

1. *Students* – Students will be disciplined in accordance with the Board’s *Parent/Student Handbook*
  2. *Employees* – Employees will be subject to adverse personnel action, which may include termination.
  3. *Other Persons* – Other persons may be denied re-entry to school property.
- b. *Notification of Law Enforcement* – The appropriate law enforcement authority, which may include the city police, county sheriff, and the local district attorney, will be notified by the principal of violations of this policy.

[Reference: ALA. CODE §16-1-24.1 (1975); Ala. Admin. Code 290-3-1-.02(1)(b)]

4.2.3 **Drugs and Alcohol** – The use, possession, distribution, and sale of alcohol and the illegal use, possession, distribution, and sale of drugs in a school building, on school grounds, on Board property, on school buses, or at school-sponsored functions is prohibited.

- a. *Penalties for Violations* – In addition to any criminal penalties that may be imposed, the following penalties will also be imposed:
1. *Students* – Students will be disciplined in accordance with the Board’s *Parent/Student Handbook*
  2. *Employees* – Employees will be subject to adverse personnel action, which may include termination.
  3. *Other Persons* – Other persons may be denied re-entry to school property.
- b. *Notification of Law Enforcement* – The appropriate law enforcement authority, which may include the city police, county sheriff, and the local district attorney, will be notified by the principal of violations of this policy.

4.2.4 **Tobacco** – The use of tobacco products and the illegal possession, distribution, and sale of tobacco products on school property is prohibited.

- a. *Penalties for Violations*
1. *Students* – Students who violate the tobacco prohibition will be disciplined in accordance with the Board’s *Parent/Student Handbook*

2. *Employees* – Employees who violate the tobacco prohibition will be subject to adverse personnel action, which may include termination.
  3. *Other Persons* – Other persons who violate the tobacco prohibition may be denied re-entry to school property.
- b. *Parental Notification* – Parents and guardians shall be notified of actual or suspect violations of the tobacco prohibition whether or not the student is charged with a violation of Board policy, which includes the guidelines in the *Parent/Student Handbook*.

[Reference: ALA. CODE §16-1-24.1 (1975); Ala. Admin. Code 290-3-1-.02(1)(b)]

- 4.2.5 Searches – Law enforcement agencies are permitted to make periodic visits to all schools to detect the presence of illegal drugs or weapons and may use any lawful means at their disposal to detect the presence of such substances. The visits will be unannounced to anyone except the Superintendent and principal.

[Reference: ALA. CODE §16-1-24.1 (1975); Ala. Admin. Code 290-3-1-.02(1)(b)]

- 4.2.6 Drug- and Alcohol-Free Environment – All students, employees, volunteers, parents, visitors, and other persons are prohibited from possessing, using, consuming, manufacturing, or distributing illegal controlled substances and alcohol while on Board property or while attending any Board-sponsored or Board-sanctioned event, program, activity, or function. Persons who are intoxicated or impaired by the use, consumption, or ingestion of any controlled substance or alcohol are not permitted to be on school property, or to attend or participate in any Board-sponsored or Board-sanctioned event, program, activity, or function until given permission to do so by an administrator or his designee.

[Reference: ALA. CODE §16-1-24.1, 25-5-330 (1975)]

- 4.2.7 Adoption of Statutory Penalties and Consequences – Persons who violate the Board's prohibition of firearms, weapons, illegal drugs, or alcohol will be subject to all notification, referral, suspension, placement, re-admission, and other provisions set forth in ALA. CODE §16-1-24.1 and 24.3 (1975).

### 4.3 *Accreditation*

The Board will implement and adhere to such accreditation policies, principles, standards, and procedures as may be established or required by AdvancEd as a condition to receiving or maintaining accreditation.

### 4.4 *Use of Board Property*

- 4.4.1 Equipment, Supplies, Materials, Vehicles – Equipment, supplies, materials, vehicles, and other movable or consumable property owned by or under lease to the Board may not be used by or made available to persons or entities for private

in student surveys are confidential. (In other words, the answers from all students will be summarized to prevent any one student from being identified with the responses.) Parents who object to their child's participation in student surveys shall communicate their objection in writing to their child's school principal.

### **Tobacco Use**

Use of tobacco products or facsimiles thereof by all persons (students and adults) is prohibited on all school properties and at all school-sponsored functions.

