



**Home of the Blue Devils**  
Member of SACS since 1929 and TSSAA

Unicoi County High School  
700 S. Mohawk Dr.  
Erwin, TN 37650

Unicoi County CTE Center  
100 Okolona Dr.  
Erwin, TN 37650

Phone: (423) 743-1632 Fax: (423) 743-1636

Phone (423) 743-1639

[www.unicoischools.com/uchs](http://www.unicoischools.com/uchs)

**VISION STATEMENT:**

We will exhibit pride, passion, purpose, and perseverance in all we do.

**MISSION STATEMENT:**

The mission of Unicoi County High School is to create a world of opportunity for ALL students.

*We believe that we are Better Together.*

**Administrators at UCHS**

Dr. Chris Bogart, Principal  
Mr. Kevin Lingerfelt, Director, CTE  
Ms. Elizabeth Watson, Assistant Principal- Curriculum & Testing  
Mr. Ken Cutlip, Assistant Principal- Discipline & Attendance, Athletic Director

**Unicoi County Schools offer educational and employment opportunities without regard to age, race, color, national origin, religion, gender, or disability.**





## ESSA PARENT/GUARDIAN INVOLVEMENT

Under ESSA (Every Student Succeeds Act), you have the right to be involved in your child's education. The Unicoi County Schools Family and Community Involvement Policy and Plan have been posted on the school system website at [unicoischools.com](http://unicoischools.com). We urge parents to attend each parent meeting and to support club and athletic activities. We encourage parents to attend conferences with teachers, especially regarding graduation, and to feel free to call on us at any time. Parents are encouraged to schedule appointments with teachers or school counselors as needed, or when concerns arise. If you have concerns or suggestions, please contact your child's teacher or call the school office to make an appointment. We strive to involve parents at our school. If you have any questions regarding these policies, please contact Mr. Michael Riddell, Federal Programs Supervisor at (423) 743-1601.

## PUBLIC NOTICE TO PARENTS

Unicoi County Schools will disclose certain information, known as directory information, to colleges and military recruiters. Parents or eligible students may refuse to let the schools release any or all of this information. **If you do not want this information released, you must send in written notice annually to the Unicoi County Director of Schools before August 20th.** The following information regarding student is considered directory information: (1) name, (2) address, (3) phone number, (4) date and place, (5) major field of study, (6) participation in officially recognized activities and sports, (7) weight and height of members of athletic teams, (8) dates of attendance, (9) degrees and awards received, (10) the most recent previous educational agency or institution attended by the students, and (11) other similar information that would not generally be considered harmful or an invasion of privacy if disclosed, such as a photograph. UCHS will follow guidelines of Family Education Rights and Privacy ACT (FERPA).

**Any parent/guardian signing the approval of the media release form grants permission for the students' image to appear in the yearbook, newspaper, brochures, newsletters, video and digital images.**





### **Children's Online Privacy Protection Act (COPPA)**

Your child will use school system device(s) and will have access to the Internet. The school system will share your child's information with 3rd parties including but not limited to textbook manufacturers, Google (Google Apps), and Food Service Applications. Federal Law requires 3rd parties to provide protection and restricts how the information may be used. 3rd parties may store your student's information as long as they remain enrolled in our district and/or the service is used by the school system. If you would like copies of how the companies use the data, please contact your school district central office.

### **Ley de Protección de la Privacidad en Internet para los Niños (COPPA)**

Su hijo utilizará aparato(s) del sistema escolar y tendrá acceso a Internet. El sistema escolar compartirá la información de su hijo con terceros, incluyendo pero no limitado a los fabricantes de libros de texto, ebackpack, Google (aplicaciones Google) y Aplicaciones de Servicio de Alimentos. La ley federal requiere que terceros brinden protección y que restrinjan cómo se puede utilizar esta información. Terceros pueden almacenar la información de su estudiante, siempre y cuando permanezcan registrados en nuestro distrito y/o su servicio sea utilizado por el sistema escolar. Si desea copias de cómo las empresas utilizan los datos, comuníquese con la oficina central de su distrito escolar.

### **QUALIFICATIONS OF TEACHERS AND PARAPROFESSIONALS**

The Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) requires all students be taught by fully certified teachers. Tennessee's state licensure requirements still require a bachelor's degree and demonstrated content knowledge. Verification of licensure and certifications is maintained at the school system central office.

You, as a legal parent/guardian, have the right to request information regarding professional qualifications of your child's teacher(s). Upon your request, the school system will provide you with the following information: whether a teacher is teaching under emergency status for which certification has been waived, and the degree major of a teacher and any other graduate degree or certification the teacher may hold. Under ESSA, you will be promptly informed if for any reason a non-highly qualified teacher teaches your child for four or more consecutive weeks.





You have the right to request information about the paraprofessionals that may work with your child. Verification of highly qualified status is maintained at the school system central office.

### **ACCOUNTABILITY**

While the federal government requires states to maintain rigorous state-established top-line goals, it is also the state's responsibility to determine the interim measures that will lead to achieving its top-line goals. The state defines measurement tools, including how to measure growth in outcomes and reduce gaps in student achievement. Additionally, the state sets district goals, measures district and school level progress annually (disaggregated by historically underserved student groups), and reports district and school results publicly. Each year after we receive our system's report card from the state, we will inform you about each school's accountability status, as well as how the achievement of the students compares to those in the system and the state.

You will also be provided information on the achievement level of your child on each of the state academic assessments as soon as is practicably possible after we receive the assessment results.

### **SAFE SCHOOLS**

All Unicoi County Schools have been deemed "safe schools" under the guidelines of our state and ESSA. However, should your child become the victim of a violent crime at any Unicoi County School, you have the right to request a transfer to the nearest county school, pending their enrollment. The Tennessee State Board of Education Unsafe School Choice Policy states that the district may choose to facilitate a requested transfer to another school; however, such transfer shall not be required. Unicoi County Schools' faculty and staff are making every effort to prevent any situation in which your child may not be safe. If you have any questions regarding safety policies or procedures, please contact the central office at (423) 743-1600.

Lower gates to student parking lots will be locked each day at 8:15 AM and unlocked at 2:15 PM. Only students with valid passes may exit the parking lot during the school day. Students MUST sign in and out of the office if they check-in or check-out of the building. Students may NOT leave the campus for lunch or to run errands.





All exterior doors will remain locked during the school day. Students will NOT open these doors for others. Anyone wishing to enter the building MUST use the front doors or use the buzzer system to have doors unlocked at the rear and side entrance.

## DAILY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Important information will be shared with students daily during announcements. These announcements will include information regarding school-related activities, sporting events, testing dates, scholarships, and etc. The announcements will also be posted on TVs throughout the main campus and CTE hallways. WBDN, our student-run news network, will also post news weekly. We encourage families and students to sign up for important announcements through the BLOOMZ app.

## CAFETERIA

The UCHS cafeteria offers a variety of menu choices each day. Menus are posted on the system website. BREAKFAST AND LUNCH are FREE to all students. Breakfast is served beginning at 7:15. There will be a free second-chance breakfast offered between first and second periods each day. This breakfast will be served in the area outside the main office as well as in the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> floor hallways and outside the CTE office. Students may purchase a 2nd lunch during their lunch shift at regular cafeteria prices.

### Cafeteria Expectations

1. Walk in an orderly fashion. Do not skip ahead of others in the line.
2. Be respectful to our cafeteria workers.
3. Throw away your trash and clean your area.
4. Stay seated. Do not move from table to table.
5. No loud noises or disruptive behavior.

**STUDENTS ARE NOT ALLOWED TO HAVE FOOD DELIVERED TO THEM AT SCHOOL FROM RESTAURANTS OR PARENTS BRINGING FOOD AT LUNCH FROM RESTAURANTS. STUDENTS WILL NOT BE ALLOWED TO COME TO THE OFFICE TO PICK UP ANY FOOD DELIVERED FROM A RESTAURANT. ONLY LUNCHESS BROUGHT FROM HOME OR CAFETERIA FOOD IS**





**ALLOWED TO BE EATEN AT LUNCH. ANY FOOD FOUND AT LUNCH WILL BE DISCARDED AND STUDENTS SUBJECT TO DISCIPLINARY ACTION.**

\*\* All visitors to campus must report to the Main Office first. Any persons attempting to deliver food to students somewhere on campus will be subject to trespassing charges.

Students are not allowed to leave campus during their lunch or go to their cars during school hours. Students found in the parking lot during school hours without a pass will receive consequences for skipping. Students caught leaving once on campus whether driving or riding with another individual will be subject to disciplinary action. 1<sup>st</sup> Offense – 3 Days ISS – 2<sup>nd</sup> Offense – 5 days ISS. 3<sup>rd</sup> Offense – Remand to Alternative Placement for continued violation of school rules.

All students should report to the cafeteria immediately during their scheduled lunch time. Students should NOT loiter in classrooms, hallways, bathrooms, stairwells, or outside of the building. Students may sign out of the cafeteria to use the restroom or go to another designated area.

