

Covington High School

Student Handbook 2020-2021

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Message from the Administration

Welcome to another school year at Covington High School. We look forward to working with the staff, students, parents and community stakeholders to provide an exceptional educational experience. Working together we can all achieve our goals in developing students that are ready to enter a 21st century work environment or higher education.

This handbook provides students and parents with essential information about Covington High School. It contains information about curriculum, general school information, student activities, discipline and student conduct, as well as student attendance. Please take time to familiarize yourself with the handbook and discuss with your son or daughter. If you need any further information, please contact Covington High School.

Everyone starts the new school year off as an "A" student with perfect attendance. Set your goals for the school year high and work extremely hard to achieve them in all you do. The staff at Covington High School wants the best for each student and we work with you to achieve your goals.

We hope everyone has a great 2020-2021 school year!

Sincerely,
 Derek Cantrell, Principal
 Chris Jones, Assistant Principal

Philosophy of CHS

The Covington City School Board is committed to providing equal opportunity for every student to achieve maximum intellectual, social, emotional and physical growth and to ensuring that each student be equipped to communicate effectively with other people, to be competent both in the work place and in higher education and to feel confident of the ability to make creative and constructive decisions in his/her life.

The Covington City School Board:

- provides the necessary trained and dedicated leadership, qualified personnel, equipment and materials to assure an appropriate education for every student;
- treats all members of the school community equitably with the highest degree of respect;

- allocates and uses assets fairly and efficiently.

Objectives

1. To instill in students a sense of responsibility for their own learning and behavior, a desire for knowledge, excellence in work, and a sense of personal worth and dignity, realizing that learning is an on-going process, continuing beyond high school.
2. To encourage students to develop a set of aesthetic values and sound moral guidelines that will continue throughout life.
3. To teach students to examine critically the social, moral and political messages conveyed by the mass media, both print and electronic, and to evaluate carefully the influences of those messages in their lives.
4. To develop within students respect and appreciation for their heritage, country, authority, and the rights of all individuals.
5. To teach thoroughly by varied instructional methods the fundamental skills of each subject, enabling students to successfully seek a higher education or gainful employment.
6. To provide alternative educational opportunities, when possible, for students whose needs have not been met in the traditional academic settings.
7. To offer a program of instruction which provides training in the academic, technical, social experiences, while developing citizenship, leadership, abilities, and talents.
8. To encourage student participation in curricular and co-curricular activities, thereby providing social experiences and developing citizenship, leadership abilities, and talents.
9. To improve communication among administration, faculty, students, and parents in order to unify the purpose of education.
10. To realize the demand for continuous study of the students' needs and for updating the instructional program to meet those needs so that students may adapt to their community and the changes which will occur in society.
11. To encourage students to practice principles of sound mental and physical health, continuing to strive for an environment free of all substance abuse.
12. To identify the students' abilities and needs through testing and guidance and to steer them into those educational and career areas in which they can prove successful.

13. To cooperate with community agencies and businesses to expand the education program to its fullest extent.

CHAPTER ONE

CURRICULUM

When a student enters Covington High School, the student, parents, and counselor cooperatively select an appropriate course of study. The selection of the course of study for a student is based on teacher recommendations, achievement in schools previously attended, level of ability, and future goals and aspirations. There are two basic courses of study at CHS: Standard Studies, Advanced Studies. A third course of study, Applied Studies, is available to students with an Individualized Education Plan who need it to be successful.

Each course of study has the flexibility to meet the various needs of our students. Students may choose to adopt their chosen course of study according to their particular needs and interests.

All students need to plan an appropriate high school course of study for Grades 8-12. To get the most from their high school experiences, students need guidance and assistance in selecting courses in terms of sequence and relating courses to a possible post-high school career choice.

Early program planning can have a substantial impact on the development of a good education and career plan by students in high school. Parent involvement is a significant aspect of the planning process.

SCHEDULING PROCESS

School counselors have a conference with each student to answer questions and assist him/her in making final choices of subjects for the next school year.

Alternate choices are made for electives, and the school reserves the right to assign students to their alternate choice or another course if necessary due to scheduling conflicts.

Counselors work carefully with each student to choose the courses needed for graduation with the appropriate diploma, for postsecondary admission, for employment, and for courses requested by the NCAA for athletic eligibility at Division I colleges. Counselors also discuss students' past academic progress, their aptitudes, their interests, and their post-graduation plans so that course selection will help to ensure success and satisfy future goals. Placement into particular classes may be determined by consideration of current teachers' recommendations, grades, and, in some cases, diagnostic test results.

Students take their completed Registration Forms home, have their parent/guardian review them, and then return the signed sheets to their school counselor. If students wish to be registered for a class for which they are not recommended, a parent must arrange a conference with the teacher of the class and may be required to sign a contract. These requirements are in place to help encourage students to take courses in which they can be successful.

All classes, including CTE courses and programs, are offered regardless to race, color, national origin, sex, or disability.

POLICY FOR CHANGING REQUIRED SUBJECTS

A student may request a change in track or level in a particular required subject at any time during the first 5 days of school. He/she may be granted the change provided that the following criteria are met:

- The teacher of the dropped class agrees that the change should be made.
- The teacher of the class to be added approves and there is space available in the class.
- The counselor agrees the change should be made.
- The parent approves/requests the change.
- The school principal approves the change.
- The change is made without any adverse effect on the rest of the student's schedule.

At the end of the first semester, the student may request a track or level change, but all of the conditions and procedures listed above apply. The student may not request a change back to his originally scheduled level for that academic year.

POLICY FOR CHANGING ELECTIVES

A student may drop an elective subject that has been scheduled for the next school year and may enroll in another elective without penalty until July 5, 2018. For example, if a student is scheduled for Tech Foundations for 2018-2019, he/she may drop that class in favor of Keyboarding by personally contacting his/her counselor and by completing a schedule change request form before Thursday, July 5, 2018. After July 5th, 2018 and before the sixth day of the first six weeks grading period a student may drop an elective and enroll in another elective under the following conditions:

- There is room in the new elective class for another student.
- The teacher of the dropped class agrees that the change should be made.
- The teacher of the class to be added approves.
- The counselor agrees the change should be made.
- The parent approves/requests the change.
- The school principal approves the change.
- The change is made without any adverse effect on the rest of the student's schedule.

On or after July 5th, 2018 and before the eleventh school day of the new term, the student may drop an elective without penalty; but, he/she may **NOT** enroll in another elective unless the elective he/she prefers is offered at the same period as the one he/she drops and there is room for him/her in the new class. Before a student may withdraw from a class, he/she must see his/her counselor to make sure that the loss of credit will not affect the requirements for graduation. Schedule changes made at this time must also be approved by the principal.

ATTENTION ATHLETES!!!!

Must Pass 3 out of 4 Courses High School Credit Bearing courses

Student athletes are eligible for sports only if they have passed three courses during the previous semester and are currently enrolled in at least three new courses (new 18-19 with block scheduling). Repeat courses Do Not count in this total. If a student drops a class during a semester leaving fewer than three courses in his/her schedule, the athlete immediately becomes ineligible to participate in a sport that semester or the succeeding semester. Freshman students are eligible for the fall semester if they are promoted from the eighth grade. If you are planning to enroll in college as a freshman and you wish to participate in Division I or Division II athletics, you must be certified by the NCAA-Eligibility Clearinghouse. Certification forms are available at <https://web3.ncaa.org/ecwr3/>

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

For students beginning with the ninth-grade class of 2013-2014 and through the ninth-grade class of 2017-2018

STANDARD, ADVANCED STUDIES, AND STANDARD DIPLOMA WITH ACCOMMODATIONS

The MODIFIED STANDARD DIPLOMA will no longer be an option for students who have an Individual Education Plan (IEP) beginning with students who entered the ninth grade in 2013-2014. The MODIFIED STANDARD DIPLOMA will be folded into the STANDARD DIPLOMA beginning with students who entered the ninth grade for the first time in the 2013-2014 school year. All students have the opportunity to earn a Standard or Advanced Studies Diploma. Credit accommodations may be provided for students with disabilities who are unable to meet the requirements for a Standard Diploma. Guidelines for credit accommodations have been issued by the Virginia Department of Education. Students with disabilities who entered the ninth grade for the first time in 2013-2014 also have the option to earn an APPLIED STUDIES DIPLOMA through 2017-2018.

STANDARD DIPLOMA

Discipline of Credit	Standard Credits Effective with the ninth graders of 2011-2012	Verified Units of Credit (SOL tests Passed)	SOL Tests
English – Grades 9, 10, 11, and 12	4	2	Grade 11 Writing Test and the Grade 11 Reading Test
Mathematics -At or above the level of Algebra and include two different courses from among Algebra I, Geometry, Algebra II or	3	1	Algebra I, Geometry, Algebra II

others above algebra & geometry			
Science -Must include 2 different disciplines from among earth science, biology, chemistry or physics (two years of Principles of Technology may be counted as a physics credit)	3	1	Earth Science, Biology, Chemistry
History-Social Science -Must include U.S. and VA History, U.S. and VA Government, and one of a variety of world history/geography options	3	1	World Geography, World History I, U.S. History
Physical Education and Health	2		
Foreign Language or Career & Technical Education	2		
Fine Art	1		
Economics and Personal Finance	1		
Elective-Two of the electives must be sequential	3		
Student Selected Tests		1	
Standard Units of Credits Required	22	6	

ADVANCED DIPLOMA

Discipline of Credit	Standard Credits Effective with the ninth grade class of 2011-2012	Verified Units of Credit (SOL Tests Passed)	SOL Tests
English – Grades 9, 10, 11, and 12	4	2	Grade 11 Writing Test and Grade 11 Reading Test
Mathematics -At or above the level of Algebra including three different courses from among Algebra I, geometry, Algebra II or above Algebra II	4	2	Algebra I, Geometry, Algebra II

Science -Must include 3 different disciplines from among earth sciences, biology, chemistry, or physics (two years of Principles of Technology may be counted as a physics credit)	4	2	Earth Science, Biology, Chemistry
History/Social Science -Must include U.S. and VA History, U.S. and VA Government, and two of a variety of world history/geography options	4	2	World Geography, World History I, U.S. History
Foreign Language -Must include three years of one language or two years of two languages	3		
Physical Education & Health	2		
Fine Art	1		
Economics and Personal Finance	1		
Electives	3		
Student Selected Tests		1	
Standard Units of Credit Required	26	9	

Notes

- The Standard and Advanced Studies Diplomas each contain a requirement for one standard unit of credit in Fine Arts or Career and Technical Education.
- Two of the student's electives must be sequential.
- Principles of Tech I & II must be completed to receive one Lab Science credit.
- The Economics and Personal Finance class becomes a requirement for all students beginning with the ninth grade class of 2011-2012.
- The 9th grade class of 2013-2014 will be required to successfully complete a virtual (online) class for graduation. The 9th grade class of 2013-2014 will be required to earn a board-approved Career & Technical credential for graduation.

For students beginning with the ninth-grade class of 2018-2019 and beyond

- Both the Standard Diploma and the Advanced Studies Diploma provide multiple paths toward college, career, and citizenship readiness for students to follow in the later years of high school. Each such pathway provides meaningful and rigorous opportunities tied to instruction to achieve workplace and citizenship skills through experiences such as internships, externships, credentialing, and blended learning, which may be offered for credit toward high school graduation.

- In accordance with the Profile of a Virginia Graduate, the instructional program leading to a Standard Diploma or Advanced Studies Diploma ensures that students (i) attain the knowledge, skills, competencies, and experiences necessary to be successful in the evolving global economy whether immediately entering the world of work or pursuing a postsecondary education and (ii) acquire and be able to demonstrate foundational skills in critical thinking, creative thinking, collaboration, communication, and citizenship.

Standard Diploma Credit Requirements

Discipline Area	Standard Credits	Verified Units of Credit (SOL Tests Passed)
English (reading and writing)	4	2
Mathematics	3	1
Laboratory Science	3	1
History and Social Science	3	1
Health and Physical Education	2	
World Language, Fine Arts or Career and Technical Education	2	
Economics and Personal Finance	1	
Electives	4	
Standard Units of Credit Required	22	5

Specifications

- **Mathematics:** Courses completed to satisfy this requirement shall include at least two different course selections from among: algebra I, geometry, algebra functions, and data analysis, algebra II, or other mathematics courses approved by the board to satisfy this requirement. A computer science course credit earned by students may be considered a mathematics course credit.
- **Laboratory Science:** Courses completed to satisfy this requirement shall include course selection from at least two different science disciplines: earth sciences, biology, chemistry, or physics. A computer science course credit earned by students may be considered a science course credit.
- **History and Social Science:** Courses completed to satisfy this requirement shall include Virginia and U.S. history, Virginia and U.S. government, and one

course in either world history or geography or both.

