December 2	Guntown	Home
December 7-11	Itawamba Co. Tourn.	Fulton
January 7	Hatley	Home
January 11-15	Dorsey Tournament	Home (Times TBA)
January 21	Nettleton	Away

*All games begin at 5:00 unless otherwise noted

BASEBALL AND SOFTBALL SCHEDULES WILL BE RELEASED LATER.

STATE TESTING DATES 2009-2010 SCHOOL YEAR

<u>Testing Program</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Test Date</u>	<u>Make-Up</u>
Grade Level Testing Program	Mississippi Science Test Grades 5 & 8	March 3, 2010	March 4, 2010
Grade Level Testing Program	Mississippi Writing Test-Grades 4 & 7	March 10, 2010	March 11, 2010
Grade Level Testing Program	Mississippi Curriculum Test 2 (MCT2)		
	Reading	May 11, 2009	May 14, 2009
	Language Arts	May 12, 2009	May 14, 2009
	Mathematics	May 13, 2009	May 14, 2009

SCHOOL LUNCH PRICES FOR 2009-2010 SCHOOL YEAR

<u>Students</u>		<u>Teachers</u>	
Full Price Breakfast	\$ 1.00	Breakfast	\$ 1.70
Full Price Lunch (K-6)	\$ 2.00	Lunch	\$ 3.00
Full Price Lunch (7-12)	\$ 2.25		
Reduced Price Breakfast	\$.30		
Reduced Price Lunch	\$.40		

STATE OWNED TEXTBOOKS

Textbooks for pupils are furnished by the state. These are issued at the beginning of the year on a loan basis. Parents are required to sign the book card, assuming full responsibility for the books and their proper care until they have been turned back in to the school. All books are issued by the state with a minimum expectancy of four years use. On this basis, fines for lost or damaged books will be assessed and collected by designated teachers according to the following schedule:

- For a book badly damaged, a fine of not less than $\frac{1}{4}$ of the value will be assessed from the person responsible for the book.
- For lost books, fines will be governed by the number of years the book has been used.
 1. Books used less than 1 year –full price.
 2. Books used less than 2 years – $\frac{3}{4}$ full price.
 3. Books used less than 3 years – $\frac{1}{2}$ full price.
 4. Books used less than 4 years – $\frac{1}{4}$ full price.
 5. Minimum charge for any book in usable condition is $\frac{1}{4}$ of the full price.

ATTENDANCE POLICY

The Mississippi Compulsory School Attendance Law requires regular school attendance for children 6 to 17 years of age. **State law requires that each time a child is absent from school that a written excuse be sent to the school explaining why the child was absent and the dates they were absent.**

Absences due to authorized school activity, personal illness or injury, isolation by order of the county health officer or state board of health, death of an immediate family member, medical or dental appointment approved by the superintendent or his designee gained prior to the absence (except in case of an emergency), court proceedings or administrative tribunal if the child is party to the proceedings or subpoenaed as a witness, religious event to which the family subscribes, valid educational opportunity (approval must be gained prior to the opportunity), or when conditions are sufficient to warrant non-attendance will be an excused absence.

Written documentation of each unexcused absence must be received within two (2) days of the student's return to school; otherwise, the absence will be considered unexcused.

Each semester, a student may use no more than five (5) parental notes as documentation for excused absences. After five (5) parental notes are received in a semester, the student must provide "official" documentation (for example, documentation by a doctor or court)...these "official" absences will not count toward the five (5) parental notes. Any absence beyond those described will be considered an unexcused absence.

MISSED WORK DURING ABSENCES – MAKE UP POLICY

It is the student's responsibility to consult each teacher and make arrangements to complete make-up work upon returning to school. The time allowed for make up work will be equal to the number of days a student was absent (i.e. – a student who misses two (2) days of school will have two (2) days to complete all work.) Any work not made up during this time will result in a grade of zero (0). Additionally, all work made up as a result of an unexcused absence will result in a grade of no more than 60.

TARDINESS

Students are expected to be prompt. A record of student tardiness will be maintained in the school office. When a student receives three (3) unexcused tardies to school, he/she will receive an unexcused absence. For junior high students, tardies to class will be handled via the school discipline ladder.

LEAVING CAMPUS/CUTTING CLASSES

All Itawamba County School District campuses are closed. No student will be allowed to leave campus during school hours without properly checking out through the school office. Violation of this policy will result in disciplinary action.

EARLY DISMISSAL FROM SCHOOL

Due to concern for the safety of all students, incoming telephone calls will not be accepted to change any student's transportation plan. If there must be a change, the parent or guardian must either appear at the school office in person to relay the change of transportation plans or send a note to the school. All notes must be in the parent or guardian's handwriting and should contain a signature and telephone number where the parent or guardian can be reached if verification is necessary. In the event of an emergency, exceptions may be made.

If a student is to be dismissed early, the parent or guardian should contact the school office by 9:00 a.m. by letter or in person. Exceptions will only be made in cases of emergency. The principal will determine if the early dismissal is excused or unexcused. Three (3) unexcused early dismissals will result in one (1) unexcused absence. Documentation such as an excuse from a doctor's or dentist's office are examples of excused early dismissals. As with documentation from an absence, early dismissal documentation must be submitted to the office within two days of the early checkout or it will be recorded as unexcused.

VISITORS TO THE SCHOOL

In order to assure that no unauthorized person enter buildings with wrongful intent, all visitors to schools shall report to the school office upon entering the campus to receive authorization before entering any other building on the campus (this policy does not apply when parents have been invited into a classroom or into an assembly program). School personnel should be advised in advance of visits whenever possible.

Unauthorized persons shall not be permitted in school buildings or on school grounds. School principals are authorized to take appropriate action to prevent such persons from entering buildings and from loitering on school grounds. Such persons will be prosecuted to the full extent of the law.

PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT AND PARENTAL CLASSROOM VISITS

Parental involvement is an essential component in the successful student and in a successful school. Student success is very often driven by the degree that parents become involved in the educational process of their children. However, parents, counselors, administrators, the superintendent, the school board, and local citizens must have confidence in classroom teachers and believe that they are well trained, capable, and willing to perform the job duties they have been assigned.

Because of the safety of our students and staff and because of the high risk of interference of the educational process, parental classroom visits will only be allowed when the following protocol has been followed and shall be contingent upon the following regulations:

1. There should be day-to-day parent-child conversations to determine progress, deficiencies, etc. in the classroom.
2. Parents should check report cards, progress reports, and other

- communications between school and home.
3. There should first be correspondence from parent to teacher regarding parental concerns. Lines of communication between parent and teacher should always remain open. Communication avenues include, but are not limited to, written correspondence through the student, telephone calls, email, etc.
 4. There should first be a parent-teacher conference to discuss concerns.
 5. If steps 1-4 have been followed, a parent may request a classroom visit. A request for a classroom visit requires a 24 hour advance notice and administrative approval. Additional classroom visits would be at the discretion of the school principal in consultation with the classroom teacher.

DELIVERIES

Due to the amount of time taken out of the instructional day and the danger of balloons, glass containers, flowers, and other obstructing objects at school and on the busses, the Itawamba County School District prohibits all deliveries of balloons, glass containers, flowers, and other gifts and obstructing objects to school for students, faculty, and staff. Essential school supplies, supplies or food for school functions, medicine, and other essential and necessary items approved by the school principal shall be delivered to the school office for pick-up or distribution to students, faculty, and staff. It shall be at the principal's sole discretion to determine whether such delivery is essential or necessary and the principal may reject any delivery not deemed essential or necessary.

MEDICINES

School personnel, including school nurses, shall not exceed the usual practice of competent first aid when required. They shall not diagnose and they shall not administer any over-the-counter medications, including, but not limited to aspirin and Tylenol, without written parental permission, and then only for first aid emergency purposes. School personnel, including school nurses, shall not administer prescription medication to a student unless:

1. The student's physician authorizes school personnel to administer the medication by completing and signing the physician portion of the Itawamba County School District Authorization for Medications to be Taken During School Hours.
2. The parent or guardian signs the Parent/Guardian Authorization and Indemnity Agreement.
3. The parent or guardian completes and signs the Parent/Guardian portion of the Itawamba County School District authorization for Medication to be Taken During School Hours; and
4. The prescription medications in a proper container with a label from the pharmacy which states the student's name, name of medication, time of administration, method of administration, prescription number, name of pharmacy and date filled.

The parent or guardian is responsible for obtaining the physician's authorization on the Itawamba County School District Authorization for Medications to be Taken During School Hours and is responsible for getting the medication to the school. No prescriptions or over the counter medication is to be sent to the school by the child.

DRESS CODE

The Itawamba County School District has a compelling governmental interest to establish a school environment which will promote a more effective climate for learning; aid students in concentrating on school work; uphold modesty standards; promote a campus atmosphere of respect, pride, and self-esteem; instill students with discipline; promote a wholesome academic environment; and be safer for the students, faculty, and staff; therefore, the Itawamba County School District adopts the following dress code for its students:

1. Students in grades 6-12 will not be allowed to wear shorts, tube tops, tank tops, muscle shirts, overalls, sweat pants, jogging pants, or windsuit pants.
2. No student will be allowed to wear any clothing, item, article that promotes or advertises alcohol or the consumption of alcohol.
3. No student will be allowed to wear any clothing, item, article that promotes or advertises tobacco or the use of tobacco.
4. No student will be allowed to wear any clothing, item or article that contains profanity or suggestive or obscene writing.
5. No student will be allowed to wear excessively baggy pants or shorts; nor will any student be allowed to wear pants or shorts with excessively baggy or big pockets. All pants, shorts, and pockets must be fitted so that no illegal or unauthorized items may be hidden therein.
6. No student will be allowed to wear fatigue pants or shorts.
7. No student will be allowed to wear trench coats.
8. No student will be allowed to wear suggestive or indecent clothing.
9. No student will be allowed to wear clothing with suggestive or indecent symbols, pictures, numbers or writing, either manufactured or handwritten. No fraternity jerseys or shirts will be worn.
10. Undergarments of any kind shall not be visible.
11. Skirts or dresses shall be knee length or longer.
12. Hats, caps, head covers or dark glasses may not be worn inside school buildings. Other articles which may interrupt the educational process may not be brought to school. Prescription sunglasses may be worn in the classroom upon orders of a doctor.
13. Clothing and general appearance are not to be of the type that would cause a disturbance or interfere with the instructional program and shall not constitute a health or safety hazard.
14. Shoes must be worn at all times.
15. Midriffs shall not be exposed.
16. No see-through clothing shall be permitted.
17. Clothing with holes that expose the skin or undergarments shall not be worn.
18. No clothing top shall be so low to expose any part of the breast or an excessive part of the back.
19. Shirts must be buttoned.
20. Belts, if worn, must be buckled.
21. Pants are to be worn at the student's waist.

VIOLATION OF STUDENT DRESS CODE

The following actions will take effect when a student violates the student dress code. All offenses accumulate on a per semester basis.

- First offense – Warning and required to change clothes
- Second offense – Three (3) days of out of school suspension
- Third offense – Ten (10) days of out of school suspension
- Fourth and subsequent – Placement in the alternative school for a minimum of nine (9) weeks

SCHOOL BUSES

Because of our concern for the safety of your child to and from school on the school bus, the following regulations will govern bus transportation:

PUPILS SHALL:

1. Be ready in the morning at the scheduled time and place for the bus to arrive.
2. Always pass in front of bus when crossing the road, whether entering or exiting.
3. Wait until the bus comes to a complete stop before loading or unloading.
4. Wait for signal from driver before crossing the road to enter or leave the bus. Always look in both directions to be sure that it is safe before crossing.
5. Be quiet when the bus is nearing and crossing a railroad or highway.

PUPILS SHALL NOT:

1. Play on the road while waiting on the bus.
2. Put head, hands, or feet out of the window.
3. Mar, deface, cut, tear, punch, or rip seats or damage any part of the bus.
4. Use or possess tobacco, intoxicants, or weapons on the bus.
5. Fight or roughhouse.
6. Strike or threaten to cause bodily harm to any student or the bus driver.
7. Make excessive noise or throw objects.
8. Commit any act of improper conduct.

CONSEQUENCES FOR VIOLATION OF BUS POLICIES

If your child is reported to the principal's office one (1) time by the bus driver for misbehavior on the bus, the parent or guardian will receive notification describing the incident and asking for help with the matter. If the misbehavior is not corrected and your child is reported a second time, he or she will be suspended from the bus for one (1) to three (3) days. The parent and child must come in for a conference with the principal before a student will be reinstated to the bus. The third violation will result in the student being suspended from the bus for the remainder of the semester. The rules above were set forth by the Mississippi Department of Education in accordance with state laws. Each parent or guardian should review these rules with their child.

BUS REPORTING POLICIES

1. First offense – Report must be signed by parent/guardian and administrator.
2. All reasonable efforts will be made to place a camera on a bus following a first offense.
3. Following a second offense – A conference must be held with the principal, student, and at least one parent or guardian before being reinstated to the bus. The second report should be signed by the parent/guardian and an administrator.
4. All reasonable efforts will be made to place a camera on a bus following a second offense.
5. Third offense – Violation will result in bus suspension for the remainder of the semester.
6. In the event the principal is unable to contact the parent/guardian on any offense, a copy of the notification shall be mailed by certified mail to the parent/guardian listed in the student's file with a letter requesting a conference with the principal.
7. In the event the principal makes an investigation and finds that the merits do not warrant an offense, then the administrator shall report in writing on the bus conduct report his

findings to the parent and bus driver and note that the offense report will not be included in his bus record.

8. All films shall be marked by bus number and dated. All films containing offenses warranting reporting shall be preserved the entire semester. All tapes are deemed confidential and privileged and are the sole and exclusive property of the Itawamba County School District.

STUDENT BEHAVIOR – DISRUPTIONS AND CONSEQUENCES

Proper student behavior is essential for an optimal instructional atmosphere. A student who is misbehaving or who is out of control in the classroom is not only impacting his or her own learning, but also adversely affecting his or her peers' ability to be taught and learn in the classroom setting. Each classroom teacher will develop classroom rules and consequences that students will be expected to follow. These rules and consequences will be enforced equally for all students. In the event that a student continues to violate a teacher's classroom policies or in the event of a severe disruption or violation, the teacher will refer the student to the school administration for disciplinary action. While discipline often carries with it a negative connotation, the discipline is aimed at correcting an undesirable behavior and hopefully helps it from occurring again in the future.

CORPORAL PUNISHMENT

Certified employees only are authorized to paddle a student. Procedural safeguards are to be followed including written documentation and names of witnesses. All students enrolled in the Itawamba County School District are subject to corporal punishment per school board policy.

“Corporal punishment administered in a reasonable manner, or any reasonable action to maintain control and discipline of students taken by a teacher, assistant teacher, principal or assistant principal acting within the scope of his employment or function and in accordance with any state or federal laws or rules or regulations of the State Board of Education or the local school board does not constitute negligence or child abuse. No teacher, assistant teacher, principal or assistant principal so acting shall be held liable in a suit for civil damages alleged to have been suffered by a student as a result of the administration of corporal punishment, or the taking of action to maintain control and discipline of a student, unless the court determines that the teacher, assistant teacher, principal or assistant principal acted in bad faith or with malicious purpose or in a manner exhibiting a wanton or willful disregard of human rights or safety...Corporal punishment means the reasonable use of physical force or physical contact by a teacher, assistant teacher, principal or assistant principal, as may be necessary to maintain discipline, to enforce a school rule, for self-protection or for the protection of other students from disruptive students.”

Effective October 18, 2005 parents/guardians will not be given the option to execute a written document stating that their child shall not be paddled and any documents executed prior to October 18, 2005 shall be null and void.

DISCIPLINE

THE FOLLOWING ACTIONS WILL TAKE EFFECT AFTER A STUDENT HAS ACCUMULATED FIVE CLASSROOM VIOLATIONS AND IS SENT TO PRINCIPAL'S OFFICE OR HAS VIOLATED THE SEVERE DISRUPTION RULES. SEVERITY OF OFFENSE WILL DETERMINE THE BEGINNING STEP. THIS SHALL BE AT THE DISCRETION OF THE PRINCIPAL.

- Step I. (1) Detention 2 days for 30 minutes or corporal punishment---2 swats.
(2) Removal from ladder if not referred back to the office within 10 days.
- Step II. (1) Contact Parents.***
(2) Detention 3 days for 30 minutes or corporal punishment---3 swats.
(3) Loss of privileges of school functions for 5 school days.
(4) Removal from ladder if not referred back to the office within 20 days.
- Step III. (1) Contact Parents.***
(2) In-School Suspension for 3 school days.
(3) Loss of privileges of school functions for 5 school days.
(4) Removal from ladder if not referred back to the office within 30 school days.
- Step IV (1) Contact Parents.***
(2) Suspension for 3 school days.
(3) Loss of privileges of school functions for 5 school days.
(4) Removal from ladder if not referred back to the office within 30 school days.
- Step V. (1) Contact Parents.***
(2) In-School Suspension for 5 days.
(3) Loss of privileges of school functions for 10 school days.
(4) Removal from ladder if not referred back to the office within 30 school days.
- Step VI. (1) Contact Parents.***
(2) In-School Suspension for 10 days.
(3) Loss of privileges of school functions* for 30 school days.
(4) Removal from ladder if not referred back to the office within 40 days.
- Step VII. (1) Contact Parent.***
(2) Assign to Alternative Classroom.
(3) Assignment will be on offense.
(4) Loss of privileges of school functions* for time in Alternative Classroom.
- Step VIII. (1) Contact Parent.***
(2) Recommendation for suspension for remainder of school year.
(3) Probation for one school year when student returns the following year.
- Step IX. (1) Contact Parent.***
(2) Recommendation for expulsion.**

***School function is defined as any function both during the school day and after school, both home and away.**

****Expulsion, at a minimum, means removal from the regular school program at the location where the infraction occurs for a period of not less than one (1) year.**

*****A parent, guardian or custodian of a compulsory-school-age child enrolled in this District shall be responsible financially for his or her minor child's destructive acts against school property or persons;**

A parent, guardian or custodian of a compulsory-school-age child enrolled in this District may be requested to appear at school by an appropriate school official for a conference regarding the destructive acts of their child; and

A parent, guardian or custodian of a compulsory-school-age child enrolled in this District who has been summoned by proper notification by an appropriate school official shall be required under this provision to attend such discipline conference.

Any parent, guardian or custodian of a compulsory-school-age child subject to the provisions of this section who refuses or willfully fails to perform any of the duties

imposed upon him or her under the law shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and, upon conviction, shall be fined not to exceed an amount as provided by law.

This District shall be entitled to recover damages in an amount not to exceed an amount as provided by law, plus necessary court costs, from the parents of any minor (6-18) who maliciously and willfully damages or destroys property belonging to such school district.

SEVERE DISRUPTIONS

Offense

1. Open defiance of a teacher.
Steps II - VI
2. Profanity, or vulgarity (to include acts, gestures, or symbols directed at another person)
3. Possession of tobacco or tobacco-related products at school or on buses.
4. Smoking at or in the immediate vicinity of school or on buses.
5. Use, sale, transfer, or possession of drugs, alcohol or drug paraphernalia on or near school grounds or on buses.
6. Defacing or otherwise injuring property that belongs to the school district.
(to include restitution for damage)
7. Fighting at school, on the way to or from school, or at school activities.
8. Use or possession of weapons.
9. Use or possession of fireworks.
10. Disruptive behavior in the cafeteria, on the campus, on buses, or other school activities.
11. Stealing.
12. Cutting classes.
13. Truancy.
14. Leaving campus without authorization.
15. Gambling or possession of gambling devices at school.
16. Harassment, intimidation, or threatening other students and/or teachers.
17. Continued disobedience.
18. Running in the hall.
19. Unnecessary noise in the hall.
20. Other behaviors as designated by the principal
21. Use, transfer, or possession of a firearm on school property or at any school related activity.

Consequences

1. Discipline ladder
2. Steps II - VI
3. Steps I - V
4. Steps II - V
5. Steps VII - IX
6. Steps II - VII
7. Steps I - VII
8. Steps V - IX
9. Steps II - IX
10. Steps II - VI
11. Steps III - VI
12. Steps II - VII
13. Steps II, III, V - VII
14. Steps II - VII
15. Steps III - VI
16. Steps II - IX
17. Steps I - VI
18. Steps I - VI
19. Steps I - VI
20. Steps I - VI
21. Step IX

PROMOTION/RETENTION ADMINISTRATIVE POLICY

Decisions on promotions and retentions will be based on the following:

1. Recorded grades in each subject.
2. Consideration of results on standardized achievement tests.
3. When necessary, retention decisions may be based upon physical or psychological grounds where adequate evidence exists to justify retention.
4. Retention of students for extracurricular purposes is prohibited.

In all cases the final decision will be made by the principal.

GUIDELINES

Kindergarten

The teacher and principal will determine each student's readiness for first grade.

First Grade

A student must receive a passing grade (75% or above) in English, Reading, Spelling and Mathematics in order to be eligible for promotion. Handwriting must be legible.

Second and Third Grades

In order to be eligible for promotion a student must receive a passing grade (75% or above) in English, Reading, Mathematics and Spelling. Handwriting must be legible.

Fourth, Fifth and Sixth Grades

To be promoted a student must receive a passing grade (70% or above) in English, Reading, Mathematics, Science/Health, Social Studies and Spelling.

Seventh and Eighth Grades

In order to be eligible for promotion a student must receive a passing grade (70% or above) in English, Mathematics, Science, Social Studies and Spelling.

Grade Policy

Assignments of passing or failing grades to students in individual subjects are the responsibility of the classroom teacher. Determination of whether a student should be retained in the same grade or promoted or transferred to the next highest grade is the jurisdiction of the school principal. However, the procedures for assigning grades in subjects, promotion, retention, or transferring shall be controlled by these policies:

1. There will be clearly written professional guidelines for procedures to be followed for grading, transferring pupils, promotions or retentions.
2. These guidelines shall be consistent for all students enrolled at each of the several age or grade levels served by the district.
3. These guidelines shall be published in a manner that they shall be made available to students and parents at the beginning of the year.

4. These guidelines will incorporate results of state and local testing programs.
5. During the course of the school year, reports to parents at the end of grading periods will clearly indicate, in writing, the progress toward promotion being made by a student.
6. In the event a pupil is retained, promoted, or transferred, documentation will be secured signifying the parent and/or pupil is aware of what has occurred.
7. The professional guidelines will be updated each school year.
8. When necessary, retention decisions may be based upon physical or psychological grounds where adequate evidence exists to justify retention.
9. Retention of students for extracurricular purposes is prohibited.

EXEMPTION POLICY

Only students in Grades 6-12 will be exempt from SEMESTER exams if the following criteria are met:

1. No more than Two (2) unexcused tardies per semester.
2. No more than One (1) reported violation that results in disciplinary action per semester.
3. Those students with perfect attendance and at least a **C** average in a course/class shall be exempt from the requirement of completing the semester examination for that course/class.
4. Those students with a **B** average or above in a course/class shall be exempt from the requirement of completing the semester examination for that course/class. These students can have three (3) excused absences.
5. Those students with an **A** average or above in a course/class shall be exempt from the requirement of completing the semester examination for that course/class. These students can have five (5) excused absences.
6. A student exempted from a semester examination under any of the above wishing to attempt to improve his/her grade may take the semester examination. No reduction in grade average will be made due to an attempt of a semester examination.

Students in Grades K-5 will not take exams and, therefore, will not have an exemption policy.

GRADING POLICY

The grading policy for grades 1 - 3 is:

A - 94-100

B - 87-93

C - 81-86

D - 75-80

F - 74 or below

There will not be an honor roll for first, second or third grades.

The grading policy for grades 4 - 8, except those classes which earn Carnegie units, is:

A - 93 - 100

B - 85 - 92

C - 75 - 84

D - 70 - 74

F - 69 or below

The grading policy for grades 9 - 12 and those classes which earn Carnegie units is:

A - 90 - 100

B - 80 - 89

C - 70 - 79

D - 65 - 69

F - 64 or below

The Superintendent will prescribe the Kindergarten report card and grading system. All report cards in grades 1 - 12 will include the numerical average for the grading report period.

NINE WEEK GRADING PERIODS

1st and 3rd Nine Weeks Averages:

75% daily grades, weekly tests, chapter tests, project grades, etc.

25% nine weeks test grade

2nd and 4th Nine Weeks Averages:

100% daily grades, weekly tests, chapter tests, project grades, etc.

Semester Average:

80% - two nine weeks average

20% - semester exam

Yearly Average: First and second semester averages totaled and divided by 2

CELL PHONES/PAGERS

Students are not allowed to have or use cellular telephones, blackberries or pagers on school property during the school day.

Penalties for violating this policy:

1st Offense - The device will be confiscated and held for a minimum of five (5) days and a maximum of thirty (30) days. The parent/guardian must pick up the device. It will not be returned to the student. To obtain the device prior to the expiration of thirty (30) days, a fee of \$25.00 must be paid.

2nd Offense - The device will be confiscated and held for a minimum of ten (10) days and a maximum of ninety (90) days. The parent/guardian must pick up the device. It will not be returned to the student. To obtain the device prior to the expiration of ninety (90) days, a fee of \$35.00 must be paid.

Subsequent Offenses - With each subsequent offense the minimum number of days that the device will be confiscated will increase by five (5) days, the maximum number of days that the device will be confiscated will increase by thirty (30) days and the fee will increase by \$10.00. For example, on the third offense, the device will be confiscated and held for a minimum of fifteen (15) days and a maximum of one hundred twenty (120) days. The parent/guardian must pick up the device. It will not be returned to the student. To obtain the device prior to the expiration of one hundred twenty (120) days, a fee of \$45.00 must be paid.

Penalties for refusing to relinquish the device:

1st Offense - The student will be assigned to the Itawamba County Alternative School to serve a period of three (3) weeks.

Subsequent Offenses - With each subsequent offense the student will be assigned to the Itawamba County Alternative School to serve an additional three (3) week period. For example, on the second offense the student will be assigned to the Itawamba County Alternative School to serve a period of six (6) weeks. These offenses will accumulate on a school year basis, with a student beginning at the 1st offense at the beginning of each school year.

UNAUTHORIZED ITEMS

When a student brings an unauthorized item to school, including, but not limited to, cellular telephones, blackberries, pagers, ipods, and all other electronic devices, the student foregoes and relinquishes any and all rights to possession and ownership of that item. When the item is confiscated, the Itawamba County School District will use reasonable care and caution to return the item in the same condition in which it was received. However, the Itawamba County School District is not responsible or liable for the loss, damage or destruction of any confiscated, unauthorized item.

OUTSTANDING CAFETERIA BALANCES

Once a student's outstanding cafeteria account balance reaches \$10.00, the following procedures will be followed:

1. A statement will be sent home to the parent/guardian with the student informing the parent/guardian of the student's account balance. A Free and Reduced Application will be sent with the statement.
2. If the balance goes unpaid for three (3) school days after the first notice is sent home, a second notice will be sent home with the student to the parent/guardian with the following information:
 - a. The student's account balance;
 - b. Informing the parent/guardian that this is a second notice;
 - c. Informing the parent/guardian that if the account balance is not paid within three (3) days from the date of the second notice, a third notice will be mailed by certified mail, with the cost of postage being assessed to the student's account;
 - d. Another Free and Reduced Application will be sent.
3. If the balance goes unpaid for three (3) school days after the second notice is sent home, a third notice will be mailed by certified mail to the parent/guardian informing them of the student's balance, including the postage cost, and informing the parent/guardian that if the balance is not paid within three (3) school days the following will occur:
 - a. The student will have to pay cash for his/her meal prior to entering the cafeteria line;
 - b. The student will not receive his/her report card and will not be allowed to attend any field trips until the account balance is paid;
 - c. The student will not be exempt from exams if the account balance is not paid.
4. If the account balance is not paid within three (3) days after the third notice is mailed, the consequences outlined in number 3 above will be enforced until the account balance is paid in full.

CAFETERIA RETURNED CHECKS

The Itawamba County School District will not accept a check on an account after it has received two returned checks from that account.

The Itawamba County School District will charge a \$10.00 fee for all returned checks.

STUDENT MEAL FEE WAIVER

If circumstances occur where a parent/guardian cannot afford to pay for their child's meals, but they do not qualify for free or reduced meals, the parent/guardian may petition the Food Service Director and Superintendent of Education in person, explain their circumstances and ask for a temporary waiver of meal charges. The Food Service Director and Superintendent of Education will either approve or deny the temporary waiver. If the temporary waiver is approved, all meal charges will be waived until the next School Board

meeting, at which time the temporary waiver must be approved by the Itawamba County School Board. The Itawamba County School Board will determine the length of time for the temporary waiver.

Examples of reasons for a temporary waiver include, but are not limited to, destruction of the parent/guardian's home or catastrophic illness. No exception will be made if the parent/guardian qualifies for free or reduced meals but refuses to make application.

HALL OF FAME REQUIREMENTS

1. The student must maintain a 3.75 grade point average which entails the student having only one "B" in his or her junior high course work. The following averages will be used to determine eligibility: sixth grade year, seventh grade year, first semester eighth grade year.
2. The student must be involved in at least two school-related extracurricular activities.
3. The student must have no major written discipline actions in their junior high years. Major discipline actions include suspensions, alternative school, in-school suspension, and repeated corporal punishment. These will be evaluated at the discretion of the principal.
4. The student must display outstanding character in the classroom and in all other aspects of school life.
5. The student must be enrolled at Dorsey Attendance Center for his or her seventh and eighth grade years.

MR. & MRS. DORSEY JHS SELECTION

The students must meet all the requirements of the Hall of Fame.

Mr. and Miss DJHS will be voted on by teachers and administration of Dorsey Junior High.

INTERNET ACCESS FOR STUDENTS

The rich sources of information available on the internet hold the promise of greatly enhancing the quality of education available to all students. Therefore, internet access will be made available to the students of Itawamba County School District for the purposes of communication, research, and education. It is our intent to provide an internet environment that is safe and appropriate for the maturity level and need of student users. Inter access by students will be monitored by district personnel and the degree of access to the internet will be dependent on the age of the students.

GUN FREE SCHOOLS

The Itawamba County School operates in compliance with the Gun-Free Schools Act, Title VIII of the Elementary and Secondary Schools Act of 1965. Therefore, all policies and procedures adopted by the Board which affect the conduct and/or discipline of students are supplemented by requirements of this act as follows:

FIREARMS PROHIBITTED

No student is permitted to bring a firearm on school property.

DEFINITIONS

A “firearm” means any type of weapon, including a starter gun which will or is designed to or may readily be converted to expel a projectile by the action of an explosive; the frame or receiver of any such weapon; any firearm muffler or firearm silencer; any destructive device, including any explosive incendiary, poison gas, bomb, grenade, rocket, missile, mine or other similar device, any type of weapon; any combination of parts either designed or intended for use in converting any device into any destructive device described above and from which a destructive device may be readily assembled; or as otherwise defined by federal law. “School property” includes any school building, bus, campus, grounds, recreational area, athletic field, or other property owned, used or operated by the district.

DISCIPLINARY ACTION

The penalty for bringing a firearm on school property shall be expulsion from the school program and all of its activities for a minimum of one calendar year. Any student who is charged with bringing a firearm on school property shall be automatically suspended for ten days and recommended for expulsion for a minimum of one calendar year by the principal. The suspension shall take effect immediately following the provision of initial due process and pending the conclusion of due process on the recommendation of expulsion, all in accordance with Policy JD-1 and all others subsequently adopted by the board. The superintendent who receives a recommendation for expulsion may determine, based upon the particular circumstances of a given case, that other disciplinary action or alternative placement is appropriate and may make such recommendation to the board.

READMISSION

A student who is expelled for bringing a firearm on school property must apply for readmission to the regular school program as provided by policies JBG and JCAA. Readmission may be granted by the board upon a documented showing that the student has participated in successful rehabilitative efforts including, but not limited to, progress in an alternative school or similar program.

REPORTING

Violations to the firearm prohibition state in this policy shall be reported in accordance with policy JCDAE.

WEAPONS

No student, employee, or visitor may possess a weapon on, in, or about school buildings, grounds, athletic fields, or any property used for school-related purposes, except as permitted by law (no student, employee, or visitor may possess or carry any weapon within a vehicle brought onto school property).

DEFINITION OF PROHIBITED WEAPONS

Prohibited weapons include, but may not be limited to the following:

1. Gun, rifle, pistol, or other firearm
2. Dynamite cartridge, bomb, grenade, mine, ammunition or other explosive
3. BB gun, air rifle, air pistol
4. Bowie knife, dirk, dagger, switchblade pocketknife, or other knife
5. Slingshot
6. Leaded cane, blackjack
7. Metallic or artificial knuckles
8. Razors or razor blades
9. Any sharp-pointed or edged instrument (except instructional supplies, unaltered nail files and clips and tools used only to prepare food or for instruction and maintenance of school property)
10. Any instrument having the appearance of a weapon (including utensils, imitation firearms or knives, etc.)

PERMITTED USES

The superintendent or principal, as appropriate and in his discretion, may give prior approval for weapons to be on or about the campus under the following circumstances:

1. Students and employees may possess weapons on school grounds only when the weapons are used for valid educational purposes or school-sanctioned ceremonies.
2. Law enforcement officers and other government officials may carry weapons onto school grounds as permitted by the law.

PENALTIES FOR VIOLATIONS

- Any student who violates this policy will be disciplined in accordance with Policy JD-1.
- Any employee who violates this policy is subject to disciplinary action in accordance with policy GBN.
- Any visitor who violates this policy will be asked to leave school property immediately and further action, including, but limited to filing criminal charges, may be taken as necessary.
- Any person violating this policy may be subject to criminal action and penalties as provided in Mississippi Code Ann. 97-37-17.

REPORTING VIOLATIONS

Violations of this policy shall be reported to the appropriate law enforcement officials in accordance with Policies JCDAE and GBRM.

Notice: A copy of Miss. Code Ann. 97-37-17 will be posted at each school.