**CHECK-IN/CHECK-OUT PROCEDURE**

The parking lot gate will be locked at 8:15 AM and will remain locked until 2:15 PM. All students arriving late or leaving early must report to the main office. In the case of illness a parent or guardian will be contacted. Even though a student has driven an automobile to school, a parent or guardian must check the student out. Doctor or dentist appointments will be honored when an appointment card is shown. The principal or assistant principal will evaluate other situations. Students leaving school early MUST have an appropriate pass. This includes Work-based learning, practicum, and internships. Students checking out early will be stopped by the SRO in the parking lot to show their pass.

**NOTE: Students will not be allowed to check out from school unless a parent or guardian comes to the school OR talks with an administrator. Students are not permitted to run errands or go out to lunch during the school day.**





## CLINIC

The clinic is located in the main office on the first floor. Our clinic is open to all students, faculty and staff. We have a nurse on duty to provide for the medical needs of our students. It is the Parents' responsibility to provide the clinic with the necessary medical information concerning the student's medical needs during school hours. All medications **MUST** be turned in to the clinic for dispersal. This includes OTC (over the counter) medications.

\*\*Students wishing to leave class and see the nurse for any reason **MUST** have a note from their teacher stating the time and purpose of their visit. The teacher must also call to confirm that the nurse is available before sending the student.

## EMERGENCY FORMS

Emergency forms are required for every student enrolled at UCHS. Emergency forms must be turned in within the first two weeks of school. If at any time during the school year, a change of address, custody, phone number, address and/or emergency contact phone numbers change, the office **MUST** be notified. If a change in custody occurs, court documents must be presented and on file in the students permanent record. In the event of an emergency or discipline issues, parents may be contacted at their place of employment.

## FINANCIAL OBLIGATION

All students are required to meet financial obligations, such as the cost of lost or damaged textbooks or library books, materials, equipment, unpaid library fines, fees, rental on graduation garments, balance on pictures, announcements, etc. ordered through the school. **The school fee for UCHS students is \$15.00 to be paid at the beginning of the school year.** Grades, transcripts, and diplomas will not be released until financial obligations are paid in full at least 5 days prior to the end of the semester.





## LIBRARY/MEDIA CENTER

Library Hours: 7:30am - 3:00pm. Failure to observe library/media center regulations could result in disciplinary action or suspension of privileges.

Our library services can also be found online at:

[www.uchslibrary.com](http://www.uchslibrary.com)

The Thinking Cup Coffee Shop is housed in the UCHS Library. Hours of operation vary throughout the school year. Students can purchase coffee and snacks between classes as well as before and after school.

The STEM Lab will be completed by 2024 and will house up-to-date technology including robotics, coding, 3D printing, laser printing, oculus, drones, and more.

## LOCKERS AND BACKPACKS

Lockers will be assigned to students at the beginning of the school year. Students are to use assigned lockers only! **Students are required to keep lockers locked at all times.** Students cannot change lockers without permission from their homeroom teacher. Purses/pocketbooks will be allowed to remain with students during school hours. **Lockers and backpacks are subject to search for drugs, stolen articles, or weapons according to state law. UCHS is not responsible for lost or stolen items.** Students are expected to maintain lockers (hallways and locker room) in good physical and working condition. Any damage must be reported immediately to the office.

## LOST AND FOUND

Lost and Found Department is located in the main office. All items that are found should be turned in to the main office. **At the end of each semester, items not claimed will be donated to the Blue Devil Depot for general student use. The school is not responsible for any lost or stolen items.**







## SCHOOL TRIPS

All trips taken by a high school class or club must be curriculum-based. **Students may not participate in any Field Trip Activity without a signed Field Trip Teacher Permission Form containing permission from each teacher whose class will be missed. Students must also get forms signed by the counseling secretary in the counseling office. These forms must be turned in 1 week in advance of the trip.** Any student leaving the school for a school sponsored trip must have written permission from a parent on a form supplied by the school. All school rules apply on trips. This includes dress code. Students must have good standing in academics and attendance in order to attend field trips. Students may NOT attend field trips if they have more than 5 unexcused absences in any class. The student or sponsoring teacher may appeal the decision to administration. These do not include athletics or course-related competitions.

## SUPPORT SERVICES

Support services are available for all students, including those with limited English proficiency or special needs. Please contact the office for more information.

## BLUE DEVIL DEPOT

Students who may need resources such as clothing, shoes, jackets, school supplies, and personal hygiene items may contact a school counselor or administrator to procure those items.

Non-perishable food items are also available for students in need. UCHS accepts gently used and new items. Students or family members should contact the counseling office with any questions or requests.

## VEHICLE REGISTRATION AND PROCEDURES

**ALL students entering or exiting UCHS before 7:45 am or after 2:30 pm MUST enter and exit the school from the Okolona Drive entrance (student parking lot).**

The following rules apply to all student motorists of UCHS.

1. All vehicles that a student will drive or expect to drive to school must be registered with the school. Registration will include:
  - a. \$15.00 registration fee per school year. No exceptions. If a student begins driving 2<sup>nd</sup> semester, the rate will be prorated.





- b. Completed application form that includes a copy of driver's license and proof of current insurance.
  - c. Registration stickers must be displayed at all times in the back windshield. If lost or stolen, notify the office immediately. The re-issuance charge is \$1.00.
  - d. Registration fee is due within the first two weeks of school for current drivers.
  - e. Vehicles without proper registration will receive a warning. After the initial warning, unregistered vehicles will not be allowed to park at the school.
2. Parking:
- a. Student parking is **NOT** allowed at the front of the main building or at Love Chapel School.
  - b. Students are **NOT** allowed to park at the CTE building.
  - c. Students may **NOT** park at the sport fields or neighboring businesses or churches.
  - d. Parking permits allow students to park anywhere in the open parking section.
  - e. Students wishing to purchase a specific spot may do so in the priority parking for \$40. Students may personalize their spot but it must be appropriate for school.
3. When students, drivers and those riding with them, arrive at the school, they must leave the vehicle as soon as it is parked. Do **NOT** sit in parked cars.
4. Students are not allowed to leave campus once they arrive without checking out through the office.
5. **Students are not allowed to go to a car in the parking lot or to sit in a parked car during school hours, including lunch. Books, assignments, gym clothes, money, etc. should be brought into the building when students first arrive at school.**
6. The vehicle must be operated in a careful manner on school grounds and on roads near the school. Students are not allowed to ride in the back of pickup trucks while entering or exiting campus. Reckless driving on campus will result in loss of the parking permit. **All vehicles, by law, are subject to search if reasonable suspicion indicates the vehicle might contain drugs, weapons, or stolen goods.**
7. Students caught skipping classes and/or leaving campus may forfeit campus driving privileges.
8. Students wishing to reserve a spot may pay an additional fee and choose the spot of their choice. No other students should park in those reserved spaces.





## UCHS Bell Schedule

### Regular Schedule:

1st	7:45-9:12	
2nd	9:20-10:47	
3rd	10:55-1:00	
	1st Lunch	11:25-11:55
	2nd Lunch	12:00-12:30
	3rd Lunch	12:32-1:02
4th	1:10-2:45	

### Homeroom/Club Schedule:

1st	7:45-9:05	
2nd	9:12-10:35	
Homeroom/Clubs	10:42-11:10	
3rd	11:17-1:12	
	1st Lunch	11:42-12:10
	2nd Lunch	12:12-12:40
	3rd Lunch	12:42-1:12
4th	1:20-2:45	

### Activity Schedule:

1st	7:45- 9:00	
2nd	9:08-10:23	
Activity	10:23-11:25	
3rd	11:25-1:05	
	1st Lunch	11:25-11:55
	2nd Lunch	12:00-12:30
	3rd Lunch	12:35-1:05
4th	1:15-2:45	





**PD Early Dismissal:**

1st	7:45-8:35	
2nd	8:42-9:32	
4th	9:39-10:29	
3rd	10:36-11:45	
	1st Lunch	10:36-10:54
	2nd Lunch	10:54-11:19
	3rd Lunch	11:19-11:45

**2 Hour Delay:**

1st	9:45-10:45	
3rd	10:52-12:26	
	1st Lunch	11:12-11:37
	2nd Lunch	11:37-12:02
	3rd Lunch	12:02-12:26
2nd	12:33-1:33	
4th	1:40-2:45	

**3 Hour Delay:**

1st	10:45-11:33	
3rd	11:40-12:55	
	1st Lunch	11:40-12:05
	2nd Lunch	12:05-12:30
	3rd Lunch	12:30-12:55
2nd	1:02-1:50	
4th	1:57-2:45	





## UCHS Academic Policies and Expectations

### GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

A minimum of 28 credits are required for completion of a Unicoi County High School Diploma

### GRADUATING WITH DISTINCTION

Students will be recognized as graduating with “distinction” by attaining a B average AND completing at least one of the following:

1. Earn a nationally recognized industry certification
2. Participate in at least one of the Governor’s Schools
3. Participate in one of the state’s All State musical organizations
4. Be selected as a National Merit Finalist or Semifinalist
5. Attain a score of 31 or higher composite score on the ACT
6. Attain a score of 3 or higher on at least two advanced placement exams
7. Earn 12 or more semester hours of transcript postsecondary credit

### Course Requirements for Graduation

English I	US History and Geography
English II	US Government
English III	World History and Geography
English IV	Economics
Algebra I	Personal Finance
Geometry	Lifetime Wellness
Algebra II	Physical Education I
Higher Math	Visual or Performing Art
Biology I	World Language I
Science	World Language II
Chemistry or Physics	6 additional credits in program of study





## GRADING SYSTEM

UCHS shall use the uniform grading system established by the State Board of Education. Refer to chart below for grade ranges:

A	90-100
B	80-89
C	70-79
D	60-69
F	Below 60

Mid-term progress reports are sent to parents 4 1/2 weeks from the beginning of the grading period and report cards are available in Skyward at the end of each 9 weeks (See school calendar). Parents and students may also access Skyward and Google Classroom at any time. If you do not receive a copy of midterms, please contact the individual teacher by calling or email. If you do not have access to Skyward, please contact the counseling office for more information.

Class ranking is sequential based on GPA. Ties are broken by the number of GPA credits.

Students earn 3 additional points for Honors courses Points will be applied at the end of the semester on the final grade.

Students earn 4 additional points for Statewide Dual Credit (SDC) with completion of the SDC Challenge Exam, Dual Enrollment, and National Industry Certification courses.

Students earn 5 additional points for AP courses which will be applied at the end of the semester on the final grade with the completion of the AP Test.

## CIVICS EXAM

Students MUST pass a Civics Exam before graduation to earn a regular diploma in Tennessee. This exam will be administered through Google Classroom during the first quarter of a student's senior year. Students will also complete a project-based civics assessment during their Social Studies class.





## **MANDATORY ACT**

Students in Tennessee public schools must take the ACT in order to receive a regular diploma. The school offers a FREE ACT test during school hours to all juniors in the spring. There is a senior retake test during the fall of the senior year for all students. This is also FREE. All students in 9th and 10th grade will take practice ACT tests. All students have access to ANALYZE ED, an ACT preparation program, while at UCHS. We encourage students to take advantage of this ACT support as well as other activities such as the Summer ACT Bootcamp and the Saturday ACT Bootcamp. The goal for all UCHS students is to score at least a 21.

## **CREDIT RECOVERY/RETKING A COURSE**

Students who fail a course required for graduation must earn the credit in one of the following ways:

- Repeat the full course in a UCHS traditional classroom setting during the school year
- Repeat the full course online during summer school
- Complete the course online in credit recovery during the school year.

In order to take the credit recovery option, the student MUST have made a 50% or higher in the initial course. Students choosing credit recovery will earn a maximum of 60% on their transcript for the course.

A student may participate when:

1. The parent or legal guardian gives written permission for the student to enroll and
2. The student has previously taken an initial, non-credit recovery section of the proposed course and have earned a grade of 50 and
3. The school has deemed participation appropriate.

The NCAA does not recognize credits earned through credit recovery programs. NC (no credit) will replace the original grade and it will not be used to calculate a student's GPA.

## **STATE TESTING**

Students are required to take TCAP EOC (End of Course) State Assessments at the completion of selected courses each semester. These courses include: English I, English II, Algebra I, Geometry, Algebra II, Biology, and U.S. History. The EOC is 25% of the student's average.





### **ASVAB**

All students in 10th grade will take the ASVAB assessment during the Fall Semester. The ASVAB is a multiple-aptitude battery that measures developed abilities and helps predict future academic and occupational success of students.

### **MAJOR CLARITY**

Students will take an interest inventory called Major Clarity each school year. It focuses on career readiness and academic planning.

### **OSHA 10 CERTIFICATION**

All students will complete the requirements for the OSHA 10 certification while enrolled in the Wellness course. This two- week program provides helpful insight into basic safety and health information for entry-level workers in construction and general industry.

## **UCHS Student Attendance**

One of the greatest indicators of success in the workforce is attendance. By showing good attendance, students are building habits of effective employees.

### **UNICOI COUNTY SCHOOLS – ATTENDANCE POLICY (6.200)**

Attendance is a key factor in student achievement and therefore, students are required to be present each day school is in session.

Absences shall be classified as either excused or unexcused as determined by the principal or his/her designee. Excused absences shall include:

1. Severe personal illness including fever and/or diarrhea
2. Medical appointments
3. Religious observances
4. Court subpoenas/not guilty
5. Severe illnesses of immediate family member
6. Death of immediate family member







Parents are encouraged to make medical/dental appointments after school hours. Students should return to school with a doctor's excuse. Students are responsible for all missed assignments due to absences.

**Students are allowed 3 excused absences with a note from a parent per school year.**

Students who wish to participate as a candidate for Homecoming may not have more than 5 UNEXCUSED absences in the Spring semester of the previous school year and no more than 1 UNEXCUSED absence in the Fall of Homecoming. Students must meet all other eligibility requirements to participate.

Students who wish to attend PROM in the Spring MUST not accrue more than 10 UNEXCUSED absences during the school year.

### **MAKE-UP WORK**

**All work missed due to absences, whether excused or unexcused can be turned in for full credit up to 5 days after the student's absence. Makeup work will NOT be accepted after the five days have passed. Allowances can be made for students with several consecutive days absent due to serious illness or injury. Please make arrangements with individual teachers when absent. It is the student's responsibility to ask for missing work. *Remember, it is better to keep up than to have to catch up.***

Unexcused tardies (UT) to any class are calculated at a rate of 3 tardies = 1 day unexcused absence

- 1 UT= warning
- 2 UT= warning
- 3 UT= ISS

**\*\*Students who habitually continue to be tardy will be subject to more stringent consequences.**

**Tardies accumulating to more than 5 unexcused days of school will result in a referral to the Unicoi County Schools Truancy Board.**





**\*\*All students who accumulate 5 unexcused absences will be referred to the Unicoi County Schools Truancy Review Board. Students who accumulate more than 10 unexcused absences may be referred to the Juvenile Court and fined for each unexcused absence. Parents/guardians may also be charged with educational neglect for severe cases of truancy.**

#### Semester Exam Exemption Attendance Policy

To be exempt from a semester exam, a student must:

1. Have an A or B average in the specific course they wish to be exempt
2. Not have any missing assignments in the course
3. Have 6 or fewer absences (excused or unexcused) in the course.

Students may also accumulate absences based on times tardy to class or checking out early from class. Every 3 such incidents will equal 1 day unexcused absence. For example, if a student has been tardy to class 12 times in a semester, that would equal 4 days absent. Therefore that student would be required to take the semester exam for that class. The only exception is if a teacher has written the student an excuse from a previous class.

Any students who are exempt will have the option to take their semester exam in any class if they feel their exam score will enhance their overall semester grade. Exempt grades will not be counted toward the overall semester average. Therefore students with a B average can choose to take their semester exam in order to move their grade possibly to an A. However, if they choose to take the exam and the grade on the exam would then negatively affect the overall semester grade, that exam will not be counted and the exemption rule will apply. All students who are failing a given class at the time of the semester exams **MUST** take the exam, regardless of days missed. This will ensure the student has a chance to earn a passing grade.

**This policy DOES NOT apply to any State mandated EOC/SDC test, ACT or AP tests.**

#### **UCHS Late Work Policy**

“Late Work” is considered different from make-up work due to an absence from class. Students who fail to turn in assigned work by the due date given by their teacher will receive reduced credit for their work. If an assignment is one day late the student will lose 25% of the total points earned on the work. If the work is two days late the student will lose 50% of the total points possible to earn on the assignment. Any work later than 2 days will not be accepted by the teacher. Students will receive a zero for this assignment.





### **DRIVER'S PERMIT/ LICENSE ISSUANCE & REVOCATION**

According to T.C.A. 49-6-3017 any person under the age of 18 must maintain satisfactory academic progress and have satisfactory attendance. The specifics of what satisfactory academic progress and satisfactory attendance are explained in detail in the code. A copy of the code is in the enrollment packet. Students wishing to get their permit **MUST** have a form signed by the school stating that students have good attendance, behavior and grades.

### **Unicoi County High School Online Learning Policy**

UCHS policies for students wishing to take courses online through our offerings but not enroll in UC Advance. This may include the Edgenuity platform, Dual Enrollment, Niswonger Online, and APAA (AP Access for All):

1. All requests for classes must be made prior to the start of the new semester.
2. Any student wishing to take an online course must have a minimum 3.0 GPA
3. 9<sup>th</sup> grade students are not eligible without administrative approval.
4. If the course is offered at UCHS in a classroom setting, then the student must add this course to their regular 4 course load in the semester. This means the student would be taking 5 courses during the semester. Students may also take a course during the summer if available. Students are discouraged from taking online courses if they are available in the regular classroom setting. Only extenuating circumstances will be considered for administrative approval.

Students must meet with a counselor and complete a four-year plan in order to show why the student needs an online option. All requests **MUST** be approved by the principal.

Students are responsible for completing all on-line courses. If a student enrolls in an online course, they **MUST** complete all the assigned work. Students wishing to drop an online course, **MUST** do so within the first three days of the class. Students will be placed in another academic course to replace the dropped course.





### **Community Service Policy for UCHS**

1. Community service hours are not mandatory for graduation from UCHS.
2. Students will receive special recognition for earning community service hours throughout their high school careers. Recognition will take place during Awards Night ceremony as well as at Graduation.
3. There will be 3 levels of recognition for all students based on the number of hours earned by those students. The levels are as follows:
  - a. Bronze Level- 20-49 hours earned
  - b. Silver Level- 50-99 hours earned
  - c. Gold Level- 100+ hours earned
4. All community service hours **MUST** be accrued from agencies and organizations that are on the Unicoi County Board of Education approved community service partners list (see reverse).
5. The Unicoi County Board of Education will also provide a scholarship for 1 student who earns more than 100 hours of community service. This scholarship can be applied for by all seniors earning 100+ hours. The application process will include: an application, an essay describing their experiences, and a presentation to the UCBOE. The BOE will select the scholarship winner.
6. Each year, seniors will participate in a special activity coordinated by the Ayers Foundation counseling staff. This day will be held in the spring during the school day. The school will organize this day and provide any necessary transportation as well as lunch. These hours will also count toward the students' required hours for Tennessee Promise eligibility.
7. Community service hours **MUST** be submitted the semester they are completed. Fill out the community service log, get necessary signatures, and turn in to Ms. Wright in RM 1102.
8. In order to qualify for community service, students may not receive payment for services rendered and should not be completed during the school day.





(Community Service Partner approved list (Subject to change during school year):

- |                                   |                                 |
|-----------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Unicoi County Relay for Life      | United Way                      |
| American Red Cross                | Blood Assurance Donations       |
| Unicoi County Library             | Unicoi County Animal Shelter    |
| Second Harvest Food Bank          | Samaritan's Purse               |
| Kiwanis                           | Unicoi Ruritan                  |
| Flag Pond Ruritan                 | Town of Erwin                   |
| Town of Unicoi                    | UC Chamber of Commerce          |
| CHIPS                             | Governor's Bend                 |
| Long Term Nursing Home            | Center of Aging                 |
| Erwin Health Care                 | BALLAD                          |
| Cap the Gap                       | St. Jude's Hospital             |
| USA Raft                          | Vacation Bible Schools          |
| Church Mission Trips              | Kari's Heart                    |
| Mountain Veterans Home            | Appalachian Trail Conservatory  |
| Erwin Blue Ridge Pottery Club     | March of Dimes                  |
| The Trinity Foundation            | Dawn of Hope                    |
| Habitat for Humanity              | Rotary Club of Unicoi County    |
| US Forest Service                 | CASA of NE Tennessee            |
| Erwin Monday Club                 | Unicoi County Little League     |
| RISE Erwin                        | Clinchfield Senior Adult Center |
| Honor Flight                      | Johnson City Community Theater  |
| Recover Appalachia                | Redrock Resale Shop             |
| Tanasi Gallery                    | UT Extension Agency             |
| Unicoi County Election Commission | Unicoi County YMCA              |
| All Unicoi County Schools         | All UCHS Clubs                  |





**GUIDANCE SERVICES**  
**Christy Miller- Guidance Counselor**  
**Crystal Manney- Guidance Counselor**  
**Shelby Hill- Counselor/Graduation Coach**  
**Vicki Ledford- Administrative Assistant**  
**Kellie Studer- Student Attendance Advocate**  
**Phone- 743-1625**

Unicoi County High School offers Guidance Services through our counseling offices located on the first floor in room 1137. These services include: planning for college/career, scheduling of classes, preparation of transcripts/admission applications, assistance with financial aid, as well as mentoring related to personal concerns.

**COLLEGE ENTRANCE REQUIREMENTS**

Subject	TN Board of Regents (i.e.. ETSU, UTK, MTSU)	Recommendations for highly selective Universities	NCAA	Northeast State CC & other community colleges
English	4 Credits	4 Credits	4 Credits	4 Credits
Math	4 Credits (Alg. 1 & 2, Geom., higher math)	4 Credits beginning with Alg. 1 & including high level math	3 Credits beginning with Alg. 1	3 Credits
Science	3 Credits (must have 1 lab Science)	4 Credits	3 Credits, one must be lab	2 Credits
Social Studies	2 Credits (US History & 1 other)	3 Credits (including AP)	2-3 Credits	2 Credits
Arts: Visual and/or performing	1 Credit	Recommend multiple depending on University	None	1 Credit
World Languages	2 Credits of same Foreign Language	2 or more	None	2 Credits of Same Foreign Language
Electives	Complete Focus of Study	Complete Focus of Study in area of interest.	4 Credits for Div. 1	CTE focus area recommended





## Ayers Foundation Scholars Program

Counselor- Taylor Forbes   Counselor- Jessie Sutherland  
Financial Aid Assistant- Mindi Sparks  
East TN Regional Coordinator- Jodi Lane Gilbert

This program is in place to work with each student to ensure he/she reaches the highest post-secondary level attainable.

Services include: individual counseling, career testing, FAFSA completion, TN Promise, TCAT services, scholarship sourcing, college tours, college applications, assistance with verification and many other college and post-secondary related issues.

All seniors who graduate from UCHS are eligible for the Ayers Scholarship and can receive up to \$4000 each year for 4 years of tuition and college expenses. See any Ayers staff member for more information.

## Resilience

In the aftermath of the COVID-19 pandemic, East Tennessee State University (ETSU) and Unicoi County Schools recognized the value of developing and sustaining a partnership to implement trauma-informed systems, and an innovative collaboration to design a PK-12 approach using restorative practices. In 2022, the professors and researchers at the Strong Brain Institute (SBI) and Educational Leadership and Policy Analysis Department (ELPA) partnered with UCS to provide trauma-informed training, processes, and assessment tools through a five-year strategic partnership. While individual schools are adopting trauma-informed high leverage practices, this Resilient Schools Project is designing a PK-12 Resilient Schools District Model so students will receive a continuum of services through elementary, middle, and high school transitions. The designers of the project captured the word resilient, which embodies the idea of overcoming challenging life events, to design a trauma-informed system that highlights social emotional learning with inherent connections to academic excellence and college and career opportunities. The purpose of the partnership is to provide clear and consistent evidence-based practices promoting positive school wide instructional practices and interventions for students who demonstrate disruptive behaviors.





Restorative Practices provide intentional time and instructional guidance on how to strengthen relationships between students, teachers, and the community. The International Institute for Restorative Practices developed questions to guide a conversation following incidents that result in discipline referrals. In keeping with our focus on trauma-informed practices, UCHS is implementing a restorative process for any student who receives an office discipline referral. Following the assigned consequence, students will meet with a designated staff member and discuss Restorative Process questions, prepare for a discussion with the individuals involved in the incident, and work to resolve the issue. Additionally, students who are assigned to ISS or OSS will work with assigned staff members to complete a Resilient Schools Student Success Plan and a Restorative Reflection.

#### ACES INTRODUCTORY TRAINING

ACEs or Adverse Childhood Experiences, are those experiences that adolescents under the age of 18 might experience such as the death of a family member, divorce, poverty, or abuse. These ACEs can cause the brain to develop differently. ACEs training focuses on what ACEs are, how they affect brain development, and how we can train our brains to be resilient.

#### RESTORATIVE JUSTICE TRAINING

Restorative Justice is a “relationship” based approach to dealing with trauma, stress and conflict. Students learn to talk about their feelings and listen to others.

#### TEEN MENTAL HEALTH FIRST AID

All students in 10th grade are invited to complete the Teen Mental Health First Aid training at UCHS. The goal of this program is to educate our students on mental health issues, prepare them on how to deal with their own mental health as well as their peers, and how to seek help for those who may need it.

#### BLUE ROOM

For students in distress, we have created a space called the Blue Room. Students can sign up to visit the Blue Room to de-stress and self-regulate when in need. There are a variety of materials available for students such as sound machines, comfy seating, exercise equipment, fidgets, and more. The Blue Room was established through a partnership with Ballad Health and ETSU ELPA and Strong BRAIN Institute.







## UCHS School Code of Conduct

All students are expected to follow all school rules to ensure a safe and orderly educational environment. Disciplinary actions are at the discretion of the principal and/or assistant principals. Discipline will be based on the infraction, its severity and the frequency of violations.

Certain violations, including fighting and tobacco, are subject to a citation to court.

### **DISCIPLINE CODE**

The purpose of a discipline code is to ensure a safe, orderly environment. Consistent and fair measures will be applied when disciplining students.

1. The Director of Schools or principal has the authority to suspend a student. This is done after:
  - a. The student is told of his/her violation or wrong.
  - b. The student has had an opportunity to tell his/her version of the situation.

The parents, director of schools and attendance supervisor are notified by a letter from the principal's office of the suspension. Parents are notified to take the student home. When parents cannot come, the student will stay until the end of the school day, unless it is in the best interest of the student and the school for him/her to be removed from the premises, wherein he/she will be taken home by a law enforcement officer. Students are responsible for all work missed during their suspension. It is due for full credit within 5 days of returning to school.

2. Only the Board of Education has the power of expulsion.
3. Any student or guardian wishing to appeal the decision must do so in writing in accordance with school board policy 6.317.





## UCHS Discipline

The UCHS Code of Conduct and Expectations are in effect at ALL school-sponsored activities.

### UCHS CODE OF CONDUCT

<b>Violation</b>	<b>1<sup>st</sup> Offense</b>	<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Offense</b>	<b>3<sup>rd</sup> Offense</b>
Sell, use, possession, or distribution of: Alcohol, drugs, narcotics	Remand to Alternative School/ Possible Zero Tolerance	Same as 1 <sup>st</sup> Offense	Same as 1 <sup>st</sup> Offense
Possession, use of, threatening with: Firearms, weapons, dangerous instruments/materials	Remand to Alternative School/ Possible Zero Tolerance	Same as 1 <sup>st</sup> Offense	Same as 1 <sup>st</sup> Offense
Student physically attacking a teacher	Remand to Alternative School/ Possible Zero Tolerance	Same as 1 <sup>st</sup> Offense	Same as 1 <sup>st</sup> Offense
Profanity/Verbal threat directed at school personnel	3 Days OSS/ 1 Day ISS	5 Days OSS/ 2 Days ISS	Recommend Remand to Alternative Placement
Possession or use of tobacco products/lighters/e-cigs/vapes	3 Days of ISS. Court Citation OR tobacco cessation class. Confiscation of contraband.	5 Days ISS. Court Citation. Parent Conference. Confiscation of contraband.	2 Days OSS/1 Day ISS Court Citation. Parent Conference. Confiscation of contraband.
Fighting and or threats of physical violence (Aggressor may be charged more severely)	3 Days OSS. Charged with Disorderly conduct/Public Affray. 1 Day ISS transition upon return to school.	5 Days OSS. Charged with assault. 2 Days ISS transition upon return to school.	10 Days OSS. Referral to Alternative School. Charged with Assault/Unruly behavior.
Restroom Misconduct (more than 1 student in stall)	3 days of ISS	5 days ISS	2 days OSS/1 Day ISS Mandatory Counseling
Disrespect to staff/faculty/visitors	1 or 2 Days ISS (discretion of Admin). Parent Conference	3 Days ISS. Parent Conference.	2 Days OSS/1 Day ISS Mandatory Counseling Parent Conference. Possible referral to Alternative School.
Insubordination/Failure to Comply	1 Day ISS	3 Days ISS	5 Days ISS. Possible remand to Alternative Placement.





Profanity not directed at faculty/staff	Warning	1 Day ISS.	3 Days ISS. Parent Conference.
Damage/vandalism of school property	2 Days ISS. Restitution for damages. Possible court charges	1 Day OSS/1 Day ISS Mandatory Counseling . Restitution. Possible court charges	4 Days OSS/1 Day ISS Mandatory Counseling . Restitution for damages. Court Citation
Forgery/lying	1 Day ISS. (Forged Doctor excuses may result in criminal charges)	2 Days ISS. Parent Conference	3 Days ISS.
Cheating on classwork or tests	Zero grade for any work cheated on. Parent contact.	Zero grade for any work cheated on. 1 Day ISS. Parent Conference.	Zero grade for any work cheated on. 2 Days ISS. Parent conference.
Harassment of another student/adult	3 Days ISS; Mandatory counseling	3 Days OSS/2 Days ISS; Mandatory counseling. Parent conference.	Referral to Alternative Placement.
Bus Misconduct	1 Day ISS. Possible bus suspension.	5 Days ISS. Removal from the bus for a period not less than 6 weeks.	2 Days OSS/1 Day ISS Mandatory Counseling. Removal from the bus for remainder of school year.
Public displays of affection	Warning	1 Day ISS	2 Days ISS
Violation of technology usage agreement	2 Days ISS. Parent Contact.	4 Days ISS. Parent Contact. Loss of privileges for 6 weeks.	2 Days OSS/1 Day ISS Mandatory Counseling. Parent Conference. Loss of privileges for remainder of year.
Theft/Damage to Personal Property	1-3 Days ISS. Restitution for lost, damaged, or stolen items.	2 Days OSS/1 Day ISS Mandatory Counseling. Restitution for lost, damaged, or stolen items. Parent conference.	4 Days OSS/1 Day ISS Mandatory Counseling. Possible court charges. Restitution.
Skipping class/ Out of bounds without permission	1 Day ISS	3 Days ISS. Parent Conference.	5 Days ISS. Possible remand to Alternative Placement.
Skipping class and leaving school property	3 Days ISS	5 Days ISS. Parent Conference	Remand to Alternative Placement.
Taking or Sharing Video/Pictures of Others Without Consent	Warning Removal of Offensive Video/Picture Possible Court Charges	2 Days ISS Removal of Offensive Video/Pictures Possible Court Charges	4 Days ISS Removal of Offensive Video/Pictures Possible Court Charges





Dress Code Violation	Warning, Log Violation, Opportunity to Comply	Warning, Log Violation, Opportunity to Comply	1 Day ISS (Insubordination)
----------------------	---	---	-----------------------------

\*\* This Code of Conduct is not to be considered an all inclusive listing of violations. These violations give guidelines for certain offenses. The administration of UCHS reserves the right to discipline students for actions deemed detrimental to the safe, orderly, and expected operation of this high school. Administrators have the right to go beyond this Code of Conduct to discipline offenses not listed within or to modify such punishments as deemed necessary and appropriate.

**BATHROOM USE**

Students should use the time before school and between classes to use the restroom. In an emergency situation, a student may ask the classroom teacher to leave class to use the restroom. Students should follow classroom procedures for signing out, leaving their cell phone, taking the pass, and returning to class promptly. Students MUST use the bathroom nearest their classroom. Any student found out of bounds or without a pass will be reprimanded. These rules are meant to keep the bathrooms clean and free from loitering students, vaping, and other inappropriate behavior. The restroom is NOT a place for social gatherings.

Those students who feel uncomfortable using the primary bathrooms, may use the single-stall restroom outside of the counseling office. Students should request the key from the counseling secretary.

**TOBACCO PRODUCTS**

If a student has tobacco products in his/her possession, the punishment will be the same as for using tobacco products. Under current Tennessee State Law, students cannot have tobacco products on campus.

**Electronic Cigarettes**

Electronic Cigarettes and Vapes will not be allowed on the campus of Unicoi County High School. If a student is caught with an electronic cigarette or vape, the offense will be treated as a tobacco offense and the electronic cigarette or vape will be confiscated. It will not be returned to the student or parents.





### **SCHOOL BUS CONDUCT**

A pupil shall become ineligible for pupil transportation when his/her behavior is such as to cause dissension on a school bus, or when he/she disobeys state and local rules and regulations pertaining to pupil transportation. The quotation comes from Tennessee State Rules, Regulations and Minimum Standards. Pupils are under the supervision of the bus driver. The principal of the school, upon recommendation of a bus driver, may suspend a pupil from riding a school bus due to misconduct. **A copy of the rules is in the enrollment packet.**

### **RESPECT FOR SCHOOL PROPERTY**

Students are expected to help preserve school property and expected to respect the property of other students. Any student that damages, defaces, steals another student's property will be disciplined and possibly referred to law enforcement. **STUDENTS MUST PAY FOR COST OF FIXING DAMAGED PROPERTY.**

### **RESPECT FOR SCHOOL STAFF**

Students are expected to cooperate fully with and obey instructions from any personnel assigned to our school. Students are responsible to all staff at all times while attending school activities/events on campus or at other schools. This includes faculty, administration, instructional assistants, custodians, cafeteria employees, and maintenance staff.

### **RESPECT FOR VISITORS**

All official visitors are considered to be honored guests and will be treated with courtesy and respect. All visitors must have a pass issued from the office. The pass must be in full view for others to see.

### **RESPECT FOR FELLOW STUDENTS**

Each student is expected to show respect for the rights and feelings of other students and to behave in such a way as to draw the respect of others.





## **STUDENT DISCRIMINATION/HARASSMENT AND BULLYING/INTIMIDATION SCHOOL BOARD POLICY 6.304**

### **Discrimination/Harassment (Sexual, Racial, Ethnic, Religious)**

Students shall be provided a learning environment free from sexual, racial, ethnic and religious discrimination/harassment. It shall be a violation of this policy for any employee or any student to discriminate against or harass a student through disparaging conduct or communication that is sexual, racial, ethnic, or religious in nature. The following guidelines are set forth to protect students from discrimination/harassment:

**Student discrimination/harassment will not be tolerated.** Discrimination/harassment is defined as conduct, advances, gestures or words either written or spoken of a sexual, racial, ethnic or religious nature which:

1. Unreasonably interfere with the student's work or educational opportunities; or
2. Create an intimidating, hostile or offensive learning environment; or
3. Imply that submission to such conduct is made an explicit or implicit term of receiving grades or credit; or
4. Imply that submission to or rejection of such conduct will be used as a basis for determining the student's grades and/or participation in a student activity.

### **Bullying/Intimidation**

Students shall be provided a safe learning environment. It shall be a violation of this policy for any student to bully, intimidate or create a hostile educational environment for another student. Harassment, bullying and intimidation occur if the act takes place on school grounds, at any school-sponsored activity, on school-provided equipment or transportation or at any official school bus stop, if the act either physically harms a student or students, or creates a hostile educational environment. If the act takes place off school property or outside of a school-sponsored activity, an act of harassment, bullying or intimidation occurs if the act is directed specifically at a student or students and has the effect of creating a hostile educational environment or otherwise creating a substantial disruption to the education environment or learning process. These acts may also take place through electronic means.





Alleged victims of the above-referenced offenses shall report these incidents immediately to a teacher, counselor or building administrator. Any allegations shall be fully investigated by a complaint manager (as set forth in Student Concerns, Complaints and Grievances 6.305).

The privacy and anonymity of all parties and witnesses to complaints will be respected. However, because an individual's need for confidentiality must be balanced with obligations to cooperate with police investigations or legal proceeding, to provide due process to the accused, to conduct a thorough investigation or to take necessary action to resolve a complaint, the identity of parties and witnesses may be disclosed in appropriate circumstances to individuals with a need to know.

There will be no retaliation against any person who reports harassment or participates in an investigation. However, any employee who refuses to cooperate or gives false information during the course of any investigation, may be subject to disciplinary action. The willful filing of a false report will itself be considered harassment and will be treated as such.

UCHS provides an online Bullying Referral Form found in each grade level Google Classroom for students to safely report any concerns regarding bullying. This form is monitored by counseling staff and administration. All reports will be investigated in a timely manner.

### **DRESS CODE**

A dress code is enforced to avoid tendencies on the part of students to call attention to themselves to the point of interfering with the school program. It is the responsibility of the parent to ensure students leave home dressed appropriately for school. **Teachers and administration have the right to determine if attire or appearance is inappropriate for school.**

**All dress policies apply for school-sponsored field trips.**

- Bottoms should reach mid- thigh.
- Only modest size holes are allowed in pants and must be mid-thigh or lower.
- Midriffs should not be visible at any time.
- All upper garments must have sleeves or straps.
- Necklines of all upper garments must cover straight across from armpit to armpit.
- No undergarments shall be visible.
- No transparent/see-through material.





- Wearing clothing with writing or characterization denoting obscenity, graphic violence, vulgarity, profanity, occult or inflammatory/degrading intent, or wearing clothing advertising drugs, alcoholic beverages, or tobacco products are prohibited.
- Going without shoes is prohibited.

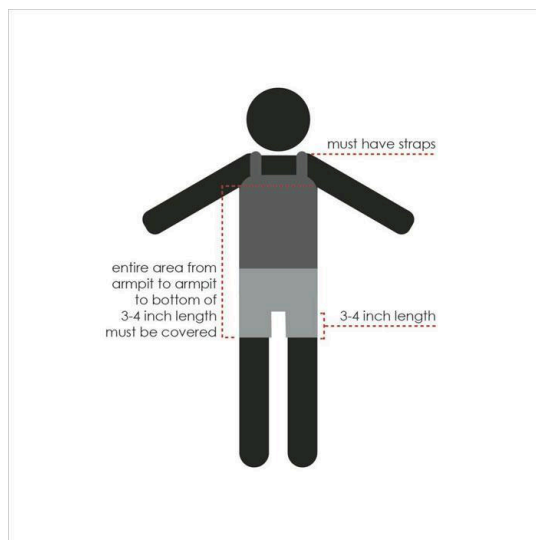
### Accessories

- Jewelry depicting drugs, alcohol, violence or sex is prohibited.
- Piercings may be deemed inappropriate in certain classes due to safety issues.
- Hats, caps, or any other headwear should be removed before entering the building.
- Hoodies are allowed but the hoods of such garments shall not be worn in the building.
- Sunglasses are prohibited indoors unless prescribed by a physician.
- Jewelry that could pose a safety to you or someone else is prohibited.

Consequences for dress code violations include, but are not limited to:

- 1<sup>st</sup> offense- Warning, Opportunity to change attire
- 2<sup>nd</sup> offense- Warning, Opportunity to change attire
- 3<sup>rd</sup> offense- 1 day ISS
- 4<sup>th</sup> offense- 3 Days ISS and parent conference

If at any point the student refuses to change their attire, the student can be assigned ISS for the day the incident occurs.







### **UCHS Cell Phones/Electronic Devices Policy 2024-2025**

Definition of a Personal Communication Device: A device that emits an audible signal, vibrates, displays a message, or otherwise summons or delivers a communication to the possessor. This includes smart watches, earbuds, or any other wearable technology that can transmit and/ or receive an electronic signal.

Definition of Class Time: This refers to the time that the class is scheduled to be in session each day.

**Students are not allowed to have a cell phone during class time.** During class time students will be required to put their cell phone in the cell phone holder before each class. Students are not allowed to take or use their cell phone when going to the restroom during class time. Students will pick up their cell phone after class has been dismissed each period.

Appropriate times for cell phone usage will be before 7:45 am, during class changes, during lunch, and after 2:45pm.

Consequences:

1 st offense: Warning, Office referral.

2 nd offense: Office referral, 1 day of ISS, Parent contact

3 rd offense: Office referral, 2 day of ISS, Parent contact

4 th offense: Office referral, 3 days of ISS, Parent contact

5 th , 6 th , 7 th etc.: Office referral, Considered Gross insubordination, Parent contact, Possible OSS

**\*Refusal to place phone in the phone holder will be considered insubordination and will result in confiscation of the phone until the end of the school day.**

\*ISS students will lose all cell phone privileges for the days they are in ISS. These students will be required to turn in their cell phone at 7:45 am and will not be able to pick them up until 2:45 pm each day. They are not allowed to have a cell phone between the hours of 7:45 am and 2:45 pm.





## **SCHOOL BOARD POLICIES**

### **ZERO-TOLERANCE OFFENSES (6.309)**

The Board of Education agrees in order to ensure a safe and secure learning environment free of drugs, violence and dangerous weapons; any student who engages in the following behaviors will be subject to suspension requirement on a case-by-case basis. Nothing in this section shall be constructed to prohibit the assignment of students to an alternative school.

1. Students who bring or unlawfully possess a drug or dangerous weapon onto a school property or to any event or activity.
2. Any student who while on a school bus, or on school property or while attending any school event or activity:
  - a. Unlawfully possess a drug or dangerous weapon; or
  - b. Commits battery on a teacher, or other employee of the school.

Ref.: TCA. 49-6-4018

Note: Due process stops with the Superintendent.

### **WEAPONS AND DANGEROUS INSTRUMENTS**

Students shall not possess, handle, transmit, use or attempt to use any dangerous weapon in school buildings or on school grounds at any time, or in school vehicles and/or buses or off the school grounds at a school-sponsored activity, function or event.

Dangerous weapons for the purposes of this policy shall include, but are not limited to a firearm or anything manifestly designed, made or adapted for the purpose of inflicting death or serious bodily injury or anything that in the manner of its use or intended use is capable of causing death or serious bodily injury.

Violators of this section shall be subject to suspension and/or expulsion from school, and possible criminal charges.





### **FIREARMS (as defined in 18 U.S.C. 921)**

In accordance with state law, any student who brings or possesses a firearm on school property shall be expelled for a period of not less than one (1) calendar year. The director of schools shall have the authority to modify this expulsion requirement on a case-by-case basis.

### **DRUGS**

In accordance with state law, any student who unlawfully possesses any drug including any controlled substance or legend drug shall be expelled for a period of not less than one (1) calendar year. The director of schools shall have the authority to modify this expulsion requirement on a case-by-case basis.

### **BATTERY**

In accordance with state law, any student who commits battery upon any teacher, principal administrator, any other employee of the school or school resource officer shall be expelled for a period of not less than one (1) calendar year. The director of schools shall have the authority to modify this expulsion requirement on a case-by-case basis.

### **STUDENT ALCOHOL AND DRUG TESTING (6.3071)**

**All students are hereby advised via this Student Handbook that they shall be subject to testing for drugs and alcohol during the school year.** Principals are authorized to order drug tests for individual students when there is a reasonable cause to believe that:

1. The school board policy on alcohol or drug use has been violated;
2. A search of lockers produced evidence of the presence of drugs/alcohol;
3. A search of persons and containers produced evidence of a presence of drugs and/or alcohol; or
4. A search of vehicles produced evidence of the presence of drug and/or alcohol; or
5. Through observation or other reasonable information reported by a teacher, staff member or other student that a student is using drugs and/or alcohol on school property.

Upon receiving reasonable information, the principal shall take the following steps:

1. Call the student into the principal's office or another private place;





2. Summon an appropriate witness to the proceeding and to assist in furtherance of the proceeding;
3. Inform the student of the substance and the information available to them, which is the basis for the determination that a test is necessary.
4. Inform the student of the procedures that shall be followed in administering the test.
5. Give the student an opportunity to decline the test and inform the student if the test is not taken the penalty shall be suspension from school and a hearing before the disciplinary hearing authority;
6. Notify the parent or guardian of the student of the impending test.
7. The student will be taken to Unicoi County Hospital for testing via the prescribed manner with an identifying number which in no way will reveal the identity of the student.

Upon receiving a written, certified copy of the analysis from the laboratory, the principal shall do one of the following:

- If the results of the analysis are negative, all evidence of the individual test, including all records in the school that the test was ordered and the reason therefore, shall be destroyed.
- If the result of the analysis is positive, the students and parents or guardian shall be given written notice of the result. In addition, they shall receive referral information that shall include in-patient, out-patient, and community-based drug and alcohol treatment programs.
- In the case of positive results of the analysis, the principal shall suspend the student and refer the matter to the disciplinary hearing authority for further action.





## In-School Suspension

In-School Suspension (ISS) will be used for discipline as a consequence only. Students may not self-select to participate in ISS. The purpose of the ISS program is to provide a supervised area separate from the regular school day for students to complete academic work in a calm and quiet environment. The goal of ISS is to encourage students to choose to participate appropriately in the regular classroom. ISS should NOT be a place that students “want” to go.

Only an administrator may assign a student to ISS. All referrals must go through administration.

The administrator will provide the teachers, student, and ISS instructor with at least a day’s notice of the ISS unless the behavior warrants an immediate removal from a class or situation.

The administrator will contact parents to notify them of the student’s referral to ISS. A green slip will be sent home explaining the behavior and consequences.

Upon arrival to ISS for the first time, students will receive a detailed orientation for the purpose of communicating ISS guidelines, consequences for non-compliance, and the daily schedule. Return students will receive an abbreviated review/re-teach of these rules.

While the ISS instructor will help with specific questions regarding assignments, he/she will not provide individual tutoring for students.

Students must remain in complete silence. If a student wishes to speak, he/she must raise a hand and wait to be addressed by the ISS instructor.

No bathroom breaks other than those scheduled for the morning and afternoon without appropriate documentation from a physician will be allowed.

Students may not bring any personal items into the ISS room. No iPads, cell phones, game systems, hoodies/jackets, backpacks, candy, headphones or drinks will be allowed. Students may bring a refillable water bottle. Cell phones will be taken up upon arrival. If a student is found with a cell phone





while in ISS, the cell phone will be confiscated and turned into the main office under violation of the school's Cell Phone Policy.

Students in ISS must eat breakfast between 7:30 AM-7:45 AM. **No 2<sup>nd</sup> chance breakfast.**

Students will be escorted to the cafeteria and allowed to purchase a "basic" lunch. No extras such as smoothies, ice cream, or chips will be allowed. Students are expected to eat lunch at their desks silently, throw away any trash, and wipe down their desks with wipes.

Days spent in ISS should be treated as any other day. Students should work to complete class assignments and homework. Once completed, students may work on missing assignments, review material, math fluency problems, or read a book. All assignments should be sent to the ISS instructor by 9:00 AM each morning. These may be delivered by a student, dropped off by the teacher, or sent electronically. The ISS instructor will log the assignments completed by the student and place those assignments in the teachers' boxes or hand deliver that day.

Students who are tardy or check out early must make up any missed time in ISS.

All students in ISS must complete a 1 page written reflection and Think Sheet about the inappropriate behavior, consequences, different choices, and restitution.

### **SLEEPING IS PROHIBITED.**

Students are expected to stay on task at all times. No drawing or coloring is allowed unless it is necessary to complete an assignment. No drawing on tables, desks, or walls will be permitted. All work must be completed before returning to class.

Students who receive multiple referrals to ISS must attend mandatory counseling sessions weekly until behavior is improved.

All regular school rules apply as set forth in the Discipline Guidelines outlined in the student handbook.





## UCHS Clubs and Student Organizations

UCHS supports several clubs and student organizations. Every student is encouraged to participate in school activities that are of particular interest to them. The following chart lists current clubs and organizations at our school. Please contact the faculty sponsor of the club or organization in which you would be interested in joining. Some clubs have fees and expectations that must be met in order to participate. However anyone is welcome to join.

<b>Club/Organization</b>	<b>Faculty Sponsor</b>	<b>Club/Organization</b>	<b>Faculty Sponsor</b>
Art	Annette Tipton	Key Club	Brooke Crawford
Band	Evangeline Hurter	Mock Trial	Lori Ann Wright Bailey Miller
BETA	Amy Edwards	National Honor Society (NHS)	Karla Keesecker Misty Bishop
Christian Student Union FCA	Shelley Swinehart	Pep Club	Rachelle Shurtz
		Skills USA: Auto Body	John Lewis
Drama	Lori Ann Wright	Skills USA: Auto Mechanics	Jon Hollenbeck
Ruri-Teen	Jane Miller	Skills USA: Building Trades	Nicholas Gouge
Run Club	Joshua Marsh	Skills USA: Computer	Chris Moore
Archery Club	Holly Rogers	Skills USA: A/V Production	Bailey Miller
Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA)	Nancy Grindstaff	Skills USA: Cosmetology	Julie Garland
FFA	Ryan Arnett	Skills USA: Drafting	Stephen Saults
Knitting Club	Amanda Honeycutt	Skills USA: Greenhouse	Ryan Arnett
SADD Club	Officer Chris Boings Katie Slagle	Skills USA: Welding	Mark Watson
HOSA	Elizabeth Adams Rachel Rice	Student Council	Heather Joyce
TSA	Stephen Saults Nick Gouge	Photography	Stephen Saults





---

## EXTRA CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

### Prom

Each Spring, UCHS will sponsor a Jr/Sr Prom. Students in 11th and 12th grade who meet attendance and behavior requirements (no more than 10 unexcused absences and not currently suspended at the time of the prom) may purchase tickets and attend the event. Each qualifying student may purchase an additional ticket for a guest. All approved guests must be at least 9th grade and under 21 years of age. These guests are expected to follow all school rules for behavior and dress code. Guests may be asked to provide an ID for entry into the prom. Any student who fails to follow the rules will be asked to leave the premises immediately. Additional security will be provided for this event. Students may not go to cars unsupervised. Once a student leaves the event, they may not return.

### Pep Bus

Students are encouraged to show their school spirit and attend athletic events and other activities. Occasionally, the school will provide transportation to these events. Students must have a signed parent permission slip and pay a small fee to cover the transportation on the pep bus. Students must also have money for the cost of admission and any food purchases. The bus will leave from and return to the school in the student parking. All school rules apply. Students who do not follow these rules will receive an office referral.

### School Dances

Throughout the year, the school will sponsor school dances. Students in grades 9-12 are allowed to attend. Students are expected to follow the same rules as at Prom. All school rules apply.







## UCHS Athletics

Unicoi County is extremely proud of its athletic programs and those student athletes who compete for our school. Our school has a long history of success including District, Regional, and State Championships.

Unicoi County High School is a member of the TSSAA and District I. Our conference rivals include Elizabethton, Sullivan East, Tennessee High, and David Crockett.

<b>Sport</b>	<b>Coach</b>
Football	Drew Rice
Basketball	Boys- Jordan Simmons Girls – Brandon Broyles
Baseball	Chad Gillis
Softball	Abby Hensley
Cross Country	Joshua Marsh
Tennis	Mallory Jackson
Volleyball	Victoria Cutshall
Track	Joshua Marsh
Golf	Eric Garland
Cheerleading	Elizabeth Watson
Soccer	Andrew Silvers





## **Athletics is a PRIVILEGE-NOT A RIGHT**

- UCHS encourages participation in our athletics programs however no one is guaranteed a place on any team. These activities are considered extra-curricular and should be viewed as a privilege.
- Student athletes must adhere to the standards of conduct and academic expectations set forth by the school administration and the individual coaches. These standards of conduct include both on-field/court actions as well as actions outside of the sport (i.e. in public settings, in the classroom, on social media). If these standards are not met the student athlete faces possible removal from the team.
- Playing time and selection to athletic teams are solely at the discretion of the coach of each sport.

Students interested in participating in athletics should contact UCHS Athletic Director Dr. Chris Bogart, 743-1608. Interested students can also contact the coaches of the individual sports.

### **Notification of Rights under FERPA**

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) affords parents and students over 18 years of age ("eligible students") certain rights with respect to the student's education records. These rights are:

- (1) The right to inspect and review the student's education records within 45 days of the day the school receives a request for access.

Parents or eligible students should submit to the school principal a written request that identifies the record(s) they wish to inspect. The principal will make arrangements for access and notify the parent or eligible student of the time and place where the records may be inspected.

- (2) The right to request the amendment of the student's education records that the parent or eligible student believes are inaccurate, misleading, or otherwise in violation of the student's privacy rights under

FERPA.

Parents or eligible students who wish to ask the school to amend a record should write the school principal, clearly identify the part of the record they want changed, and specify why it should be changed. If the school decides not to amend the record as requested by the parent or eligible student, the school will notify the parent or eligible student of the decision and advise them of their





right to a hearing regarding the request for amendment. Additional information regarding the hearing procedures will be provided to the parent or eligible student when notified of the right to a hearing.

(3) The right to privacy of personally identifiable information in the student's education records, except to the extent that FERPA authorizes disclosure without consent.

One exception, which permits disclosure without consent, is disclosure to school officials with legitimate educational interests. A school official is a person employed by the school as an administrator, supervisor, instructor, or support staff member (including health or medical staff and law enforcement unit personnel); a person serving on the School Board; a person or company with whom the school has outsourced services or functions it would otherwise use its own employees to perform (such as an attorney, auditor, medical consultant, or therapist); a parent or student serving on an official committee, such as a disciplinary or grievance committee; or a parent, student, or other volunteer assisting another school official in performing his or her tasks.

A school official has a legitimate educational interest if the official needs to review an education record in order to fulfill his or her professional responsibility.

Upon request, the school discloses education records without consent to officials of another school district in which a student seeks or intends to enroll, or is already enrolled if the disclosure is for purposes of the student's enrollment or transfer.

(4) The right to file a complaint with the U.S. Department of Education concerning alleged failures by the School to comply with the requirements of FERPA. The name and address of the Office that administers FERPA are:

Family Policy Compliance Office  
U.S. Department of Education  
400 Maryland Avenue, SW  
Washington, DC 20202

### **Directory Information**

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) requires that Unicoi County Schools, with certain exceptions, obtain a parent's written consent prior to the disclosure of personally identifiable information from a child's education records. However, Unicoi County Schools may disclose appropriately designated "directory information" without written consent, unless the parent has advised the District to the contrary in accordance with District procedures. The primary purpose of directory information is to allow the Unicoi County Schools to include this type of information from your child's education records in certain school publications. Examples include:





- A playbill, showing your student's role in a drama production;
- The annual yearbook;
- Honor roll or other recognition lists;
- Graduation programs; and
- Sports activity sheets, such as showing weight and height of team members.

Directory information, which is information that is generally not considered harmful or an invasion of privacy if released, can also be disclosed to outside organizations without a parent's prior written consent.

If you do not want Unicoi County Schools to disclose directory information from your child's education records without your prior written consent, you must notify the district in writing. Unicoi County Schools has designated the following information as directory information:

- Student's name
- Address
- Telephone listing
- Electronic mail address
- Photograph
- Date and place of birth
- Dates of attendance
- Grade level
- Participation in officially recognized activities and sports
- Weight and height of members of athletic teams
- Degrees, honors, and awards received
- The most recent educational agency or institution attended
- Student ID number, user ID, or other unique personal identifier used to communicate in electronic systems that cannot be used to access education records without a PIN, password, etc. (A student's SSN, in whole or in part, cannot be used for this purpose.)

Footnotes:

1.These laws are: Section 9528 of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (20 U.S.C. § 7908) and 10 U.S.C. § 503(c).





## Notificación de derechos bajo FERPA

Los Derechos de Educación de las Familias y la Ley de Privacidad (FERPA por sus siglas en inglés) ofrece a padres y estudiantes mayores de 18 años ("estudiantes elegibles") ciertos derechos con respecto a los registros de educación del estudiante. Estos derechos son:

- (4) El derecho a inspeccionar y revisar los registros de educación del estudiante dentro de 45 días posteriores al día en que la escuela recibe una solicitud de acceso.

Los padres o estudiantes elegibles deben enviar al director de la escuela una solicitud por escrito que identifique el/los registro(s) que desean inspeccionar. El director hará arreglos para el acceso y notificará al padre o al estudiante elegible de la hora y el lugar donde se pueden inspeccionar los registros.

- (5) El derecho de solicitar la enmienda de los registros de educación del estudiante que el padre o estudiante elegible cree que son inexactos, engañosos o que violan los derechos de privacidad del estudiante bajo FERPA.

Los padres o estudiantes elegibles que deseen solicitar a la escuela que enmiende un registro deben escribirle al director de la escuela, identificar claramente la parte del registro que desean cambiar y especificar por qué se debe cambiar. Si la escuela decide no enmendar el registro según lo solicitado por el padre o estudiante elegible, la escuela notificará al padre o estudiante elegible de la decisión y les informará sobre su derecho a una audiencia con respecto a la solicitud de enmienda. Se proporcionará información adicional sobre los procedimientos de la audiencia al padre o al estudiante elegible cuando se le notifique el derecho a una audiencia.

- (6) El derecho a la privacidad de información que sea personalmente identificable en los registros educativos del estudiante, excepto en la medida que FERPA autorice la divulgación sin consentimiento.

Una excepción, que permite la divulgación sin consentimiento, es la divulgación a funcionarios escolares con intereses educativos legítimos. Un funcionario escolar es una persona empleada por la escuela como administrador, supervisor, instructor o miembro del personal de apoyo (incluyendo el personal de salud o médico y el personal de la unidad de policías que aplican la ley); una persona que sirve en la Consejo Escolar; una persona o compañía con quien la escuela ha subcontratado servicios o funciones que de todas maneras utilizaría a sus propios empleados (como un abogado, auditor, consultor médico o terapeuta); un padre o estudiante que sirve en un comité oficial, tal como un comité disciplinario o de quejas; o un padre, estudiante u otro voluntario ayudando a otro oficial de la escuela a realizar sus tareas.

Un funcionario escolar tiene un interés educativo legítimo si el funcionario necesita revisar un registro educativo para cumplir con su responsabilidad profesional.





Con solicitud previa, la escuela divulga los registros educativos sin consentimiento a los funcionarios de otro distrito escolar en el que un estudiante busca o intenta inscribirse, o ya está inscrito, si la divulgación es por motivo de la inscripción o transferencia del estudiante.

- (4) El derecho a presentar una queja ante el Departamento de Educación de los EE. UU. Con respecto a presuntas fallas de la Escuela en cumplir con los requisitos de FERPA.

El nombre y la dirección de la Oficina que administra FERPA son:

Family Policy Compliance Office  
U.S. Department of Education  
400 Maryland Avenue, SW  
Washington, DC 20202

### **Información del Directorio**

Los Derechos de Educación de las Familias y la Ley de Privacidad (FERPA) requieren que las Escuelas del Condado de Unicoi, con ciertas excepciones, obtengan el consentimiento por escrito de los padres antes de divulgar información que sea personalmente identificable en los registros de educación de un niño. Sin embargo, las Escuelas del Condado de Unicoi pueden divulgar "información del directorio" designada apropiadamente sin el consentimiento por escrito, a menos que el padre haya avisado al Distrito de lo contrario de acuerdo con los procedimientos del Distrito. El objetivo principal de la información directa es permitir que las Escuelas del Condado de Unicoi incluyan este tipo de información en los registros de educación de su hijo en ciertas publicaciones escolares. Los ejemplos incluyen:

- Un programa de teatro, mostrando el papel de su estudiante en una producción dramática;
- El anuario escolar;
- Lista de honor u otras listas de reconocimiento;
- Programas de graduación; y
- Hojas de actividades deportivas, que muestran el peso y la altura de los miembros del equipo.

Información del directorio, es información que generalmente no se considera dañina o una invasión de la privacidad si es divulgada, también se puede divulgar a organizaciones externas sin el consentimiento previo por escrito de un padre.





Si usted no desea que las Escuelas del Condado de Unicoi divulguen la información del directorio de los registros de educación de su hijo sin su consentimiento previo por escrito, usted debe notificar al distrito por escrito. Las Escuelas del Condado de Unicoi han designado la siguiente información como información de directorio:

- Nombre del estudiante
- Dirección
- Numero de teléfono
- Correo electrónico
- Fotografía
- Fecha y lugar de nacimiento
- Fechas de asistencia
- Nivel de grado
- Participación en actividades y deportes reconocidos oficialmente
- Peso y estatura de los miembros del equipo atlético
- Grados, honores y premios recibidos
- La agencia o institución educativa a la que asistió más reciente
- Número de identificación del estudiante, identificación del usuario, u otro identificador personal único utilizado para comunicarse en sistemas electrónicos que no puedan ser usados para tener acceso los registros educativos sin un PIN (Numero de Identificación Personal), contraseña, etc. (El NSS [Numero de Seguro Social] del estudiante, en su totalidad o en parte, no puede ser usado para este propósito.)

Notas a pie de página:

1. Estas leyes son: Sección 9528 de la Ley de Educación Primaria y Secundaria (20 U.S.C. § 7908) y





10 U.S.C. § 503(c).

No statements contained in this handbook should be construed as creating any type of contract, either expressed or implied. The information contained in the handbook represents guidelines only. The Unicoi County School System reserves the right to modify, amend or eliminate the information contained herein at any time.