## **Registration Information**

### **Admission to Schools**

*Resident Students* – School-age children who reside within the municipal limits of the City of Florence, Alabama, may be admitted to Florence City Schools. For purposes of this policy, the residence of the student will be the residence of the parent(s) or legal custodian. If custody of the child is shared between parents, the address of the student shall be determined as parent who has physical custody of the student. Custody papers should accompany any such enrollment. In the case of legal guardian/custodian, an appropriate document issued by the Circuit Court must be presented.

*Non-resident Students* – Students who do not reside within the corporate limits of the City of Florence may apply for enrollment in the Florence City Schools, subject to final approval by the superintendent or his/her designee. There is no tuition charge. The complete policy and conditions for out of district student enrollment and revocation of such may be found at <http://www.florencek12.org/finalpolicymanual.pdf>, Section 6.1.

The Superintendent may accept alternate forms of evidence or modify otherwise applicable requirements as necessary and appropriate to accommodate migrant, immigrant, English Learners, students in foster care, or students experiencing homelessness.

### **Registration**

A resident student may choose to attend any school in the city which houses his/her grade. In grades K-4, kindergarten students and other students new to Florence City Schools choose a school and, except in extreme circumstances, remain in that school through grade four. School selection is usually made during the spring of the preceding school year. For more information regarding school selection or transfer contact the Central Office at 256-768-3000.

Registration for Florence City Schools is to be completed online. New enrollees must submit registration information at [www.florencek12.org](http://www.florencek12.org) and provide required documentation either through encrypted uploads in the registration program or by bringing the documents to the Central Office at 102 South Court Street, 6<sup>th</sup> floor. Parents/guardians of currently enrolled students will receive online registration information via email or letter during the month of March.

During the 2021-2022 School year students must be five years old on or before September 1, 2021 to enter kindergarten; students must be six years old on or before December 31, 2020 to enter first grade. However, students who are six (6) years old after December 31, 2021 who have completed kindergarten in a public school in another state and who have been certified to attend first grade in that state may be accepted in first grade.

The following proofs are required by Alabama state law for initial enrollment in public schools:

- Certificate of Exemption or Certificate of Immunization against the following diseases: Diphtheria, Tetanus, Poliomyelitis, Measles\* (Rubella, Rubeola), Mumps, and Whooping Cough (Pertussis). Students enrolling in kindergarten or first grade must have documentation of Varicella (chickenpox)

### **Textbooks/Library Materials**

All basic textbooks (whether hardbound or electronic) are issued to students for their use during the school year. High quality materials are provided for student use in all school libraries. Hardbound textbooks and library materials are to be kept clean and handled properly. Parents/guardians are required to pay for lost or damaged materials.

### **Tobacco-Free Environment**

All persons, including students, school personnel and visitors, are prohibited from using any tobacco products or facsimiles thereof on school property or at any school-sanctioned activity. Students and school personnel who violate this policy will be subject to disciplinary action.

#### **Disciplinary Action:**

(Employees)

- 1<sup>st</sup> Offense Conference with immediate supervisor with written notification to the Superintendent of Schools that conference has occurred.
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Offense Three (3) school days' suspension without pay
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Offense Termination

(Students) – Refer to Discipline Section

### **Vehicle Regulations**

Parking regulations vary in different schools depending on the available space; however, at all schools, students are required to comply with the safety regulations of the school in order to use the parking facilities. The protection of all students is a major concern where vehicular movement occurs on or near a school campus. Students and parents are encouraged to exercise extreme caution when driving in such areas.

Vehicles are subject to search as covered under search and seizure.

Students may not remain nor linger in or around cars or vehicles on school property nor return to parking areas during school hours without the permission of the school principal or other designated official.

Students are required to comply with the safety regulations of the school and are subject to comply with random drug screening in order to park on campus.

### **Weapons**

All persons, other than authorized law enforcement personnel, are prohibited from possessing any gun or firearm on school property, buses, or at school events. For consequences see Discipline section in this booklet.