- **Laboratory Science, and History and Social Science:** Students who complete a career and technical education program sequence and pass an examination or occupational competency assessment in a career and technical education field that confers certification or an occupational competency credential from a recognized industry, or trade or professional association, or acquires a professional license in a career and technical education field from the Commonwealth of Virginia may substitute the certification, competency credential, or license for either a laboratory science or history and social science verified credit when the certification, license, or credential confers more than one verified credit. The examination or occupational competency assessment must be approved by the board as an additional test to verify student achievement.
- **World Language, Fine Arts or Career and Technical Education:** Credits earned for this requirement shall include one credit in fine or performing arts or career and technical education. A computer science course credit earned by students may be considered a career and technical course credit.
- **Electives:** Courses to satisfy this requirement shall include at least two sequential electives.

Additional Graduation Requirements for Standard Diploma

- **Advanced Placement or Honors Course or Career and Technical Education Credential:** Students shall either
 - Complete an Advanced Placement or Honors course, or
 - Earn a career and technical education credential approved by the board, except when a career and technical education credential in a particular subject area is not readily available or appropriate or does not adequately measure student competency, in which case the student shall receive satisfactory competency-based instruction in the subject area to satisfy the standard diploma requirements. The career and technical education credential, when required, could include the successful completion of an industry certification, a state licensure examination, a national occupational competency assessment, or the Virginia workplace readiness assessment.
- **Virtual Course:** Students shall successfully complete one virtual course, which may be a non-credit bearing course or a required or elective credit-bearing course that is offered online.
- **Training in emergency first aid, cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR), and the use of automated external defibrillators (AED):** Students shall be trained in emergency first aid, CPR, and the use of AED, including hands-on practice of the skills necessary to perform cardiopulmonary resuscitation. Students with an IEP or 504 Plan that documents that they cannot

successfully complete this training shall be granted a waiver from this graduation requirement.

- **Demonstration of the five Cs:** Students shall acquire and demonstrate foundational skills in critical thinking, creative thinking, collaboration, communication, and citizenship in accordance with the Profile of a Virginia Graduate.

Advanced Studies Diploma Credit Requirements

Discipline Area	Standard Credits	Verified Units of Credit (SOL Tests Passed)
English (reading and writing)	4	2
Mathematics	4	1
Laboratory Science	4	1
History and Social Science	4	1
World Language	3	
Health and Physical Education	2	
Fine Arts or Career and Technical Education	1	
Economics and Personal Finance	1	
Electives	3	
Standard Units of Credit Required	26	5

Specifications

- **Mathematics:** Courses completed to satisfy this requirement shall include at least three different course selections from among: algebra I, geometry, algebra II, or other mathematics courses above the level of algebra II. The board shall approve courses to satisfy this requirement. Per the Standards of Quality, a computer science course credit earned by students may be considered a mathematics course credit.
- **Laboratory Science:** Courses completed to satisfy this requirement shall include course selections from at least three different science disciplines from among: earth sciences, biology, chemistry, or physics. The board shall approve additional courses to satisfy this requirement. Per the Standards of Quality, a computer science course credit earned by students may be considered a science course credit.
- **History and Social Science:** Courses completed to satisfy this requirement shall include Virginia and U.S. history, Virginia and U.S. government, and two

courses in either world history or geography or both.

- **World Language:** Courses completed to satisfy this requirement shall include three years of one language or two years of two languages.
- **Fine Arts or Career and Technical Education:** A computer science course credit earned by students may be considered a career and technical credit.
- **Electives:** Courses to satisfy this requirement shall include at least two sequential electives.

Additional Graduation Requirements for Advanced Studies Diploma

- **Advanced Placement or Honors Course or Career and Technical Education Credential:** Students shall either
 - Complete an Advanced Placement or Honors course, or
 - Earn a career and technical education credential approved by the board, except when a career and technical education credential in a particular subject area is not readily available or appropriate or does not adequately measure student competency, in which case the student shall receive satisfactory competency-based instruction in the subject area to satisfy the advanced studies diploma requirements. The career and technical education credential, when required, could include the successful completion of an industry certification, a state licensure examination, a national occupational competency assessment, or the Virginia workplace readiness assessment.
- **Virtual Course:** Students shall successfully complete one virtual course, which may be a non-credit bearing course or a required or elective credit-bearing course that is offered online.
- **Training in emergency first aid, cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR), and the use of automated external defibrillators (AED):** Students shall be trained in emergency first aid, CPR, and the use of AED, including hands-on practice of the skills necessary to perform cardiopulmonary resuscitation. Students with an IEP or 504 Plan that documents that they cannot successfully complete this training shall be granted a waiver from this graduation requirement.
- **Demonstration of the five Cs:** Students shall acquire and demonstrate foundational skills in critical thinking, creative thinking, collaboration, communication, and citizenship in accordance with the Profile of a Virginia Graduate.

DIPLOMA SEALS

Governor's Seal: Awarded to students who complete the requirements for an Advanced Studies Diploma with an average grade of B (3.0 GPA) or better and

successfully complete college-level coursework that will earn the student at least nine transferable college credits in Advanced Placement (AP) or International Baccalaureate (IB) or dual enrollment courses.

Board of Education Seal: Awarded to students who complete the requirements for Standard Diploma or Advanced Studies Diploma with an average of A (4.0 GPA) beginning with the ninth-grade class of 2006-2007 and beyond.

Board of Education Career and Technical Education Seal: This seal will be awarded to students who:

- earn either a Standard or an Advanced Studies Diploma and complete a prescribed sequence of courses in a career and technical education concentration or specialization that they choose and maintain a "B" (3.0 GPA) or better average in those courses
- OR pass an examination or an occupational competency assessment in a career and technical education concentration or specialization that confers certification or occupational competency credential from a recognized industry, trade or professional association
- OR acquire a professional license in that career and technical education field from the Commonwealth of Virginia.

Board of Education's Advanced Mathematics and Technology Seal:

Awarded to students who earn either a Standard or Advanced Studies Diploma and satisfy all of the mathematics requirements for the Advanced Studies Diploma (four units of credit including Algebra II; two verified units of credit) with a "B" (3.0 GPA) or better; and either

- Pass an examination in a career and technical education field that confers certification from a recognized industry, trade, or professional association,
- OR acquire a professional license in that career and technical field from the Commonwealth of Virginia,
- OR Pass an examination approved by the Board that confers college-level credit in a technology or computer science area.

Board of Education Diploma Seal for Excellence in Civics Education:

Awarded to students who meet each of the following four criteria:

- Satisfy the requirement to earn a Standard Diploma or an Advanced Studies Diploma
- Complete Virginia and United States History and Virginia and United States Government courses with a grade of "B" or higher
- Complete 50 hours of voluntary participation in community service or extracurricular activities, such as volunteering for a charitable or religious organization that provides services to the poor, sick, or less fortunate; participating in Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, or similar youth

organizations; participating in Junior Reserve Officer Training corps (JROTC); participating in political campaigns or government internships, or Boys State, Girls State or Model General Assembly; and participating in school-sponsored extracurricular activities that have a civics focus. Any student who enlists in the US military prior to graduation will be deemed to have met this community service requirement).

- Have good attendance with no disciplinary infractions as determined by the local school board policies.

SEAL OF BILITERACY

The Board of Education's Seal of Biliteracy certifies attainment of a high level of proficiency by a graduating high school student in one or more languages in addition to English, and certifies that the graduate meets of the following criteria:

1. The Board of Education's Seal of Biliteracy will be awarded to students who earn either a Board of Education-approved diploma and (i) pass all required End-of-Course Assessments in English reading and writing at the proficient or higher level; and (ii) be proficient at the intermediate-mid level or higher in one or more languages other than English, as demonstrated through an assessment from a list to be approved by the Superintendent of Public Instruction.
2. For purposes of this article, "foreign language" means a language other than English, and includes American Sign Language.

GRADE PLACEMENT

- Grade 8:** Student must be promoted from Grade 7
- Grade 9:** Student will be promoted from Grade 8 by passing three of the four core academic areas (English, Math, Science, and Social Studies) and pass at least (5) subjects. Non-elective subjects that were failed in Grade 8 must be repeated.
- Grade 10:** Students must have six (6) credits towards graduation
- Grade 11:** Students must have twelve (12) credits towards graduation
- Grade 12:** Students must have eighteen (18) credits toward graduation, including English 9 & 10 and be scheduled to graduate by August of 2019

Course Placement

Covington High School provides a comprehensive academic program to promote the achievement of every student. A key component of our program is ensuring that all secondary students are placed in courses that deliver an appropriate level of challenge. Covington High School will collect and analyze multiple pieces of student data in order to make course placement decisions, including grades, SOL test scores, performance on screening assessments, and teacher recommendations.

To address the needs of students who have struggled to meet SOL requirements, CHS provides needs-based, high school classes to prepare students for success.

CHS offers the following types of courses to provide additional instructional time for students to develop, understand, and apply the concepts and skills of a course, or to develop/strengthen skills and strategies so that they can be successful in high school classes:

1. A course may be split into a two-course sequence to provide additional instructional time for students to develop, understand, and apply the concepts and skills of the course. The complete curriculum is taught over the span of the two-course sequence, typically a 90-minute block each semester within the same school year. To earn the credit necessary to meet graduation requirements, students must successfully complete both parts of the two-course sequence.
2. A first semester elective course may be paired with a second semester course for students who need additional time and intervention strategies to develop/strengthen the necessary skills and strategies to be successful in the course and as they study the curriculum.
3. Students who are at risk of not passing an SOL EOC test, or who have already failed an SOL EOC test, may be assigned to a course that provides the necessary remediation to be successful.

Jackson River Governor's School for Science, Mathematics, and Technology

Background

The Jackson River Governor's School is a program for students who are highly motivated for success in the areas of mathematics and science. Located at Dabney S. Lancaster Community College, students attend JRGS from 8:00 AM until 10:30 AM each day. While there, students take college courses in science and mathematics in a nurturing environment with a community of learners

sharing the same goals and passion for excellence in education. Upon return to CHS students will attend class from 4th through 7th period. Covington City Public Schools provides bus transportation to and from DSLCC, so students are not permitted to drive.

ALL JRGS STUDENTS ARE REQUIRED TO RIDE A COVINGTON CITY SCHOOL BUS TO AND FROM DSLCC.

Admission

Students who are interested in attending the Jackson River Governor's School must complete an application for admission by the spring of 2018. Applications are reviewed by a committee from each participating school district. Finalists and alternates are selected and names are forwarded to the JRGS director, who then sends letters of acceptance in the spring of 2018. Students who fail to maintain a "C" or higher average in each of their courses at Jackson River Governor's School classes through the first semester will not be permitted to return to the Governor's School for the second semester.

Applicants should meet the following criteria:

1. Complete Algebra I in the eighth grade, Geometry in the ninth grade and Algebra II by the end of the tenth grade with an A as the final grade.
2. Complete Earth Science and Biology with a final grade of an A.
3. Exhibit above average performance in most subjects and superior performance in mathematics and science.
4. Show evidence of aptitude, potential, and strong interest in science and mathematics.
5. Exhibit evidence of intellectual curiosity, analytical thinking, and problem solving ability.
6. Have a sincere desire to attend JRGS
7. Must take the PSAT and score at least 52 on the Math section or take the SAT and score at least 520 on the Math section or take the ACT and score at least 21.
8. Each applicant must compose a typed two-page essay explaining why the courses selected in the Governor's School will benefit their future educational endeavors.

Selection criteria considered by the screening committee will also include:

1. Standardized test scores
2. Achievement in science and mathematics
3. Attendance consistency
4. Recommendations of teachers and counselors

Junior Year Courses

4330DL	Advanced Biology
4410DL	Advanced Chemistry
3192DL	Statistics
3175DL	Precalculus
4610DL	Introduction to Research

Senior Year Courses

4510DL	College Physics (or the junior year science course that the student did not take as a junior)
3177DL	Calculus
8490DL	Explorations in Engineering

SEE YOUR SCHOOL COUNSELOR FOR MORE INFORMATION OR CONTACT THE GOVERNOR'S SCHOOL DIRECTOR, MR. EDDIE GRAHAM AT 540-863-2872.

SPECIAL EDUCATION

Programs are provided for students in need of special services. More information regarding these programs may be obtained from a school counselor or a special education coordinator currently working with the student. Scheduling is done on an individual basis according to the needs of each student. Through the cooperation of the special education teacher and the regular classroom teacher, these students will be helped to achieve the goals of their regular classes. The instructional program in all special education classes is based on each student's individual educational program (IEP). Various diploma options are available for special education students and will be determined by the IEP team in cooperation with the student and his/her parents.

JACKSON RIVER TECHNICAL CENTER

The Jackson River Technical Center is a regionally funded and operated vocational training school. The center offers training in the fields of Auto Technology, Carpentry, Early Childhood Education, Culinary Arts, Welding, Cybersecurity, Computer Information Systems, Electricity, Health Assistant, and Marketing.

To earn a certificate from Jackson River Technical Center, a student must successfully complete all courses in a certificate program sequence with an overall grade average of not less than 77% and must have earned a grade of not less than 77% in the last course of the program sequence. The student must also have met graduation or completion requirements at the home school.

Students enrolled in JRTC will be transported by school bus to the center. An appropriate number of credits will be granted the student upon successful completion of all required work at JRTC.

Students who plan to attend JRTC should begin making plans with their counselor in the spring of their ninth grade year. Some JRTC programs have prerequisites that must be

completed. Others are in great demand, and the better-prepared student will be given preference for a place in the class.

Early College Scholars

Students enrolled as Early College Scholars will have their tuition and AP exam fees paid by the Virginia Department of Education. Early College Scholars receive a certificate from the Governor recognizing their achievements.

Students become Early College Scholars by signing an Early College Scholar Agreement. To qualify, a student should meet the following criteria: have a B average or better, be on track for an Advanced Studies Diploma, be completing or have completed college level course work that will earn at least 15 transferable college credits. See your guidance counselor for an Early College Scholar agreement or go to <http://www.doe.virginia.gov/VDOE/senioryearplus/earlycollegescholars.shtml>. Students who pursue dual enrollment courses outside of Covington High School, Jackson River, Technical Center, and the Jackson River Governor's School shall be responsible for payment of all tuition and fees. These students must also provide their own transportation to the college where they are pursuing the coursework.

Virtual Virginia Course Offerings

Virtual Virginia, a program of the Virginia Department of Education, is the Commonwealth's online course program; it provides Advanced Placement, world language, elective, and core classes to students across the state and nation. The courses utilize rich media, text, video segments, animation, audio clips, whiteboard demonstrations, and online discussions. Students do not have to take any of the classes in real time, so the courses may be scheduled at any point throughout the student's school day. Many Virtual Virginia classes require an Advanced Placement Exam at the conclusion of the course. Students must obtain permission from the CHS Administration and Guidance before they may enroll in a Virtual Virginia class. Students who are enrolled in these courses have 21 days from the first class to withdraw from the course. If a student drops after the 21st day of a Virtual Virginia class they must reimburse Covington City Public Schools a \$75.00 withdrawal fee and the cost of any required textbooks.

GRADING SYSTEM

Alpha Grade	Numerical Grade	Grade Points	(Governor's School & AP Courses)
A+	98-100	4.0	5.0
A	95-97	4.0	5.0
A-	93-94	3.7	4.7
B+	90-92	3.3	4.3
B	87-89	3.0	4.0
B-	85-86	2.7	3.7
C+	82-84	2.4	3.4
C	79-81	2.1	3.1
C-	77-78	1.8	2.8
D+	75-76	1.6	2.6

D	72-74	1.3	2.3
D-	70-71	1.0	2.0
F	0-69	No points given	No points given

CLASS RANK

Class rank will be computed by the school at the end of grade 11. Seniors are ranked officially one time. At the end of the first semester of the senior year, the grade point average of all students is calculated and final ranking of the class is determined. The class valedictorian and salutatorian are decided at this time. The top standard student is decided at the end of the second semester. The final ranking is calculated only in diploma courses required by the State of Virginia. Students shall be ranked together regardless of the diploma pursued. A ranking is done at the end of the senior year for the purposes of providing colleges and employers with a GPA and ranking. Students attending Alternative School in the senior year will not be included in the final ranking.

The class ranking is determined by listing in numerical order from the highest to the lowest grade-point average of all students in the class. The overall GPA will be carried out to three decimal places. The students with the highest GPA becomes number 1, the second highest becomes number 2, etc. In the case of identical GPA's the students are given the same rank and the next highest GPA drops the corresponding number of places. For example:

- | | | |
|----------|----------|----------|
| 1. 3.988 | 3. 3.944 | 5. 3.922 |
| 2. 3.950 | 3. 3.944 | |

In the above example, two students hold the rank of three and no student would be ranked four. Class rank will be considered part of a student's transcript.

A student's grade-point average is based on diploma credits earned in grades 9-12 and not on eighth grade foundation credits. When students below the ninth grade successfully complete 9th, 10th, 11th, and 12th grade subjects, credit shall be counted toward meeting the units required for graduation in grades 9-12. No grades are dropped.

The Valedictorian and Salutatorian shall be members of the senior class who have the highest GPA at the end of the first semester of the senior year and who will receive the **Advanced Studies Diploma** from the State of Virginia at graduation. In order to be eligible to be the Valedictorian or Salutatorian, a student must have attended Covington High School for at least the six semesters immediately preceding graduation.

The graduating senior, who at the end of the second semester has the highest GPA in the Standard Studies curriculum and who receives the Standard Studies Diploma from the State of Virginia, shall be named the Top Student of the Standard Studies curriculum at CHS. To be eligible for this honor, the student must have attended Covington High School for at least the six semesters immediately preceding graduation.

HONOR STUDENTS

Special recognition is given to selected seniors for high academic achievement. A student, who qualifies, receives recognition at graduation for that year. If a graduating senior's GPA is very close to the 3.55 GPA at the end of the first semester, he/she has the second or

final semester to earn the required 3.55 GPA. Only courses which have been completed will be included in the cumulative GPA at the conclusion of the first semester. For instance, courses which are year-long will not have credit awarded and included in the cumulative GPA until the conclusion of the school year. Once the 3.55 GPA is earned at the conclusion of the school year, the graduating senior will be recognized as an honor student at graduation at CHS.

Also, he/she must not have dropped a subject that he/she was failing. A student who drops a course that he/she was passing may qualify for the honor providing he/she meets all other criteria. The grade-point average is cumulative, determined by credit bearing subjects taken from grades 8-12.

To qualify for the honor, a student must have a final GPA of 3.55 or above for four and one half years of work to qualify as an honor student.

Certain juniors are recognized by being selected to serve as Junior Marshals for both graduation and baccalaureate. To qualify, a student must have a final GPA of 3.55 or above for three and one half years of work (all at Covington High School). Also he/she must not have dropped a subject that he/she was failing. A student who dropped a subject that he/she was passing may qualify for the honor providing he/she meets all other criteria.

HONOR ROLL AND ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS

To qualify for the A Honor Roll, a student must have an A in all subjects taken. A student must have a B or better in all subjects taken to be on the AB Honor Roll. To qualify for either the A or AB Honor Roll, a student must be enrolled and be taking at least three subjects per semester. Honor rolls are compiled and student names are released to the press at the end of each six weeks.

CRITERIA FOR COVINGTON SCHOLAR

All students who attain the AB Honor roll for the first five grading periods are Covington Scholars. The AB Honor roll consists of students who receive only A or B grades for a grading period. The first year, they receive an academic letter. For further years of eligibility, they receive a lamp medallion.

CRITERIA FOR DISTINGUISHED COVINGTON SCHOLAR

All students who attain the A Honor roll for the first five grading periods are Distinguished Covington Scholars. The A Honor Roll consists of students who receive only A grades for a grading period. They receive a pin the first year. For further years of eligibility, they receive a bar.

EFFECTIVE STUDY HABITS AND HOMEWORK

Both parents and students have a responsibility in developing effective study habits. Students must have the desire and initiative to work at their studies. Parents must provide structure in which their children may develop their talents to the fullest. Tutoring is available in all of the core subjects.

Each student will be given a Student Agenda that should be used to record homework and project assignments. The agendas will also be used as hall passes by students.

Covington City Public Schools Homework Policy - The homework policy was developed with input received from parents, teachers, and administrators. Homework was defined as a purposeful extension of classroom instruction under the guidance of a teacher. Homework assignments should provide meaningful learning experiences to meet the individual needs of each student. Desirable homework includes many activities such as preparation, study, drill, practice, research, observation, composition, and reading. It should be evaluated properly with recognition being given for students' efforts. Homework should never be assigned for disciplinary reasons. A minimum of four hours of homework per week should be assigned in grade 8. In grades 9-12 homework should be assigned for a minimum of five hours per week.

Student Responsibilities – Accept homework as a part of the learning process. Complete the assignment. Strive for neatness and legibility. Getting make-up assignments is the responsibility of the student. Keep a written record of all assignments. Budget sufficient time for homework, with a definite place for study. Understand the assignment thoroughly and when in doubt, request clarification from the teacher.

Homework assignments will be collected through the guidance office only if students are absent for more than three consecutive days. If you are out of school from one to three days, we encourage you to use **Remind101** or contact a friend in your classes who can inform you about class work or who can possibly collect assignments for you. Requests for assignments must be called in to the guidance office no later than 8:30 a.m. on the day they are to be collected. If assignments are requested, then the expectation is that these assignments will be picked up at the designated time. Assignments are to be completed and returned to the classroom teacher in a reasonable amount of time.

GUIDANCE SERVICES

The Guidance Department assists students in planning programs of study, which enable them to reach their educational, career, and social goals. Each student is assigned to a counselor; all students will have at least one interview with his/her counselor each year for planning. However, a student may request permission to talk with a counselor at any time, and parents are encouraged to make appointments with the counselor about school related concerns.

Parents/guardians have the opportunity to opt a student out of the personal/social counseling component. It shall be the policy of Covington High School with respect to Personal/Social Counseling that parents will notify the school in writing if the student is not to participate in the Personal/Social Counseling Program.

School counselors work closely with the Talent Search Coordinator to provide a comprehensive, sequential approach to career/college exploration. At grade 10, students have an opportunity to job shadow with local businesses and industries. The CHS guidance counselors work together to provide students with interest inventories in classroom sessions in order to explore and validate career options. The Talent Search Coordinator and Senior Guidance Counselor schedule individual appointments with families to complete financial aid forms (FAFSA).

At grade 12, seniors participate in workshops on resume preparation, job application, interviewing techniques, and portfolio development. These skills prepare seniors for the mock-interview day in March.

Additional programs for students and parents include: Career Fair, College Night, choosing a College Seminar, Financial Aid Workshops, Regional College Fair, academic advising and testing information seminars. The College and Career Center in the Guidance Office contains a variety of books and catalogs detailing specific colleges and vocational institutes. You will also find information on summer programs, scholarships, college applications, and college/career computer programs in the College and Career Center. Students and parents are encouraged to use the center to explore post-secondary options and to access information on careers, colleges, and college/career test preparation information.

THE CHS LIBRARY

Vision Statement-The Covington High School Library is a vital learning resource center seeking to serve the CHS community-at-large as a gateway to an expanding world of information. The library is committed to providing a welcoming and safe environment for all CHS students and faculty. As a resource center, our professional and dedicated staff offers helpful services and knowledgeable access to technology. As a school-based center, it provides educational and cultural opportunities in a collaborative relationship with faculty for the propagation of lifelong learning.

Mission Statement- The Covington High School Library seeks to enrich the lives of the CHS family by creating a foundation for lifelong learning within each student, empowering them with the ability to find and use information effectively- a keystone for lifelong learning. By seeking to implement literacy standards for student learning, representative of those found in the ALA's *Information Power*, the CHS library becomes an advocate of student learning, an integral link connecting students and teachers with the information resources they need and require. This mission is to be accomplished through a highly dedicated professional staff and the implementation of cutting edge technology within the library media center. The role of the librarian is to create an enjoyable, rewarding library experience for the members of the CHS community.

Core Values- Covington High School library's core values reflect an ongoing commitment to serve and enhance the needs of the CHS community in all its diversity by supporting its *Vision and Mission* and creating an environment that is accessible to all members of the school community. The CHS library staff strives to ensure intellectual freedom, protect the individual's right to privacy (within the confines of school policy), and provide a safe environment and organized collection for the pursuit of academic endeavors. It is through the professionalism of our library staff that we provide a high level of service to our CHS community, thus aiding their quest for information. All of the CHS library's activities and interactions are accomplished in order to ensure the common good, promote the idea of lifelong learning, and support and encourage social responsibility.

SUMMER SCHOOL

Summer School at Covington High School will be online. Students will have to opportunity to take one course per session offered. Students must have 70 seat hours to receive credit along with a passing grade. There will be a limited number of students allowed in summer school classes. Students must be present for all 70 hours of summer school. To be eligible for summer school, students must receive a 50 in the course and not miss more than 18

school days for the year (9 per Semester Course). Not all courses will be offered during summer school.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

All students must take and complete Health and Physical Education 8, 9, and 10. Students may be excused from physical activity when a written statement from a physician is on file. No student may be excused from health class.

P.E. Dress Code- Because of safety and hygienic reasons, the recommended gym attire shall consist of tennis shoes, athletic socks, shorts (must meet dress code), sweatpants, and t-shirt. Failure to dress in an appropriate manner will result in no participation for the class and a reduction in the daily grade. Any student well enough to attend school shall be expected to dress out for each physical education class. Students are expected to have clean clothing as necessary for hygiene reasons. Members of athletic teams shall not be excused from dressing out the day of an athletic contest. If it is anticipated that the results of a visit to a doctor will result in restricted participation in physical education class, the student is responsible for having the doctor complete the physical education medical excuse form. These forms are provided at the beginning of the year to each student. Refusal to dress out appropriately/or participate in physical education class will result in a reduction of the grade.

CHAPTER 2 – GENERAL INFORMATION

HOMEROOMS

Students at CHS will be assigned homerooms for the opening days of school to take care of routine tasks such as filling out reports, collecting school fees, election of class officers, class meetings and special assemblies. After the first ten days of school, students will report directly to their first period class where attendance will be taken. Homeroom teachers will function as class sponsors.

LOCKERS

Each student is assigned a locker and lock annually upon payment of the locker fee of \$1.00 (see Student Fee Section at end of handbook). All personal items and books not in use are to be kept in the lockers. Students may use only the lockers assigned them. Lockers are a permanent part of the building; therefore, students are expected to keep them in good usable condition.

Students are reminded that lockers are school property and may be inspected at any time! Periodic inspection will be made by homeroom teachers and the administration to see that lockers are kept neat and orderly.

Also, periodic inspection will be conducted by the administration, federal, state, and local law enforcement agencies to see that lockers, as well as any other property in the building or on the grounds, contain no materials that violate school regulations, or federal, state, and local statutes.

Students should get materials for morning classes upon arrival at school and get materials for afternoon classes at the end of the third period. Going to lockers between classes is not an acceptable reason for tardiness to the next class.

CLASS DUES

Class dues of \$5.00 will be charged to students each school year. This fee is used for activities such as the Junior/Senior Prom (see Student Fee Section at the end of this document).

SUBSTITUTE TEACHERS

Covington High School is fortunate to have capable people to help when regular teachers are absent. Substitute teachers are important individuals who must be treated with courtesy and respect. **Substitute teachers have the same authority as regular teachers.**

SAFETY DRILLS

Fire Drill: Each school will hold a fire drill at least once every week during the first twenty school days of each session and more often if necessary. During the remainder of the school sessions, fire drills shall be held at least monthly. No fire drills will be conducted during periods of mandatory testing required by the Board of Education.

Lock-Down Drill: Each school will have at least three lock-down drills every school year. Two drill wills be completed during the first few weeks of each school year and one drill will be completed in January of each school year. Additional drills may be completed.

Tornado Drill: There will be at least one tornado drill every school year in every school.

VISITORS

Visitors are welcome at Covington High School provided that proper procedures are followed. **Visitors must** always report to the main office upon arrival and present a photo ID. Non-students who are not approved visitors will be asked to leave the building and grounds of Covington High School. Visitors must sign in on our visitor management system. Due to COVID-19 we highly encourage visitors to schedule an appointment to visit the school or main office.

TEXTBOOKS

The Covington City Schools provide textbooks for all students in all courses without charge through the textbook system. However, students are fully responsible for the care of textbooks from the time they are issued to them. Students will be charged for all lost or damaged books.

MATERIALS AND SUPPLIES

Materials and supplies are available in the office for students. If you need assistance with school supplies for your student, please contact the main office at 540-965-1410.

LOST AND FOUND

Found articles should be taken to the main office. Students who have lost items may claim them there. Please check the office immediately if you have lost items.

ACCIDENTS

When an accident takes place on the school grounds, in class, at practice sessions, or at any school-sponsored school event, it must be reported immediately to the person in

charge and to the office. The adult in charge has the additional responsibility of submitting a narrative report within twenty-four hours.

STUDENT INSURANCE

The Covington City School Board provides, at no cost to the parent/student, accident insurance to help cover costs of injuries occurring while at school or during athletics and other school activities.

STUDENT/ATHLETIC MEDICAL PROGRAM CLAIM INSTRUCTIONS

The following information outlines the benefits and exclusions of the student athletics/accident coverage **Covington City Public Schools** has obtained for its students. Please note that this coverage is secondary to any other coverage the family may have and will pay only eligible medical expenses not payable by other sources of coverage.

If accidental bodily injury occurs during a school related activity (including athletics) and requires treatment within 90 days from the original date of injury, we will pay the reasonable and customary expenses for necessary medical, dental or hospital treatment provided within one year from the date of injury up to the policy maximum amount for any one injury, which are not paid by other collectable insurance plans. The insured shall have free choice of a physician or hospital for treatment. If, however, an insured has other valid coverage through an insurance plan(s) and does not choose a physician or hospital through the other plan, we will pay benefits as if the other plan's guidelines had been followed.

CLAIM INSTRUCTIONS: (claim form on the web site www.covington.k12.va.us or call CHS @ 540-965-1410)

In case of accident, notify school immediately.

1. Treatment must commence within 90 days from the date of injury.
2. Please be sure to notify **ALL** treatment facilities of this insurance coverage so that the invoices can be sent directly to Academic Benefit Trust for payment.
3. Send a completed claim form to Academic Benefit Trust within 90 days from the date of injury. Do not leave the claim form with the school.
4. Do not leave any blank spaces or write "N/A" in a space. If either parent is uninjured, deceased, unemployed, self-employed or disabled, please state so. If you are employed but do not have insurance, please state so. Academic Benefit Trust will submit a questionnaire to your employer to verify there is no insurance coverage.
5. If your child is insured under Medicaid, please indicate this.
6. Please attach itemized bills to the claim form, or mail them as soon as possible. An itemized bill includes treatment rendered, the dates of the treatment, physician's or hospital's name, address, tax I.D. number and diagnosis code. Balance due bills are **not** acceptable.
7. If you have other insurance, your company will send you an Explanation of Benefits (EOB) which shows what they paid or denied. We need a copy of the EOB for each itemized bill submitted to us.

8. Or, your provider may forward the itemized bills to us along with the corresponding EOBs. Bills, EOBs and claim forms should be mailed to:

Academic Benefit Trust
P. O. Box 382048
Birmingham, AL 35238-2048
FAX 205-313-9744

If you need further assistance, contact Customer Service at 1-888-283-3515

9. Benefits are paid to the providers of service unless we receive paid receipts.

BENEFITS:

- Maximum Benefit - \$25,000
- Inpatient Room & Board - Usual and Customary (U&C) Semi Private Room \$1,000 first day/\$700 each additional day
- Day Surgery – up to \$1,500
- Physicians Visits - \$50/day
- Physiotherapy - \$50/day up to \$500 max.
- Emergency Room – up to \$750
- X-Rays – up to \$500
- Laboratory – U&C
- Prescriptions – U&C
- Orthopedic Braces and Appliances – up to \$300
- Surgeon's Fees – U&C up to \$3,000
- Asst. Surgeon – 30% of amount paid for surgery
- Anesthetist – 30% of amount paid for surgery
- Ambulance – up to \$500
- Consultant – up to \$500
- Dental - \$600/tooth

EXCLUSIONS . . . THE POLICY DOES NOT COVER

1. Suicide or any attempt at suicide or intentionally inflicted self-inflicted injury or attempt at self-inflicted injury.
2. Sickness, disease or infections of any kind, except bacterial infections due to an accidental cut or wound, botulism or ptomaine poisoning.
3. The commission of or attempt to commit a felony.
4. An act of declared or undeclared war.
5. Full-time active duty in the armed forces, except the National Guard or organized reserve corps duty.
6. Aviation in any form except while the student is a passenger in licensed airplane provided by an incorporated passenger carrier on a regularly scheduled flight and route.
7. Any condition for which the student is entitled to benefits under any workers' compensation Act or similar law.
8. The use of or while under the influence of drugs or intoxicants unless administered as prescribed by a physician.

HEALTH SERVICES

A nurse is at Covington High School from 8:30 a.m. until 3:30 p.m. every day. Teachers may make referrals to the nurse for students in their classes or homeroom who are ill or

have health related problems including the need for eye or ear examinations. Students may also request that their sight or hearing be checked. A clinic is located in the main office. A student that becomes ill during the school day should go to the office for assistance. Whenever possible, a student who is ill shall be allowed to remain in the clinic for one class period. Any student who has a chronic health problem should report that condition to the office so that he/she may be cared for properly should he/she have an attack or become ill at school.

The school board of the City of Covington hires the services of a qualified psychologist for all city schools. The psychologist is available to administer certain tests with a referral from school personnel or at the request of students or their parents. No personality or intelligence tests are ever administered without written parental permission.

ADMINISTERING MEDICINES TO STUDENTS

Employees of Covington City School Board may give medication prescribed for individual students only pursuant to the written order of a physician, physician assistant, or nurse practitioner and with written permission from the student's parent or guardian. Such medicine must be in the original container and delivered to the principal, school nurse, or school division designee by the parent or guardian of the student

Covington City Public Schools Policy JHCD (For More Information Visit Link):
http://covingtoncsd.ss13.sharpschool.com/UserFiles/Servers/Server_176970/File/School%20Board/CCPS%20Policy%20Manual/Section%20J/Rev%20JHCD%20%20%2012%2026%202017.pdf

PROCEDURE FOR HEARING COMPLAINTS AND GRIEVANCES

Complaints or grievances regarding school policies or decisions of any staff member should be lodged with the principal. If the complaining or aggrieved party is not satisfied with the explained reason given at that level, then he/she may appeal to the superintendent.

CHAPTER 3 – STUDENT ACTIVITIES

SCHOOL CLUBS AND ORGANIZATIONS

Clubs and other activities are organized at Covington High School to further student participation in various fields of interest and service. Each school organization must have a faculty sponsor. The advisor or his designee must be present at all meetings and club-sponsored activities and may not leave the meetings or activities until all students have departed. No organization, teacher, or student may sponsor any money project without the permission of the principal. All proceeds from such projects, as well as any other funds, must be deposited with the treasurer of Covington High School, who will issue a receipt for each deposit. Funds may be withdrawn by filing a requisition form. The club sponsor must sign this form.

REGULATIONS FOR PARTICIPATING IN CLUBS AND OTHER EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

Activities may consist of membership in clubs, participation in sports, band, Madrigals, forensic events, Student Council, or yearbook member. A student must have a 1.8 GPA to be elected to and hold any office.

Clubs and Organizations Recognized at CHS

SCA	FBLA	MGA	TSA
FCCLA	Academic Team	Chess Club	Book Club
Puff & Patches	Beta Club	Spanish Club	Science Club
TADA	Photography Staff	FCA	Students for Christ
Art Club	Adventure Club	Chess Club	Rachel's Club

SCHOOL SPONSORED SOCIAL ACTIVITIES

Covington High School dances are open to all CHS students who are in good standing. All guests must be approved by the principal prior to the event. Elementary and middle school students may not attend CHS dances. Guests are subject to the same regulations as students of CHS. Students are held responsible for the conduct of their guests. The administration reserves the right to deny admission to anyone who is not in good standing with the school. Any student in alternative placement (to include RAP, TAP, Rivermont as well as others) will also be allowed to attend as long as he/she is in good standing.

These general rules apply to dances:

- ❖ Times will be determined by school administration.
- ❖ Any student or guest who leaves a dance for whatever reason may not return.
- ❖ All students must have entered a dance within one hour of the starting time. The only exception is the After-Prom---students must enter by 1:30 a.m.
- ❖ Students and guests attending the Junior-Senior Prom must be in a junior or senior homeroom or above. **The student is hereby warned that if any information provided by the student or the guest on the guest permit application for the Junior-Senior Prom is incorrect, inaccurate, misleading, or falsely given, the guest permit is declared invalid.**
- ❖ Guests attending the Junior-Senior Prom must provide photo identification before being allowed entrance to the dance. Guest age limit for the prom is **less than 21 years of age.**
- ❖ Students must be in good standing at CHS to be allowed to participate in any and all dances.
- ❖ A specific area of the building will be designated for use for each social activity. All other areas of the building are off limits.
- ❖ Only one entrance door will be designated for any activity. No one will be allowed to loiter outside that entrance.
- ❖ Decorating for any dance may not begin before 3 p.m. on the Thursday before the dance. All gym decorations must be approved by the Athletic Director.

SCHOOL SPIRIT

School spirit may be divided into these categories:

- Courtesy*** toward teachers, fellow students, and the officials at school activities.
- Pride*** in everything the school endeavors to accomplish or has accomplished.
- Sportsmanship*** in the ability to win or lose gracefully.

ASSEMBLIES

Assemblies are held at various times throughout the year at the discretion of the administration.

RULES OF CONDUCT FOR ASSEMBLIES

All students are expected to enter and leave the auditorium in a quiet, orderly manner. Talking is to be kept to a minimum and always at low tone. "Booing" is not permitted at

any time during an assembly. When the **Alma Mater** is played, everyone is to stand and be very quiet. Textbooks are to be left in homeroom or classrooms. Courtesy is to be given to all performers or speakers. Those students who fail to demonstrate mature behavior in assemblies may lose their privilege to attend assemblies or pep rallies for the year. NO food or drink will be allowed in the auditorium

ATHLETICS

All rules and regulations of the Virginia High School League must be met. A physical examination is required before participation on any athletic team. Additionally, students and parents must be aware of the concussion information and must supply appropriate paperwork before participating. Students must be covered by insurance with a family accident policy or through the Virginia School Board Association accident policy. Students should bear in mind that the school considers participation in all extra-curricular activities as a privilege, which can be revoked, whether the activity be sports or any of the school clubs and organizations. Athletes that are attending Covington High School's Virtual Learning Program may compete in athletics if they are in good standing.

STUDENT COUNCIL ASSOCIATION (SCA)

All members of the student body at CHS are members of the Student Council Association. Each student may vote for homeroom representatives and officers that are elected annually. To be eligible for representative or officer, the student must be in good standing. The SCA promotes school spirit, the welfare of each student, and the welfare of the student body as a whole through student participation in the governance of Covington High School. SCA officers are expected to serve as positive role models for all CHS students.

CHAPTER 4- DISCIPLINE AND STUDENT CONDUCT

GENERAL STATEMENT

It is the responsibility of the principal to maintain good order and discipline in the school. Emphasis is placed upon helping students develop self-discipline, responsibility, respect, and a desire to do the right thing at all times.

All school staff, parents, and students will be utilized in encouraging students to develop self-discipline. Hopefully, most students will want to do that which is desirable in a school environment and will conduct themselves in an acceptable manner. Students who do **NOT** conduct themselves in an acceptable manner must accept the consequences.

RULES FOR STUDENT BEHAVIOR

There are four basic rules for student behavior:

1. **Students are expected to treat each other with mutual respect and are expected to treat ALL school staff members and guests with respect. Some examples of violations of this rule would include the following:**
 - ❖ Student repeatedly intimidating, harassing, or verbally abusing other student(s) or taking another's property under duress or threats, by stealing or by any other fraudulent means.
 - ❖ Students verbally abusing, showing disrespect, using profanity that is directed toward a staff member.

2. **Students are expected to follow all directions from all staff members and are to follow all policies and regulations. Staff members would include administrators, teachers, substitute teachers, maintenance, custodians, etc.**

Some examples of violations of this rule would include the following:

- ❖ Plagiarism,
- ❖ Cheating on assignments,
- ❖ Continually not turning in homework,
- ❖ Refusing to obey a school official or staff members,
- ❖ Failing to stay after school for a teacher or the administration,
- ❖ Failing to leave school grounds by 3:30 p.m. if not participating in school supervised activity,
- ❖ Not attending all assigned classes,
- ❖ Not attending classes on time and bringing all necessary assigned materials, and completing homework assignments,
- ❖ Leaving school grounds without permission and not following regular checkout procedures,
- ❖ Not reporting to the cafeteria before school when they come on school grounds.

3. **Students shall refrain from any behavior that is of a disruptive nature to class, to a school activity, or disruptive to the school environment.**

Some examples of violations of the rule would be the following:

- ❖ Excessive noise,
- ❖ Disturbance in class,
- ❖ Disturbance in a school assembly or a school activity,
- ❖ Students dressing in a manner that distracts other students and interferes with order and instruction-*refer to dress code*,
- ❖ Students using electronic devices during school hours.
- ❖ No smart/cell phone use to produce pictures or video of students, faculty or staff

4. **Students shall refrain from any behavior that endangers or affects the health, safety and welfare of Covington High School that included the people, its programs, its buildings and grounds.** Examples of this rule

would include the following:

- ❖ Physically assaulting a staff member,
- ❖ Possessing a weapon such as a knife, a gun, or explosive, or any other dangerous articles on school property,
- ❖ Fighting or engaging in violent behavior that is disruptive and dangerous
- ❖ Driving and parking in a careless, dangerous manner,
- ❖ Bringing articles to school that are hazardous to the safety of others or interferes in any way with school procedures.
- ❖ Using illicit drugs
- ❖ Using tobacco products on school premises, a school activity or function
- ❖ Committing immoral conduct such as stealing, cheating, lying, forgery, profanity, obscene acts or gestures, and possession of obscene, indecent pictures or literature. This also includes gambling in any form,
- ❖ Using the restroom as a place of loafing, playing, smoking, or fighting,
- ❖ Displaying affection in public,
- ❖ Destroying school property
- ❖ Littering the school, school grounds, the cafeteria and not returning cafeteria trays.

These four basic rules and their examples cited above are intended only as guidelines. There are other behaviors which will result in disciplinary action. Any act of misbehavior deemed inappropriate by the faculty and administration based on common sense and traditional standards will not be tolerated. Students should also fully understand that any adult in the building has the authority to correct misconduct at any time. Students who are unable to function by school rules and continually commit offenses without attempting to correct them and when previous methods have not brought forth any improvement, will be brought before the superintendent and as a last resort to the school board which may result in expulsion.

Cougar PRIDE (privilege, respect, integrity, determination, excellence) is the school-wide positive behavior program that focuses on creating a Safe and Orderly Environment which is a key component of the Seven Correlates of Effective Schools.

POSSIBLE REWARDS

- Drawings for a variety of prizes
- Purchase items at the school store with "Cougar Bucks"

The consequences for inappropriate behavior are as follows:

**Covington High School
Discipline Chart**

<u>Infraction</u>	<u>Definition</u>	<u>1st Offense</u>	<u>2nd Offense</u>	<u>3rd Offense</u>
Bus Misconduct	Violation of CCPS Bus Rules	1 day ASD and/or 1-10 Days Bus Suspension. May result in loss of privilege to ride bus.	2 days ASD and/or 1-10 Days Bus Suspension. May result in loss of privilege to ride bus.	1-10 Days Bus Suspension. May result in loss of privilege to ride bus.
Bomb Threats or Bomb Facsimile, Possession, False Fire Alarm, Major Threat	Bomb threats or false information concerning the placement of explosives or destructive substances. Weapon threats toward students or school	10 Days OSS, Recommendation of Expulsion, Refer for criminal charges	10 Days OSS, Recommendation of Expulsion, Refer for criminal charges	10 Days OSS, Recommendation of Expulsion, Refer for criminal charges.
Cell Phones, Other Electronic Devices such as MP3 players, PSP players, Laser pointers, etc.	Unauthorized display and/or use on school property. Personal electronic devices can be used before school, during the student's lunch period in the cafeteria or in between classes, after school, and at the teacher discretion.	Confiscation - pick up at the end of day from the office by parent/guardian. 1 day ASD.	Confiscation - Pick up from the office by parent/guardian. 1 day ISS.	Confiscation - Pick up from the office by parent/guardian. 1 days OSS.
Cheating on homework, class work including quizzes	Copying another's work or answers, giving or receiving unauthorized information	1 Day ISS. Parent/Guardian Notification. "0" on	2 Day ISS Parent/Guardian Notification. "0" on assignment.	1 Day OSS. Parent/Guardian Notification. "0" on assignment.

		assignment.		
Cheating on test, paper, or project	Copying another's work or test answers, cheat sheets, giving or receiving information during a test, plagiarism, copyright violation	1 Days OSS. Parent/Guardian notification. "0" on assignment	3 Days OSS. Parent/Guardian notification. "0" on assignment	5 Days OSS. Parent/Guardian notification. "0" on assignment
Disrespect/Insubordination/Defiance to teacher, administrator, or other school employee	Refusal to carry out a request by any staff member. Failure to report to administrator upon referral from teacher, lying to teacher or administrator.	3 Days OSS. Parent/Guardian notification.	5 Days OSS. Parent/Guardian notification.	10 Days OSS. Parent/Guardian notification.
Disruptive Behavior and Minor Misconduct	Running, shouting, other minor misconduct.	1 Block ISS. Parent/Guardian Notification	1 Day ISS. Parent/Guardian Notification	3 Day ISS Parent/Guardian Notification
Dress Code Violation	Failure to adhere to Dress Code Policy.	Request change of clothing. Parent/Guardian notification. And/or 1 ASD.	Request change of clothing. Parent/Guardian notification. And/or 1 day ISS.	Request change of clothing. Parent/Guardian notification. And/or 1 Day OSS
Drugs in School: alcohol, controlled substance, imitation controlled substance or marijuana or drug paraphernalia	Violation of CCPS Policy JFCF	10 Days OSS, Recommendation of Expulsion, Refer for criminal charges	10 Days OSS, Recommendation of Expulsion, Refer for criminal charges	10 Days OSS, Recommendation of Expulsion, Refer for criminal charges
Failure to attend an assigned ASD	Not reporting to an assigned ASD.	1 day ISS and reassignment of ASD	2 day ISS and reassignment of ASD	1 day OSS and reassignment of ASD
Fireworks, stink bombs, lighters, etc.	Possession or use of fireworks, facsimiles, etc.	3 Days OSS. Parent/Guardian notification.	5 Days OSS. Parent/Guardian notification.	10 Days OSS. Parent/Guardian notification.
Forgery	Signing notes or use of forged or altered documents.	3 Days OSS. Parent/Guardian notification. 10 days OSS if injury occurs as a result.	5 Days OSS. Parent/Guardian notification. 10 days OSS if injury occurs as a result.	10 Days OSS. Parent/Guardian notification.
General Misconduct	Examples include but are not limited to: failure to work in class, sleeping in class, gambling, spreading rumors, horseplay, minor insubordination, throwing items, use of zip ties, other non-school items,	1 Day ASD. Parent/Guardian Notification	1 Day ISS Parent/Guardian notification	2 ISS. Parent/Guardian notification.

Hitting someone with an object such as snowball, water balloon, rocks, food, etc.	Striking another person, intentionally or unintentionally with an object.	3 Days OSS. Parent/Guardian notification. 10 days OSS if injury occurs as a result	5 Days OSS. Parent/Guardian notification. 10 days OSS if injury occurs as a result.	10 Days OSS. Parent/Guardian notification.
Incorrigible Behavior	Continued violation of the CCPS Student Code of Conduct	3 Days OSS. Parent/Guardian notification.	5 Days OSS. Parent/Guardian notification.	10 Days OSS. Parent/Guardian notification.
Lewd Behavior	Any behavior deemed to be inappropriate or offensive.	3 Days OSS. Parent/Guardian notification.	5 Days OSS. Parent/Guardian notification.	10 Days OSS. Parent/Guardian notification.
Medication Policy Violation	Carrying in one's possession non-prescription medication, prescription medication for self	1 Day ASD. Parent/Guardian Notification	1 Day ISS Parent/Guardian Notification.	3-5 Days OSS. Parent/Guardian notification.
Out of Bounds	Being in an area without permission or an area that is off-limits.	1 Day OSS. Parent/Guardian Notification	1 Day OSS. Parent/Guardian Notification.	3-5 Days OSS. Parent/Guardian notification.
Infraction	<u>Definition</u>	<u>1st Offense</u>	<u>2nd Offense</u>	<u>3rd Offense</u>
Public Displays of Affection	Any display of affection other than hand-holding.	1 Day ASD. Parent/Guardian Notification	2 days ASD. Parent Notification.	1 Day ISS Parent/Guardian Notification
Profanity and/or obscenity (Indirect Use)	Use of inappropriate language and/or material.	1 Day ASD. Parent/Guardian Notification	1 Day ISS Parent/Guardian Notification.	3-5 Days OSS. Parent/Guardian notification.
Profanity and/or obscenity (Directed Use)	Use of inappropriate language, obscene gestures, and/or material directed toward another person.	3 Days OSS. Parent/Guardian notification.	5 Days OSS. Parent/Guardian notification.	10 Days OSS. Parent/Guardian notification.
Sexual/Racial Harassment	Unwanted and/or unwelcome behavior as defined by CCPS Policy JFHA	As determined by Compliance Officer. Responses may range from mediation and/or counseling to recommendation of expulsion with referral for criminal charges.	As determined by Compliance Officer. Responses may range from mediation and/or counseling to recommendation of expulsion with referral for criminal charges.	As determined by Compliance Officer. Responses may range from mediation and/or counseling to recommendation of expulsion with referral for criminal charges.
Skipping Class	Not reporting to class, leaving	1 Day ASD.	1 Day ISS	1 Days OSS

	class without permission, not returning to class from lunch, clubs, etc.	Parent/Guardian Notification	Parent/Guardian notification	Parent/Guardian notification.
Skipping School	Failure to report to school, failure to immediately leave school grounds upon checking out, or leaving school property without permission	1 Day OSS. Parent/Guardian notification	2 Days OSS Parent/Guardian notification	3-5 days OSS. Parent/Guardian notification.
Tardies	Student is not in the classroom when the bell rings. Per 9 Weeks.	Tardies 4-5 ASD Implementation of CCPS Policy JED and JED-R	Tardy 6 Block ISS Parent/Guardian notification. Implementation of CCPS Policy JED and JED-R	Tardy 7 1 Day ISS, Parent/Guardian notification. Implementation of CCPS Policy JED and JED-R
Technology Violation	Inappropriate conduct and misuse of computer technology as described in CCPS Policy IIBEA and Regulation IIBEA-R.	1 Day ISS. Parent/Guardian Notification. Temporary loss of privileges.	1 Day OSS. Parent/Guardian Notification. Extended loss of privileges.	1-3 Days OSS. Parent/Guardian Notification. Extended loss of privileges.
Theft	Stealing property belonging to another person or school.	3 Days OSS. Parent/Guardian notification.	5 Days OSS. Parent/Guardian notification.	10 Days OSS. Parent/Guardian notification.
Tobacco	The use and/or possession of tobacco products in and on school property is prohibited as described by CCPS Policy JFCH.	1 days OSS. Parent/Guardian Notification. Refer for criminal charges. 2 - 1 Hour Tobacco School Sessions If you do not attend Tobacco school will result in regular 3 days OSS.	3 Days OSS. Parent/Guardian Notification. Refer for criminal charges. 1 - 2 Hour Tobacco School Session If you do not attend Tobacco school will result in regular 5 days OSS.	5 Days OSS. Parent/Guardian Notification. Refer for criminal charges. 2 - 2 Hour Tobacco School Session If you do not attend Tobacco school will result in regular 8 days OSS.
Vandalism	The willful destruction or defacement of school property.	1-3 Days OSS. Parent/Guardian Notification. Restitution as necessary. Refer for criminal charges.	3-5 Days OSS. Parent/Guardian Notification. Restitution as necessary. Refer for criminal charges.	5-10 Days OSS. Parent/Guardian Notification. Restitution as necessary. Refer for criminal charges.

Verbal Confrontation	Verbal confrontation without the use of profanity.	1 Day ISS Parent/Guardian Notification	1 Days OSS. Parent/Guardian Notification	3-5 Days OSS. Parent/Guardian Notification
Violence: Fighting, Stalking	Participating in, instigating, or aiding in a fight.	5-10 Days OSS. Refer for criminal charges. Parent/Guardian Notification.	10 Days OSS. Refer for criminal charges. Parent/Guardian Notification.	10 Days OSS. Recommendation of Suspension for the year. Refer for criminal charges. Parent/Guardian Notification.
Violence: Fighting, Failure to cease upon employee direction and/or injury to an employee.	Participating in, instigating, or aiding in a fight. Failure to cease upon employee direction and/or injury to an employee.	10 Days OSS. Recommendation of expulsion. Refer for criminal charges. Parent/Guardian Notification.	10 Days OSS. Recommendation of expulsion. Refer for criminal charges. Parent/Guardian Notification.	10 Days OSS. Recommendation of Suspension for the year. Refer for criminal charges. Parent/Guardian Notification.
Violence: Physical Abuse or Attack	Physically assaulting or abusing any person on school grounds or in conjunction with a school activity.	10 Days OSS. Refer for criminal charges. Parent/Guardian Notification.	10 Days OSS. Recommendation of expulsion. Refer for criminal charges. Parent/Guardian Notification.	10 Days OSS. Recommendation of expulsion. Refer for criminal charges. Parent/Guardian Notification.
Violence: Verbal/Electronic Abuse and/or Threat, Bullying, Hazing, Cyber bullying, etc.	Threatening, insulting, or in any other manner verbally abusing another person	3-5 Days OSS. Refer for criminal charges. Parent/Guardian Notification.	5-10 Days OSS. Refer for criminal charges. Parent/Guardian Notification.	10 Days OSS. Recommendation of Suspension for the year. Refer for criminal charges. Parent/Guardian Notification.
Violence: Premeditated Violent Physical Attack; Threatening a school employee	Premeditated violently attacking any student or staff member in a violent manner	10 Days OSS, Recommendation of Expulsion, Refer for criminal charges	10 Days OSS, Recommendation of Expulsion, Refer for criminal charges	10 Days OSS, Recommendation of Expulsion, Refer for criminal charges
Weapons in School	Violation of CCPS Policy JFCD	Category A: 10 Days OSS, Recommendation of Expulsion, Refer for criminal charges Category B: Disciplinary	Category A: 10 Days OSS, Recommendation of Expulsion, Refer for criminal charges. Category B: Disciplinary action up to	Category A: 10 Days OSS, Recommendation of Expulsion, Refer for criminal charges. Category B: Disciplinary action up to and including a

		action up to and including a recommendation for expulsion and refer for criminal charges.	and including a recommendation for expulsion and refer for criminal charges.	recommendation for expulsion and refer for criminal charges.
Student Masks	Masks were made a requirement for students and staff throughout the school day with certain exemptions/exceptions.	After Classroom reminders. Office Warning & Phone Call Home	One Week Virtual Learning	Virtual Learning Remainder of the Semester

Administration may take disciplinary action for other good and just cause to preserve academic integrity and school safety. Alternative disciplinary methods (restorative practices / community service, etc.) may utilized if deemed appropriate by administration. Due to COVID-19 some suspensions may require students to attend school virtually.

ADMINISTRATION OF DISCIPLINE

Discipline for violations of the above listed rules may range from a conference with a warning to out-of-school suspension or expulsion. The type of punishment will be determined by school authorities and will reflect the circumstances of the offense committed.

In criminal offenses the administration in concurrence with the School Resource Officer and or probation authorities will make the decision whether a student will be charged for violations prescribed in state statues.

DETENTION

The intent of Detention Hall is to provide a consequence(s) short of suspension from school and the undesirable consequences of a suspension. We hope that the Detention Hall experience will provide the necessary deterrent sufficient to prevent additional acts of misbehavior and/or violations of policies.

A student who attends Detention Hall is encouraged to use the time to read for educational purposes. Detention Hall is a deprivation of the student's personal time, but the time is not to be wasted with idleness.

For Detention, the student will:

- ❖ Report to the designated classroom no later than 3:20 pm, dismissal at 4:10 pm;
- ❖ Bring sufficient books and materials to work on and study during the time of detention;
- ❖ Cooperate with the Detention Hall teacher;
- ❖ Abstain from talking to other students while in the room;
- ❖ Abstain from communicating verbally or physically with another student;
- ❖ Refrain from producing any unnecessary sounds such as whistling, humming, excessive volume in clearing one's throat, etc.;
- ❖ Sit upright in his desk, face the front of the room, not lay his/her head on the desk and stay alert;

- ❖ Avoid participating in games, such as playing solitaire with cards, flipping a paper football, etc.;
- ❖ Abstain from using electronic devices;

WARNING: Strict adherence to the guidelines for conduct in Detention Hall is demanded. A student whose conduct in Detention is unsatisfactory or who violates one or more of these guidelines may be suspended. The student's parents or guardians will be informed of the student's misbehavior.

ALTERNATIVE INSTRUCTIONAL PROGRAM (AIP/ISS)

- ❖ Upon arrival at school the student will report to the Alternative Instructional Program teacher.
- ❖ The student must not sleep or rest while assigned to the program
- ❖ Students will not be allowed to have snacks, soda, or gum while he/she is in the Alternative Instructional Program. Students will get their lunch in the time between lunches.
- ❖ Generally, students will work independently on material which has been assigned. However, the supervisor will provide tutorial assistance where needed and feasible.
- ❖ The student will be dismissed at the end of the school day. All submitted assignments must be completed. An extra day may be assigned until the submitted work is completed to the teacher's satisfaction or a zero will be given.
- ❖ Any violation of rules in the Alternative Instructional Program such as misconduct or lack of cooperation will be considered a major offense. The student may be placed on out-of-school suspension and a parental conference may be required before the student may return to school. The uncompleted time in the alternative Instructional Program will be completed after the student returns to school from the out-of-school suspension.

THURSDAY NIGHT SCHOOL (if offered)

If held, the purpose of Thursday Night School is to enhance instructional opportunities, to deter unacceptable and disruptive behavior and to decrease the out-of-school suspension rate and to create more flexibility in the disciplinary process at Covington High School.

Thursday Evening School hours are 5-9 p.m. The program will be housed at Covington High School and will operate throughout the school year as needed. A professional staff member will supervise Thursday Night School. Generally, students will work independently on assignments. The supervisor will provide tutoring assistance where needed and feasible.

The parent or guardian must be contacted and informed of the reason for the student being assigned to Thursday Night School.

- ❖ Parents are responsible for providing transportation for their child assigned to the program.
- ❖ Upon arrival at CHS, the student must report to the supervisor.
- ❖ The student must come prepared to work.
- ❖ The student may use the restroom if permission from the supervisor is secured.
- ❖ The student will turn in all completed work to the supervisor at the end of the session.

If a student fails to report to Thursday Night School, a conference must be held with the parent, student, and principal to resolve the student's absence.

OUT-OF-SCHOOL SUSPENSION

The parent or guardian of the student will be contacted concerning the suspension. The student may not be on school property or attend school activities during a suspension. The student may make up missed quizzes and tests during upon their return to school. The student, parent, guardian and administrator may have a conference before the student may return to classes (upon administrators' request). Students will need to contact the school for work and turn in any work upon their return for full credit. COVID-19: Students will be able to complete assignments asynchronously while on suspension.

SCHOOL AND LAW

An unlawful act taking place on school grounds or buses not only makes the student subject to penalties which the courts may prescribe, but also will result in suspension or dismissal from school.

Pep pills, marijuana, LSD, alcoholic beverages, or other stimulants are not only illegal, but also may result in permanent physical and psychological damage and are usually the first steps toward drug addiction. Students are warned against their use. Anyone found possessing, selling, or buying tobacco, drugs, or alcoholic beverage of any kind on school grounds or at a school activity, will be suspended from school initially and may require further consequences. The parents will be notified immediately of any violations of these rules. Additionally, proper protocol must be used for prescription medication; disciplinary measures will be enforced. All prescription medication must be brought to the nurse and as previously mentioned proper protocol must be followed.

MASS DISRUPTIONS

The school will not tolerate mass disruption by the student body in any form, for any reason. If such a situation does occur, the individual student will obey the class teacher or adult in authority. Failure to do so will result in suspension or expulsion.

SEARCH AND SEIZURE

The school authorities reserve the right to search lockers, backpacks, desks, automobiles, or other areas when there is reasonable suspicion that material or property will violate school regulations, state or federal law. The administration will not hesitate to call local, state and federal law authorities as deemed necessary.

Covington City Public Schools Policy Manual (For More Information Visit Link):
http://covingtoncsd.ss13.sharpschool.com/UserFiles/Servers/Server_176970/File/School%20Board/CCPS%20Policy%20Manual/Section%20J/JFG.pdf

WEAPONS IN SCHOOL

Carrying, bringing, using or possessing any firearm, dangerous device, or dangerous or deadly weapon in any school building, on school grounds, in any school vehicle or at any school-sponsored activity without the authorization of the school or the school division is prohibited, and grounds for disciplinary action.

A student who has possessed a firearm on school property or at a school-sponsored activity as prohibited by Va. Code § 18.2-308.1 or who has possessed a firearm or destructive device as defined in Va. Code § 22.1-277.07 or a firearm muffler or firearm silencer or a pneumatic gun as defined in Va. Code § 15.2-915.4 on school property or at a school-sponsored activity may be expelled for at least one year in accordance with Policy JGD/JGE Student Suspension/Expulsion. The School Board may determine, based on the facts of a particular situation, that special circumstances exist and no disciplinary action or another disciplinary action or another term of expulsion is appropriate. The School Board may promulgate guidelines for determining what constitutes special circumstances. In addition, the School Board may, by regulation, authorize the superintendent or the superintendent's designee to conduct a preliminary review of such cases to determine whether a disciplinary action other than expulsion is appropriate. Disciplinary proceedings for violation of this policy will be initiated promptly.

Covington City Public Schools Policy JFCD (For More Information Visit Link):

http://covingtoncsd.ss13.sharpschool.com/UserFiles/Servers/Server_176970/File/School%20Board/CCPS%20Policy%20Manual/Section%20J/JFCD.pdf

DRUGS IN SCHOOL

Possession of a controlled substance, imitation controlled substance or marijuana, as defined in Va. Code § 18.2-247, on school property or at a school-sponsored activity is prohibited.

Covington City Public Schools Policy JFCF (For More Information Visit Link):

http://covingtoncsd.ss13.sharpschool.com/UserFiles/Servers/Server_176970/File/School%20Board/CCPS%20Policy%20Manual/Section%20J/JFCF.pdf

VAPE SENSORS

Covington High School will be implementing vaping sensors located in several restrooms or locker rooms. These sensors track vape fumes in the air quality and report elevated levels to administration. This is a part of our tobacco prevention program with the Alleghany Highlands Healthy Youth Coalition.

BUS RULES

Students should be at the designated school bus stop on time and should wait until the bus comes to a complete stop before attempting to board. Students should remember that loud talking and laughing divert the driver's attention and make safe driving difficult. Every student who rides a school bus must obey the following rules:

- ❖ Keep hands and head inside the bus at all times;
- ❖ Never tamper with the bus;
- ❖ Do not leave seat while the bus is in motion;
- ❖ Be courteous to the bus driver and to fellow students at all times;
- ❖ Be absolutely quiet when the bus is approaching a railroad crossing.

All buses to games or field trips are scheduled by the school, and each bus is under the direction of faculty members. All students are required to obey rules listed above and to return to the school on their assigned bus. The school expects students to dress and conduct themselves in a manner appropriate for the situation or occasion. (Covington City School Board Policy Handbook)

SCHOOL BUS CONDUCT PROCEDURES

- ❖ Major infractions such as fighting, destruction or tampering with bus equipment, threatening the driver, impudence or refusal to obey the driver or any willful act that places the riders of the bus in a life-threatening situation will result in an **automatic 3-day suspension from the bus and parent conference. Additional School Discipline may apply.**
- ❖ Less serious infractions such as eating, drinking, not seated, unusual loud noises, profanity, littering, throwing paper, spitting, being inconsiderate, of others, etc. will be properly addressed and may result in a conference and consequence(s) for the inappropriate actions. The second offense ranges from school detention, and/or one-day bus suspension. The third offense results in a 3-day bus suspension, parent conference. The fourth offense results in bus suspension for remainder of the school year. These rules and consequences are intended only as guidelines. There are other inappropriate behaviors which will result in disciplinary action as well.

CAFETERIA

Paid lunch and breakfast prices:

Paid Lunch (9-12): Free

Paid Lunch (8): Free

Reduced Price Lunch: Free

Paid Breakfast: Free

Reduced Price Breakfast: Free

Covington City Public Schools Meal Charge Policy

The National School Lunch and School Breakfast Programs are integral in ensuring students have access to nutritious meals to support their academic success. It is also imperative to protect the financial stability of school nutrition program.

The intent of this policy is to establish a process and procedure to handle situations when children eligible for reduced-price or full-price meal benefits have insufficient funds to pay for school meals; as well as for the collection of unpaid meal charges and delinquent account debt.

Students who have money to pay for a reduced-price or full-price meal at the time of service must be provided a meal. If the student intended to use the money for that day's meal, the School Food Authority (SFA) will not use the money to repay a negative balance or other unpaid meal charge debt. Students are allowed to charge \$25.00 on their accounts. After that, they will need to bring money to purchase a meal. Students will not be allowed to charge if there is a negative account balance. The written charge policy will be communicated to the household by posting on the Covington City Public Schools division website, included in student registration packets and will be provided to all transfer students during the school year along with Meals Benefits Application.

Notifications to households will be sent out by the School Food Authority (SFA) and will include the amount of unpaid meal charges, expected payment date, and who to call for questions or assistance.

Delinquent debt is allowable in the School Nutrition Program and may be carried over to one successive school year.

Efforts to collect delinquent and/or bad debt will be handled by:

- a. 1st Letter
- b. 2nd Letter
- c. Phone Calls
- d. Notice of Adverse Action/Potential collections
- e. Consequence

Assistance to Households

Households with questions or needing assistance may contact the school office where their student attends or the School Nutrition Program Office at (540) 965-1400, 340 E. Walnut Street, Covington, VA 24426.

Collection procedures for delinquent and bad debt-adverse action
When a household has reached threshold of \$25.00 collection procedures will be initiated. Households will receive notification that collection procedures have begun.

Lunch Regulations- All food and drinks must be consumed by students in the cafeteria. Eating and drinking in the halls or classrooms is a violation and will result in a consequence. Students may carry bottled water in clear bottles.

Students are not permitted to leave school grounds during the school day. Students must report to the cafeteria to eat lunch. Lunches brought from home must also be eaten in the cafeteria. **No student is to receive lunch from outside (i.e. Subway, Wendy's, McDonald's, etc) brought in by a parent during the school day.**

During first and second lunch, students must report to the cafeteria and stay there for the duration of the lunch period. Restrooms on the first floor of the old building will be available during lunch. All other areas of the school are off limits to students.

STUDENT DRESS CODE

REGULATIONS FOR STUDENT DRESS

School is a place of business; therefore, student dress should reflect the serious intent of one who is going to work with an important job to do. Student dress should support a business-like atmosphere, comfortable but not overly casual. The following guidelines provide standards for student dress that should be considered by students and parents prior to coming to school. These standards will be enforced by the teachers and administrators in our schools.

1. Students should be appropriately covered from the shoulders to the mid-thigh area.
2. Clothing and accessories that may be interpreted as vulgar, suggestive, derogatory, offensive, violent, or gang-related, or items which may cause a disruption within the school environment are prohibited.
3. Sleeveless tops must have shoulder straps that are at least three inches wide.
4. Mesh clothing, sheer clothing, or tops with necklines that are lower than the straight line from top of underarm across to opposite underarm, front and back, are prohibited.

5. Pants, shorts, or skirts should not be worn low on the hip so as to reveal underwear or skin. Clothing must cover undergarments at all times.

6. Dresses, skirts, and shorts must not be shorter than mid-thigh.

7. Tights, leggings, spandex, or pants that appear to fit as tights or leggings must be accompanied by an additional item of clothing (shirt/sweater/shorts/skirt) that completely covers the student's posterior.

8. Holes in clothing must comply with Rule 1, and must not reveal skin or undergarments from the shoulders to an area five inches above the knee.

9. **Hats, hoods, and other head coverings are prohibited.**

10. Sunglasses or permanently tinted dark glasses are prohibited. 11. Any item that is considered dangerous or could be used as a weapon is prohibited.

The administration maintains the right to demand that clothing be appropriate and not distract from the educational environment. Decisions regarding the appropriateness of clothing, footwear, and accessories will be made by the administration. Items initially deemed inappropriate will be invited to the student's/parent's attention for corrective action. Subsequent violations of the dress code will subject the student to suspension from school. Additionally, the administration reserves the right to modify the dress code as trends change or circumstances warrant with notification to students and parents. Thus, no rule or regulation can adequately address changes in style or other inappropriate wearing of apparel. The administration will utilize its discretion in dealing with circumstances not specifically addressed.

Thank you for helping your student adhere to the CHS dress code.

SALES TO STUDENTS

Chapter 9-57 of the Covington City School Board Policy and Procedure Handbook states: Articles, materials, photographs or consumable materials may be offered for sale to students only with the permission of the superintendent. The only items excluding meals that may be sold to students during the school day are those that are necessary to the student to have in order to attend a class of which the board has given specific approval.

PUBLIC DISPLAY OF AFFECTION (PDA)

Only handholding will be allowed. No other personal contact will be allowed.

ELECTRONIC DEVICES

Electronic devices are to be used during breakfast or lunch in the cafeteria. **Electronic devices maybe used in the classroom only with the teacher's permission for educational purposes. This includes headphones.** Electronic devices detected in use during school hours will be confiscated and must be picked up in main office by parent or guardian at the end of the school day.

THE COVINGTON ALTERNATIVE PROGRAM (CAP)

A High school alternative education program will serve students in grades 8-12 from Covington High School who have experienced problems meeting expectations within the traditional school setting. The objectives of CAP are:

- ❖ To assist the student to know his/her strengths and areas for improvement while building self-esteem and discipline.
- ❖ To provide the opportunity to achieve high school graduation or the attainment of a GED, (General Educational Development) in a nontraditional setting employing flexible schedules, individual attention, and caring that is highly visible.

GRADUATION

A student who has earned ten (10) credits at his/her home school before coming to the alternative program may choose to graduate at the home school.

TRANSPORTATION

Students will be picked up at designated points. Morning (AM) students will be provided transport, via school bus, to and from JRTC. Afternoon (PM) students may ride a school bus to JRTC; however, RAP students must provide their own transportation to return to their home at the end of the RAP school day.

CHAPTER 5-ATTENDANCE

PHILOSOPHY

Covington High School and the Covington City School Board believe that school attendance is an important component of academic achievement and is important in the development of good work habits for preparation for the world of work: thus, the school and school board encourage good attendance by each student and insist upon the elimination of unnecessary student absences in order to advance the educational potential of each student at Covington High School.

Regular and systematic attendance is essential to success. Counselors and teachers continually remind us of the necessity for good attendance. Prospective employers in the Allegheny Highlands/Covington area and elsewhere request information about attendance and have very high expectations about the number of days that a student should miss from school each year in order to be considered for employment. Excessive tardiness to school will be dealt with as truancy.

STATE LAW

All students under eighteen (18) years of age are required to be enrolled in school and attend school on a regular basis. Section 22.1-254 of the Compulsory School Attendance Law states: "Every parent, guardian, or other person in the Commonwealth having control or charge of any child who will have reached the fifth birthday on or before September 30 of any school year the public schools are in session and for the same number of days and hours per day as the public schools, send such child to a public school."

STUDENT ABSENCES/EXCUSES/DISMISSALS

Student attendance is a cooperative effort and the School Board involves parents and students in accepting the responsibility for good attendance.

Each parent/guardian or person having control or charge of a child within the compulsory attendance age is responsible for such child's regular and punctual attendance at school as required under provisions of the law.

Parents of students who are absent must inform the school of the reason for the absence no later than upon the student's return to school. Absences are excused for the following reasons: A list of excused absences is included in each schools' attendance plan and are available at the schools.

The superintendent, by regulation, establishes procedures for appropriate interventions when a student engages in a pattern of absences for less than a full day, the explanation of which, if it were a full-day absence, would not be an excused absence.

The superintendent's regulations include procedures for excusing students who are absent by reason of observance of a religious holiday. Such regulations ensure that a student is not deprived of any award or of eligibility or opportunity to compete for any award, or of the right to take an alternate test or examination, which the student missed by reason of such absence, if the absence is verified in an acceptable manner.

Students shall attend school for a full day unless excused by the principal or principal's designee.

High school students may spend some* school days each academic year participating in High School to Work Partnerships established pursuant to guidelines developed by the Board of Education. Students who miss a partial or full day of school while participating in Partnership programs are not counted as absent for the purposes of calculating average daily membership. The superintendent's regulations include procedures by which students may make up work missed while participating in a High School to Work Partnership. *to be determined on case by case basis with approval by the building principal.

Nothing in this policy shall be construed to limit in any way the authority of any attendance officer or the division superintendent to seek immediate compliance with the compulsory school attendance law.

Covington City Public Schools Policy JED (For More Information Visit Link):

http://covingtoncsd.ss13.sharpschool.com/UserFiles/Servers/Server_176970/File/School%20Board/CCPS%20Policy%20Manual/Section%20J/PDF%20Rev%20JED%20%20%206%2011%2018.pdf

ABSENCES

In case of an absence from school, the pupil must bring a written statement from his/her parent/guardian the first day he/she returns to school and present it to the attendance office before classes begin. All excuses must be written by parents or guardians and must contain the following:

Pupil's name
Date or dates of absence
REASON for the absence.

Parent's or Guardian's signature and telephone number

Excused absences are given for the following reasons:

- Serious illness in the student's immediate family
- 5 Parent Notes: For a parent note, 1 day = 1 parent note (if a student is absent for 3 consecutive days then he/she will use 3 parent notes).
- Vacation/Trip (pre-approved): Students will be allowed a one-time pre-approved trip per school year up to 5 days. Each day will require a parent note to be excused.
- Medical appointments that cannot be scheduled after school, (All appointments must be verified by a doctor and a student is expected to return to school from early appointments if possible.),
- Death in the immediate family
- Court appearances as evidenced by a summons or other verification,
- Observance of a religious holiday
- College Visits
- Seniors will be allowed two additional excused absences for appointments with a military recruiter or college admission office if scheduled and approved through the guidance department.
- Other reasons deemed acceptable by the principal.

Chronic Absenteeism (Missing 10% of school days during the year)

Possible Consequences: (8 Per Semester or 16 During School Year may result in the following)

- Loss of Good Standing and Privileges: Students will not be able to participate or attend athletic events, school activities and dances. (9 Absences: You may appeal good standing if you have an extenuating circumstances)
- Out of district students with attendance problems may be returned to their home school.

Ability to Earn Back:

- Earn Back Days: Students may attend after school detention to earn back days missed and return to good standing. After School detention will run from 3:40-4:15 Monday-Thursday. 4 days detention = 1 school day earned back. Students must complete school work during this time.
- Appeals Process: Parents may appeal course failure / good standing due to attendance to the school principal. The school attendance committee will take under consideration special circumstances.

Positive Attendance Rewards:

- Attendance Drawings (Cougar Bucks): Students attendance will be monitored periodically and students will have the opportunity to win gift cards and other prizes throughout the school year.
- Breakfast for Attendance: The class with the best attendance percentage during a 6 weeks will receive breakfast from McDonalds.

Verifying Absences:

- A note from a parent/guardian or medical/dental appointment must accompany the student upon his/her return to school.
- The parent/guardian must call the attendance office before 9 a.m. on the day of the absence.
- The school will notify parents of absentees by calling parents daily through our automated calling system. Students found to be truant will be referred to the Director of Student Services. Exceptions to any of the above will only be made in extreme circumstances.

Hybrid Schedule COVID-19: Daily attendance will be taken. Students attendance Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday will be taken by the daily block. Wednesday attendance will be taken to determine if students are making adequate progress on their online learning courses.

TARDINESS/EARLY CHECKOUTS

Students are expected to report to school and class on time. Students tardy to school are to report to the office for a tardy slip. Documented court, doctor, dentist, military and college appointments will constitute an excused tardy or early checkout.

Unexcused Tardies to School/Class (Semester) Consequences: Count restarts each nine weeks.

- Unexcused Tardies: 4-5 After School Detention
- Unexcused Tardies: 6 1 Block ISS
- Unexcused Tardies: 7 1 Day ISS

Tardies to class will follow the same steps as above. Teachers will send students to the office at 6 tardies to class per 9 weeks.

CHECKING OUT OF SCHOOL

To check out, a student must have a parent note, fax, or email in hand before check out (calls may be made to verify) OR the checkout must be in person. Students can't be checked out over the phone. This is for the safety of our students. COVID-19: Please contact main office for student checkouts. We will send student out to parents for pick up.

MAKE-UP WORK FOR ABSENCES

It is the student's responsibility to make arrangements with teachers for all work missed.

Parents/Students may request work for absences for 2 or more days. This can be done before or during the absence. Please contact guidance office for homework requests by 10am and teachers will do their best to accommodate.

Each day of absence (excused & unexcused) = 1 day to make-up work. Example 3 days out of school will give student 3 days to make up the work.

Absences due to suspension will be counted in the student's attendance record. Students who are suspended from school are to take the initiative to find out what the makeup work will be, during their absence. If the work is ready on the day of the student's return, no grade penalty will occur. If the work is turned in on succeeding days, the work may be penalized for lateness by a reduction of ten points per day, up to a maximum of five days. It is up to the discretion of the teacher as to how many points will be deducted after five (5) days and also as to the final date tests, projects, or other work will be accepted.

If a student does not make up the work, a grade of zero will be earned by the student. In case of hospitalization or verified illness special arrangements for class work may be made by agreement with the principal, teachers, and the student involved.

CHAPTER 6-POLICY MANUAL INFORMATION

COVINGTON CITY PUBLIC SCHOOLS POLICY MANUAL INFORMATION

Copies are available at Edgemont Primary School Library, Jeter-Watson Intermediate School Library, Covington High School Library, Covington City Public School's Central Office, and the Alleghany Highlands Regional Library. All content below is in pdf format.

Covington City Public Schools Policy Manual:

http://www.covington.k12.va.us/school_board/c_c_p_s_policy_manual

Students Section (J):

<http://covingtoncsd.ss13.sharpschool.com/cms/One.aspx?portalId=177054&pageId=15889953>

SCHOOL ADMISSION

A person of school age (i.e., a person who will have reached his or her fifth birthday on or before September 30 of the school year and who has not reached 20 years of age on or before August 1st of the school year) is eligible for admission on a non-tuition basis if residing in the Covington City School Division, or if eligible for admission under Policy JECA Admission of Homeless Children.

Covington City Public Schools Policy JEC (For More Information Visit Link):

http://covingtoncsd.ss13.sharpschool.com/UserFiles/Servers/Server_176970/File/School%20Board/CCPS%20Policy%20Manual/Section%20J/PDF%20Rev%20JEC%206%2011%2018.pdf

STUDENT CONDUCT

The standards of student conduct are designed to define the basic rules and major expectations of students in the public schools of Covington City. It is the responsibility of the Covington City School Board to adopt policy and regulations and the administration to issue regulations establishing rules of conduct for student behavior in order to protect the health, safety and welfare of its students. The local school principal has the responsibility and authority to exercise reasonable judgment in enforcing this Code of Conduct. Principals are responsible for ensuring that all students, staff members and parents are provided the opportunity to become familiar with this policy.

Covington City Public Schools Policy JFC (For More Information Visit Link):

http://covingtoncsd.ss13.sharpschool.com/UserFiles/Servers/Server_176970/File/School%20Board/CCPS%20Policy%20Manual/Section%20J/JFC.pdf

STANDARDS OF STUDENT CONDUCT

The following are standards of student conduct established by the School Board for all students. The consequences of any act are determined on the basis of the facts presented in each situation in the reasonable discretion of the Board, its designated committees and other appropriate school officials.

Covington City Public Schools Policy JFC-R (For More Information Visit Link):

http://covingtoncsd.ss13.sharpschool.com/UserFiles/Servers/Server_176970/File/School%20Board/CCPS%20Policy%20Manual/Section%20J/JFC.pdf

TEACHER REMOVAL OF STUDENTS FROM CLASS

Teachers have the initial authority to remove students from class disruptive behavior. "Disruptive behavior" means a violation of School Board regulations governing student conduct that interrupts or obstructs the learning environment.

Covington City Public Schools Policy JFCA (For More Information Visit Link):

http://covingtoncsd.ss13.sharpschool.com/UserFiles/Servers/Server_176970/File/School%20Board/CCPS%20Policy%20Manual/Section%20J/JFCA.pdf

STUDENT FEES, FINES AND CHARGES

The School Board charges student fees and takes action to recover funds for the loss of or damage to School Board property in accordance with the state and federal law. No fee may be charged unless it has been approved by the School Board.

Covington City Public Schools Policy JN (For More Information Visit Link):

http://covingtoncsd.ss13.sharpschool.com/UserFiles/Servers/Server_176970/File/School%20Board/CCPS%20Policy%20Manual/Section%20J/JN.pdf

STATEMENT OF NON-DISCRIMINATION

The Covington City School Board is committed to nondiscrimination with regard to sex, gender, race, color national origin, disability, religion, ancestry, age, marital status, genetic information or any other characteristic protected by law. This commitment will prevail in all of its policies and practices concerning staff, students, educational programs and services, and individuals and entities with whom the Board does business.

Declaración de No Discriminación:

La Junta Escolar está comprometida con una política de no discriminación con respecto a raza, color, sexo, edad, religión, discapacidad, nacionalidad o estado como padre. Esta actitud prevalecerá en todas sus políticas relativas al personal, los estudiantes, los programas y servicios educativos y las personas y entidades con las que la Junta Escolar hace negocios.

Activities/Pep Rallies: last 30 minutes of 4th block.	Morning Activities: 1 st Block				
JRTC Bus Schedule	Block	Departure	Arrivals	Notes	
	1	8:10	10:07		
	2	9:55	12:00	Leave 10 Min Early From 1 st (Announcements)	
	3	12:02	2:05	Leave 5 Min Early from 2 nd Block for Lunch	
	4	1:45	3:35	Leave 10 Min Early from 3 rd Block	

BELL SCHEDULES

Regular Bell Schedule

Block	Start Time	End Time		Start Time	End Time
Cafeteria Open	7:55 AM		JRTC Bus Departs	8:10 AM	
Release to Lockers	8:20 AM				
Homeroom (If Needed)	8:25	8:35			
1	8:25 AM	10:05 AM (100)			
2	10:10 AM	11:45 AM (95)			
3A	12:20 PM	1:55PM (95)	A LUNCH	11:50AM	12:15 PM (25)
3B (Split Block)	11:50 AM	1:55 PM (95)	B LUNCH	12:40 PM	1:05 PM (25)
4	2:00 PM	3:35 PM (95)			

WIN / Club Schedule

Block	Start Time	End Time		Start Time	
Cafeteria Open	7:50 AM		JRTC Bus Departs	8:10 AM	
Release to Lockers	8:20 AM				
1	8:25 AM	9:57 AM (92)			
WIN Period / Clubs	10:01 AM	10:23 AM (22)			
2	10:27 AM	11:58 AM (91)			
3A	12:30 PM	2:00 PM (90)	A LUNCH	12:02 PM	12:26 PM
3B (Split Block)	12:02 PM	2:00 PM (90)	B LUNCH	12:47 PM	1:11 PM
4	2:04 PM	3:35 PM (91)			

JRTC Bus Schedule	Block	Departure	Arrivals	Notes
	1	8:10	10:07	
	2	9:55	12:05	Leave 5 Min Early from 1 st
	3	12:05	2:05	Leave 5 Min Early from 2 nd Block for Lunch
	4	1:45	3:35	Leave 15 Min Early from 3 rd Block

2 Hour Delay					
Block	Start Time	End Time		Start Time	End Time
	10:20 AM				
1	10:25 AM	11:35 AM (70)			
2 A	12:10 PM	1:15 PM (65)	A LUNCH	11:40 AM	12:05 PM (25)
2 B	11:40 AM	1:15 PM (65)	B LUNCH	12:50PM	01:15 PM (25)
3	1:20 PM	2:25 PM (65)			
4	2:30 PM	3:35 PM (65)			

Early Release Schedule			
Block	Start Time	End Time	
	8:20 AM		
1	8:25 AM	9:15 AM (50)	
2	9:20 PM	10:05 AM (45)	
3	10:10 AM	10:55 AM (45)	
4	11:00 AM	11:45 AM (45)	
Lunch	11:50 AM		

Hybrid Learning Schedule			
Block	Start Time	End Time	
1 A (Monday)	8:30 AM	11:30 AM	

1 B (Monday)	12:30 PM	3:30 PM	
3 B (Tuesday)	8:30 AM	11:30 AM	
3 A (Tuesday)	12:30 PM	3:30 PM	
2 A (Thursday)	8:30 AM	11:30 AM	
2 B (Thursday)	12:30 PM	3:30 PM	
4 B (Friday)	8:30 AM	11:30 AM	
4 A (Friday)	12:30 PM	3:30 PM	