### **Worthless Checks**

Florence City Schools may use a check recovery service for worthless checks. By making payment to the school, a person authorizes Florence City Schools to recover the face amount of a check returned unpaid for any reason. In addition, a returned check fee of the

### **Strategies**

- Promote and celebrate student achievement through a positive school climate.
- Maintain clean facilities and grounds.
- Continue to update and implement all school safety plans via Virtual Alabama annually.
- Continue to assess facilities annually, including outdoor play areas, and to identify/resolve potential safety issues.
- Develop health plans for students as needed.
- Continue to monitor energy via Maintenance Department to optimize energy consumption.
- Enhance positive school climates and continue implementation of Positive Behavior Supports (PBS).
- Strengthen school-home connections.
- Maintain collaborative efforts with both local and state court systems and community agencies.
- Retain School Resource Officers (SRO's) in all schools.
- Proactively address bullying and harassment concerns.
- Address digital citizenship for employees and students.
- Retain mental health professionals from Riverbend Mental Health Center in all schools.
- Continue using SchoolCast service as needed.
- Update the Internet Acceptable Use Policy annually.
- Continue the maintenance cycle for repairing and painting buildings.
- Continue violence-prevention and drug-prevention education.
- Conduct building safety checks and emergency drills regularly.
- Maintain staff members focused on truancy prevention.
- Continue implementation of electronically secured entrances with visual and auditory verification.
- Maintain signage on all campuses to designate them as weapons-free, tobacco-free, and drug-free.

### **Key Performance Indicators**

- Annual facility assessment results
- Fire Marshal walk-through reports
- Scheduled and unscheduled safety drill reports including, but not limited to, fire drills, tornado drills, and Code Red lockdown drills.
- Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) assessment results (periodic Information Quality Act [IAQ] and asbestos results)
- Bus evacuation drill results
- SchoolCast reports
- Student absentee rates from illness and accident reports
- Student Incident Reports (SIR)
- School safety manual monitoring notes

5. Merits will result in three points being added to a cheerleader's nine-weeks grade for athletics. However, the student's average cannot exceed 100 points.

#### XI. Personal Leave

1. Each Varsity cheerleader will be given one personal leave night during basketball season. The personal leave night may not be taken during area tournaments or state playoffs. The coach must approve personal leave prior to the event. If a cheerleader misses more than one game due to sickness, those absences will count as their personal leave. A doctor's note must be provided for any games missed due to sickness.
2. Only two cheerleaders will be approved for personal leave when the full squad is cheering. Only one cheerleader will be approved for personal leave when the squad is divided.
3. A cheerleader must request the use of personal leave **IN WRITING** at least 24 hours in advance. Exceptions will be made for emergency situations only.

#### XII. Game Suspension

1. If the overall average in subjects drops below 70, the cheerleader is benched until the next nine weeks grades are posted, or possibly the progress report.
2. If an "F" is made in any subject, the cheerleader will be benched for one game day and attend morning study hall (or Boost) until the next nine weeks grades are posted.
3. An accumulation of four demerits during the year, starting on the day of election, will warrant suspension from one game, and if applicable, the pep rally that accompanies that game.
4. A second accumulation of four demerits will warrant suspension from two games and any pep rallies that accompany those two games.
5. A third accumulation of four demerits will warrant dismissal from the squad.
6. If a uniform is not ready for use, the cheerleader is benched for that game.
7. Cheerleaders must maintain passing grades at all times, therefore if a cheerleader fails a course and requires summer school the cheerleader, parent, coach, and athletic director will meet and determine eligibility.

#### XIII. The Suspended or Benched Cheerleader

1. The demerit system will apply to the benched cheerleader.
2. If a cheerleader is benched, he/she will be required to attend games in warm ups.
3. The benched cheerleader will not participate in pep rallies.
4. The benched cheerleader will sit with his/her coach at the game.
5. The benched cheerleader will not be allowed to be on his/her cell phone while the game is taking place.

#### XIV. Dismissal

1. Use of tobacco at school or any school activity will warrant permanent dismissal.
2. Disrespect of/to the coach may warrant permanent dismissal.
3. If a school administrator or law enforcement official determines that a cheerleader is under the influence of, or in possession of alcohol and/or drugs on school property or at a school related activity, that cheerleader will be permanently dismissed.
4. The second school suspension will warrant permanent dismissal.
5. Expulsion from school will warrant permanent dismissal.
6. Failure to maintain skills required to participate.
7. If a cheerleader becomes involved with the Florence City Judicial System, it will result in permanent dismissal.
8. Multiple Occasions: