



BCSS Mission

Ensuring an exceptional education that leads each student to become a high achieving and responsible citizen.

Student Handbook

Haymon-Morris Middle School

1008 Haymon-Morris Road

Winder, Georgia 30680

Telephone: 678-963-0602

Fax: 770-867-1854

www.barrow.k12.ga.us/hmms

Follow us on Twitter @HaymonMorrisMS

Mrs. Rebecca Bronnum

Principal

Mrs. Shelley Fallows

Assistant Principal

Mr. Eric Stoker

Assistant Principal



Mission Statement

***Haymon-Morris Middle School—
Where caring, patience, and consistency
inspire excellence.***

2023-2024 School Calendar

Refer to the [Barrow County School System Calendar](#)

Arrival/Dismissal from School

- Students will enter Haymon-Morris Middle School at 8:30 a.m. Any student who eats breakfast should report directly to the cafeteria upon entering the building prior to reporting to homebase. Dismissal begins at 4:00 pm. Students are not allowed to check out after 3:30 pm.

Students should not report to school before 8:30 a.m. or remain after dismissal unless they are in a specific activity or enrolled in a program under the supervision of a school employee. Students are not permitted to go to AHS or YES after school without permission from administration. Office hours for HMMS are 8:30 am -4:30 pm.

Test Dates:

Refer to the [BCSS Assessment Calendar](#)

Student Portal

<https://campus.barrow.k12.ga.us/campus/portal/barrow.jsp>

Username: lunch number

(ex. 12345)

Password: first name initial, last name initial, birth date

MMDDYY

(ex. GM011903)

Registration

Registration for Barrow County Schools is located at 179 West Athens Street, Winder, Georgia. Review the [BCSS registration website](#) or Contact 770-867-4527 for additional information.

Withdrawals

Students who are planning to withdraw during the school year must notify the school of the move as soon as possible. Parents or guardians must see the school registrar to complete the withdrawal process.

ACADEMIC & SCHOOL DAY INFORMATION

Professional Staff

- A. Principal**—As chief administrator of the school, the principal is responsible for supervising and evaluating the total program for the school. The principal assumes responsibility for pupil welfare during school hours and for promoting desired relationships within the school among parents, teachers, students, and other members of the community.
- B. Assistant Principal**—The assistant principal works directly with the principal in the general administration of the school. The assistant principal also works with teachers, parents, and students regarding student attendance, behavior, instruction, and discipline. The assistant principal is also responsible for the standardized testing program.
- C. Counselor**—The primary role of the counselor is to help students and parents with problems that might occur during the school year.
- D. Media Specialist**—The media specialist is trained to assist teachers, students, and parents in obtaining necessary materials for research, special projects, or leisure-time reading.
- E. Classroom Teachers**—Classroom teachers are qualified personnel specifically trained to meet the needs of middle school students. They are professionals who work in team situations to provide an effective educational program for students. They are available during the school year to discuss problems or other matters related to the school and students.
- F. School Resource Officer**—The role of the SRO is to help maintain a secure and safe environment in which students can learn. The SRO works closely with the administrators, faculty, and staff in the daily operation of the school. Also, the SRO provides information to the students and teachers about issues such as gangs, weapons, drugs, driving laws, etc.

School Information

- A. Athletic and Competitive Eligibility** - State Board Policy regulates activities that occur during the school year. The year is defined as August 1 through the end of the school year for students. The policy does not cover activities occurring from the end of school until August 1. No pressure can be applied for a student to participate in summer activities as a condition for making a team or program during the school year. Competitive activities include all individual and team sports, cheerleading, and academic teams. Students participating in competitive interscholastic activities must pass at least five subjects (including PE, Band, and Chorus) in the semester immediately preceding participation to be eligible. Failure to meet these criteria will result in a period (one semester) of ineligibility following the student's failure to meet eligibility requirements. **Students who are ineligible cannot dress out or practice for a competitive interscholastic group or program.**

We encourage participation in interscholastic activities by both boys and girls. To represent our school and community is not a duty but an honor, and certain policies must be followed by every athlete to have a successful program.

To participate a student must:

- a. Meet eligibility requirements.
- b. Set examples for everyone and show leadership, good attitude, and sportsmanship.
- c. Demonstrate appropriate behavior to be a part of the team.
- d. Carry school insurance or a policy from home (for athletes).
- e. Have a physical examination on file (for athletes).
- f. Be counted present at school on the day of the activity to participate. Students must attend at least half the school day to be able to participate in any after-school activity.
- g. Be in grades 6th-8th for athletics (7th-8th only for football and football cheerleading).

Students who are not picked up from games or practice in a timely manner may be removed from the team.

- B. **Connections** - Courses are taught at the sixth, seventh, and eighth grade levels. Students have two connections each semester that meet on alternating "A" and "B" days for 90 minutes each day. Connection courses offered at Haymon-Morris Middle School are as follows:

Agriculture
Art
Band (Yearlong)
Business & Computer Science
Career Management (8 th grade)
Chorus (Yearlong)
Engineering & Technology
Health
Math Apps (Teacher Recommendation)
Music Appreciation
Physical Education
Reading Apps. (Teacher Recommendation)

- C. **Grading System** - Students will receive numerical grades. Middle school grades are calculated using a cumulative average reflective of work throughout the school year. Grades do not reset each grading period. Current grading scale:
 A = 100-90
 B = 89-80
 C = 79-70
 F = Below 70
- D. **Homebase** - Homebase begins at 8:30am; Students who arrive after 9:00 am will be considered tardy.
- E. **Parent-Teacher Conferences** – We encourage parent conferences with our teachers to assess student progress and to discuss needs or concerns identified by the team or parents/guardians. If you would like to have a conference with any staff member, please contact the school, and arrangements will be made. We encourage parents to give teachers their e-mail address to facilitate rapid parent contacts. **We ask that you do not come to talk with a teacher without an appointment. All visitors must sign in at the front office and get a visitor's pass.** Any parent wishing to visit a classroom during the school day should contact the principal who will provide guidelines and arrange for visitation. **In the interest of safety, please be advised that any visitor not complying with check-in procedures is subject to possible criminal charges.**
- F. **Physical Education** – All students must dress in appropriate athletic attire for participation in PE. To be excused from PE, a written note from the parent will be required if a student cannot participate in the class. **Illness or injury requiring that a student be excused from PE for a period exceeding three days will require a written medical doctor's excuse.**
- G. **Promotion Guidelines** - Middle School students must pass at least five of the six subjects (English language arts, math, science, social studies, and connections) to be promoted to the next grade. The grades for each connections course taken during the school year, including physical education and health, will be averaged to determine the connections grade for purposes of promotion and retention. If a student fails the same academic subject for two consecutive years, the student may be retained.
- H. **Exams**– Exams will be given in 6th, 7th, and 8th grade academic and connection courses in December and/or at the end of the year. Exams/ percentages will follow Barrow County guidelines.
- I. **Student Report Cards** – At the end of each grading period, numerical grades earned in each subject area. Report cards also show attendance. Progress reports will be sent home mid-way between report card dates. Progress reports are intended to be an estimate of progress-to-date.
- J. **Schedule** - Haymon-Morris Middle School's daily schedule consists of five major blocks of time: Homebase, Extended Learning Time (ELT), interdisciplinary studies, and Connections. The major components of the day are the large blocks of time known as "interdisciplinary studies."
- K. **School Closings** - In case of extreme weather conditions or other emergency changes in the daily schedule made after school hours, listen to the radio stations in Athens, Gainesville, and Winder. There will also be Parent-link phone messages and postings on school social media sites and the BCSS App.
- L. **School Insurance** - School insurance is offered to each student on an optional basis. It covers all school functions and is available in different types of policies. Information is given out by homebase teachers at the beginning of the school year, and an initial enrollment period is established to ensure that all students receive maximum benefits from coverage. **All students participating in athletics must be covered by either a school policy or a policy through parents.** Students entitled to an insurance claim should contact the principal's office for instructions.
- M. **Controversial and Sensitive Issues** – Occasionally students will encounter controversial or sensitive topics through materials read, class discussions, or assignments. Educational curriculum cannot always avoid controversial issues in our society. A duty charged by the school system is to prepare learners to acquire the insights and the skills necessary to make important personal and political decisions. Teachers shall be knowledgeable of controversial issues occurring in curriculum and thus be prepared to present a balanced perspective that addresses multiple views. Teachers welcome the opportunity to discuss and review the

curriculum and materials for any course with parents. Parents shall have opportunities to select alternate assignments should they believe the material in question is inappropriate for their child.

Student Responsibilities

While the aim of middle school is to promote individual freedom and growth, there are certain expectations of all students. Expectations are necessary to ensure the safety and well-being of all students and to promote optimum conditions for a healthy learning environment.

- A. Academic Honesty** – Students in the Barrow County School System are expected to take full advantage of the outstanding learning opportunities and experiences that are available to them. They are encouraged to take pride in their academic performance and to develop higher order thinking skills as well as improve test-taking skills. Cheating, which includes both accepting and giving information to others, during tests or on specified assignments is wrong and, therefore, unacceptable. Students who are determined to have participated in cheating will be disciplined.
- B. Care of Property** - Students are urged to take pride in the appearance of their school, the building, furniture, buses, and surroundings. The physical condition of a school usually reflects the types of students and teachers who work there. Students will be required to pay for any damage they cause to school property, including damage to computer settings and software.
- C. Care of Valuables/Lockers** – The school makes every attempt to help students safeguard their valuables. We suggest placing name labels on personal articles and apparel. The borrowing and loaning of personal possessions is discouraged. All lost articles, including textbooks, will be placed in the lost and found area in the gym. Students should not bring large amounts of money to school. Lockers are provided in each room for the safekeeping of personal property. Lockers are the property of the school and may be checked by school administrators on a random basis throughout the school year without prior notice. **All** property of students brought to school is subject to search without prior notice.
- D. Dress Code** – [Board Policy JCDB effective July 6, 2004] The purpose of this dress code is to assist administrators, teachers, students, and parents in fulfilling the mission of the Barrow County Schools to provide all students quality educational opportunities that enable them to become successful, responsible, and contributing citizens. To accomplish this mission, the learning environment must be one that is safe, disciplined, and free of distractions. Therefore, the dress code regulations that follow are not designed to inhibit personal taste but to encourage learning, good behavior, and safety.
1. Any clothing, hairstyle, jewelry, chains, or attire that is distracting, causes a disruption, or constitutes a safety issue will not be permitted at school.
 2. Shorts, skirts, dresses, and spirit wear must be of reasonable length; e.g., mid-thigh if they are to be worn at school.
 3. Clothing such as skirts, pants, trousers, etc., must be worn at the waist. Clothing shall not be poorly fitted or oversized or extremely baggy. Clothing that exposes underclothing, skin, or impedes walking will not be permitted. **(Jeans, etc., with holes not permitted.)**
 4. Clothing and/or jewelry, which advertises or displays any insignia of alcohol, illegal drugs, or tobacco is not permitted.
 5. Clothing and/or jewelry with words or symbols that are offensive, insulting, embarrassing, sexually suggestive, obscene, gang-related, or promote violence, terrorism, or abusive behavior will not be permitted at school.
 6. Pajamas, sleepwear, bedroom slippers will not be permitted at school.
 7. Clothing that distracts by exposing or accentuating the body, such as spandex pants, see-through garments, halter or tube tops, spaghetti strap tanks, backless dresses, muscle shirts, bare midriff outfits, or shirts that are tied at or may rise above the waist will not be permitted at school.
 8. Sunglasses, caps, hats, and other head-coverings such as bandannas and hoods will not be worn inside the school building.
 9. Appropriate shoes must be worn at all times. **(No flip-flops or cleats permitted. Students may wear crocks and slides.)**
- Administrators have the authority to interpret the dress code and make a case-by-case determination for appropriateness of dress and appearance of which is or is not covered in these dress code standards. Administrators may make occasional, school-wide exceptions to these standards for such events as “hat days” or “spirit days.”** Students who are determined to be improperly dressed may be asked to call their parents to bring them proper attire, or they may be isolated for the day.
- E. Textbooks** – When textbooks are issued for their classes, the student assumes the responsibility for loss or damage. All books that are not returned in good repair or are lost must be paid for by the student, parent, or guardian. **The teacher will not issue another textbook until the damaged or lost textbook is paid for in the office.** Students, be reminded that these textbooks have been assigned to you and not your friends. Do not loan your books to other students or leave them in other students’ lockers. Also, do not ask your teacher to store your books or supplies, as your teacher cannot be responsible for your belongings. Finally, do not leave your books lying around campus unattended as they may be stolen, and you will be held responsible for the replacement; in other words, keep track of your textbooks.

General Information

- A. Absences, Tardies, and Checkouts**
Absences – Students are expected to attend school on a regular basis. A written note from the parents explaining the reason for any absence must be brought to the homebase teacher within five days of returning to school.
- B. Assignment during Absences** – In the case of extended absences, call the front office, and the teachers will provide missed assignments within 24 hours.
- C. Checkouts** – Parents or guardians must check students out in the front office personally. The office must have a written note given to us by the parent or guardian, stating all the people who are allowed to check the student out of school. If there is any change in custodial status, the school must be notified in writing, and proof is required. For safety reasons, students may not leave

the school campus during the school day with any person other than those listed. Proof of identification will be requested at the time of checkout to ensure the well-being of each student. **Students cannot be checked out after 3:30 pm.**

- D. **Makeup Assignments** – Students are expected to make up all the work missed due to absences. Students must contact the teacher immediately upon their return to school to make arrangements for making up missed work. **Missing assignments should be completed within 5 days.**
- E. **Skipping** – Skipping class or school will result in disciplinary action.
- F. **Tardies** – It is the responsibility of students to arrive at school on time. All tardy students must report to the office before going to homebase or any class. **Tardiness may result in disciplinary action.**
- G. **After school tutoring** – Students who remain at school for after school tutoring must be picked up on time. Those students who are picked up late may be restricted from attending future after school tutoring sessions.
- H. **Dances and Ballgames** - Students who do not attend Haymon-Morris Middle School may **NOT** attend dances. In addition, students who are counted absent, assigned to ISS, enrolled in Alternative School, or suspended on dance or game day may not attend the dance or game. Students may be restricted from the dance or other activities for disciplinary reasons.
 - 1. Dates and times for dances and ballgames will be announced throughout the school year. Please check the school website and listen to the announcements for details.
 - 2. The dress code for school dances, games and other school activities is the same as for the school day.
 - 3. Admission to athletic events is \$5 per person over 5 years of age with a maximum of \$20 per family.
 - 4. Students who are picked up late may be restricted from attending dances and/or games or required to be chaperoned by a parent to the next activity. Dances and ball games are optional activities, and students and their families should make transportation arrangements in advance of these days.
 - 5. Students must remain at extracurricular events until permitted to be dismissed and/or picked up by a guardian. No re-entry will be allowed.
 - 6. Concessions will be sold at athletic events.
 - 7. School behavior rules apply to all extra-curricular activities including dances.
 - 8. There is always a law enforcement officer on duty at dances and ball games.
- I. **Emergency Drills** – Fire, intruder, and tornado drills are held periodically throughout the school year. Safety during a real emergency dictates that students take these drills very seriously. Students must follow their teacher's instructions and move silently and quickly to designated areas. These areas and procedures are posted and fully explained to students by their teachers. Students must not talk, run, and/or push. Behavior that interferes with the emergency drills will result in disciplinary action.
- J. **Electronic Devices** - While electronic devices are permitted on campus, students will not have access to their own personal phones during the school day. Student phones must be placed in their locker upon arrival to homebase each morning and cannot be removed until dismissal. We will not have BYOT (Bring Your Own Technology) days or allow the use of phones in Fun Friday rooms. Devices being used without permission can be taken up by school personnel.
- K. **Head Lice** - The Barrow County Board of Education has adopted a policy regarding head lice. A case of head lice may be defined as the presence of live lice or nits. Details regarding headlice procedures can be accessed on the [BCSS website](#).
- L. **Lost and Found** - There is a lost and found where students can inquire about missing articles or turn in items found. Items not picked up within a timely manner will be donated to a charitable organization. Lost and found is located just outside the cafeteria, near the gym doors.
- M. **Media Center** – The media center operates on an open policy, permitting students almost unlimited access to materials as needed. At the beginning of each year, students at all grade levels receive orientation to the media center as part of their interdisciplinary program of studies.
- N. **Parent Volunteers** – There are a number of opportunities for which parents to volunteer at Haymon-Morris Middle School. Volunteers should contact the Parent Volunteer Coordinator, Ms. Dupre, at the school.
- O. **Telephone Calls** – Students are not allowed to use their personal cell phones under any circumstances. Parents and teachers should stress to students the importance of being responsible and coming to school prepared with materials, supplies, and items of personal need. Phone calls from the office phones should be limited to students who are sick and have a legitimate emergency. **No student may use the office phone without permission from the teacher and front office staff.** Should a parent need to get a message to their child, please call the front office.
- P. **Private Cars** – Students who are transported in cars should be dropped off in the designated area. Automobiles must not drive through, or park in, the bus loading area or the faculty parking lot. Students are not allowed to drive private cars to Haymon-Morris Middle School. The SRO and other school personnel are authorized to direct the flow of traffic in the afternoon.
- Q. **School Report Card** – Parents and students may find summary information about student performance in Barrow County Schools on the district website at the following URL: www.barrow.k12.ga.us.

PARENT'S RIGHT TO REQUEST A TEACHER'S AND A PARAPROFESSIONAL'S QUALIFICATIONS

You may request information about the professional qualifications of your student's teacher(s) and/or paraprofessional(s). Please see the [BCSS Student Handbook](#) for additional information.

COMPLAINT PROCEDURES

Please see the [BCSS Student Handbook](#) for additional information regarding complaint procedures.

FAMILY EDUCATIONAL RIGHTS AND PRIVACY ACT (FERPA)

FERPA affords parents and students over 18 years of age ("eligible students") certain rights with respect to the student's education records. These rights can be reviewed in the [BCSS Student Handbook](#).

*****NON-DISCRIMINATION NOTICES***BARROW COUNTY SCHOOLS GENDER EQUITY IN SPORTS**

State law prohibits discrimination based on gender in athletic programs of local school systems (Equity in Sports Act, O.C.G.A.-20-2-315). Additional information regarding Title IX rights can be accessed on the [BCSS website](#).

TITLE VI AND TITLE IX NOTIFICATION

Please see the [BCSS Student Handbook](#) for additional information.

SECTION 504 INFORMATIONAL NOTICE

Additional details regarding student rights related to section 504 can be accessed on the [BCSS website](#).

STUDENT COMPLAINTS AND GRIEVANCES

Please see the [BCSS Student Handbook](#) for additional information.

SCOPE PROGRAM FOR GIFTED STUDENTS

Please see the [BCSS Student Handbook](#) for additional information.

STUDENT ATTENDANCE

School attendance is a high priority in the Barrow County School System. Regular attendance is vital to each student's academic progress and development of positive habits for his/her life. Please see the [BCSS Code of Conduct](#) for additional details.

SCHOOL ATTENDANCE PROCEDURES:

School personnel will monitor student attendance daily. Each absence or partial attendance shall be classified as either excused or unexcused according to criteria specified in Board of Education policy JBD- see full policy on BCSS website. Excuses for absences should be furnished to the school by the student's parent/guardian **no later than 5 school days after the student returns to school** and should state the reason for the absence. **Five absences per semester may be excused with a parent note.** After that, a doctor's note can be required. Excuses for tardies and early dismissals should be furnished upon check-in or check-out. All Excuses will be evaluated by the principal or designee to determine if the absence is excused or unexcused consistent with Barrow County Absences and Excuses Policy JBD. Under certain circumstances, school personnel may require proper medical documentation to code an absence as excused. All attempts to contact the parents about attendance concerns should be documented in Infinite Campus. School personnel contacts will use their best efforts to contact the family of a student with absences at the following intervals:

1. Within the first three total absences, the teacher(s) should contact the parent/guardian regarding the importance of attendance and the parent/guardian's responsibility for documenting acceptable excuses within appropriate timelines. Two attempts of communication should be made and documented in Infinite Campus and should include at least one phone call attempt.
2. At five unexcused absences, the attendance designee (counselor, AP or principal, or other personnel identified by administration) should use their best efforts to advise the family of the GA law and policy by written notification (5-day attendance letter). The person making the contact should document the contact (record phone calls, email, parent conferences and make a copy of the letter to be filed).
3. At ten total absences, a letter should be sent to notify families of GA law and policy and school professional staff may have a parent conference and notify attendance designee.
4. For students with over 10 unexcused absences, school professional staff should complete a documented form of contact (email, phone call, and/or conference) in Infinite Campus and a referral will be made to the student services department. Secondary schools may assign consequences for truancy. Consequences can include revoking extracurricular activities etc. The attendance process should be completed before CBRR referral is made.

SCHOOL NUTRITION PROGRAM

It is our privilege to provide low-cost nutritious breakfast and lunch meals to all students and staff of the Barrow County Schools. Nutrition is a very important part of the education process since a hungry child cannot learn. Barrow County School Nutrition meals adhere to the USDA dietary guidelines and requirements. Our menus offered are analyzed to reduce calories from fat while ensuring proper amounts of nutrients and total calorie intake for different age groups. Monthly menus are available on the [BCSS website](#).

Children with health issues or allergies (including lactose intolerance) must have a letter signed by a physician stating such on file with the cafeteria manager. These letters must be updated annually.

Meal Accounts: Each cafeteria has a computer program for tracking meals and payments. **ALL Barrow County School students are assigned computer identification (ID) number, which serves as their meal account number.** ALL students are encouraged to learn their account number to use at the cashier station at the end of the meal line. Meal prices can be found on the [BCSS website](#).

Prepayment for school meals enables the meal line to move more quickly. At all school levels, prepayment may be made weekly or monthly in envelopes provided by the school. The **student's name and account number must be listed on the envelope** in order to credit the proper account. Money not used can be refunded at the end of the school year or carried over to the next school year even if

they will attend a higher-level Barrow County School. Parents should call the school nutrition manager's office at the individual school if they have questions about the child's account during the year.

Families with more than one student at the same school should send the cash or check **SEPARATELY** for each student. **Checks** are to be made out to **SNP** with the student's name and account number on the check. Other purchases from the school office or classroom must **NOT** be included with meal payments. For your convenience, we now offer online prepayments. You may access this service at www.myschoolbucks.com and put money on your child's account.

Free or Reduced Price Meals: Students automatically qualify for free school meals if they receive SNAP and may qualify for free meals if they receive Temporary Assistance for Needy Families. Families may also qualify for free or reduced-price meals based on family income. **Families must complete a new application each year to determine eligibility.** Parents may also fill out the free and reduced meal application online: <https://www.myschoolapps.com/>.

CLUBS AND ORGANIZATIONS

Students will have the opportunity to participate in a variety of clubs and organizations. To opt your child out of club participation in BCSS schools, please complete the form linked [here](#).

Club or Organization Name	Purpose	Activities
Barrow County 4-H	To assist youth in becoming self-directing, productive, and contributing citizens.	4-H provides events, classes, activities, and forums at local, state, and national levels.
Fellowship of Christian Athletes (FCA)	To build a common bond among students and athletes.	Before school meetings, guest speakers, fellowship.
Future Farmers of America (FFA)	To promote all aspects of the agriculture discipline	Various school-based projects and local and state competitions
Helen Ruffin Reading Bowl	To promote reading in a competition setting	Competes in quiz-bowl style reading competitions at the local, regional, and state levels.
Robotics	Student exploration and learning about Robotics	Invitation/Application process to participate. Meets at C-FIT
Student Council	Promoting school-wide awareness, spirit, pride & unity through leadership	Red Ribbon Week, Can-a-thon for food pantry, Toy Drive, & Valentine Grams
Technology Competition	Challenge and empower students to be leaders in the digital age	Find additional information on the BCSS website
Yearbook	Yearbook production	Taking pictures, organize and create pages

MEDICAL PROCEDURES

All medicines, prescription or otherwise, including ointments, lotions, cough drops or any other over the counter products must be brought to school by the student's parents or legal guardian. The parent/guardian should also state any potential adverse reaction the student may experience. Any student not complying with this policy and possessing any medication on the school campus shall be subject to discipline as set forth in the Student Code of Conduct.

Additional details regarding district medical procedures can be reviewed in the [BCSS Student Handbook](#).

PROHIBITION AGAINST BULLYING

Bullying may be defined as an act which occurs on school property, on school vehicles, at designated school bus stops, or at school related functions or activities, or by use of electronic technology, that is:

- Any willful attempt or threat to inflict injury on another person, when accompanied by an apparent present ability to do so;
- Any intentional display of force such as would give the victim reason to fear or expect immediate bodily harm; or
- Any intentional written, verbal, or physical act, which a reasonable person would perceive as being intended to threaten, harass, or intimidate, that:
 - Causes another person substantial physical harm as defined in law or visible bodily harm as defined in law.
 - has the effect of substantially interfering with a student's education;
 - is so severe, persistent, or pervasive that it creates and intimidating or threatening educational environment;
 - or has the effect of substantially disrupting the orderly operation of the school.

Possible disciplinary actions include warning/counseling, notification of parents, parental conference, detention, in-school suspension, short-term suspension, referral to a hearing officer, and referral to law enforcement officials. Upon finding that a middle or high school student has committed the offense of bullying for the third time in a school year, the student shall be assigned to the alternative school. Additional details regarding district prohibition against bullying can be reviewed in the [BCSS Student Handbook](#).

STUDENT REPORTING OF ACTS OF SEXUAL ABUSE OR SEXUAL MISCONDUCT

Any student (*or parent or friend of a student*) who has been the victim of an act of sexual abuse or sexual misconduct by a teacher, administrator or other school system employee is urged to make an oral report of the act to any teacher, counselor or administrator at his/her school.

NEWS MEDIA RELEASE NOTICE

As a parent/guardian, if you do not want your child videotaped, photographed, or any of your child's creations, such as writing, artwork or multimedia to be used or publicly published with limited identifying information for any of the outlined purposes above, whether by the

Barrow County School System or by the news media, you may object in writing. If you wish to exercise this right, objections should be sent to the principal of the school where your student is enrolled in writing within **10 days from the date of enrollment**.

STUDENT TECHNOLOGY USE

Students are provided computer access privileges at school, as well as access to the Internet, email, digital communication and collaboration tools, online learning spaces, and electronic educational resources. In addition to these resources, tools, and equipment, which are essential to teaching and learning. Details regarding responsible use and protection measures are provided in the [BCSS student handbook](#).

Student Code of Conduct

The Barrow County Student Code of Conduct is based on the philosophy that discipline is a tool that is used to teach students to become responsible for their own behavior. The [BCSS Student Code of Conduct](#) can be viewed on the school or district website.

POSITIVE BEHAVIOR INTERVENTION SYSTEM (PBIS)

PBIS is an evidence-based, data-driven framework proven to reduce disciplinary incidents, increase a school's sense of safety and support improved academic outcomes. More than 16,000 U.S. schools are implementing PBIS. The premise of PBIS is that continual teaching, combined with acknowledgement or feedback of positive student behavior will reduce unnecessary discipline and promote a climate of greater productivity, safety and learning. All Barrow County Schools participate in PBIS.

CATS Creed:

Come to class prepared	1. Be prepared with your class materials.
Act with integrity	2. Participate in class.
Take responsibility	3. Complete all assignments.
Show respect	4. Follow all directions.

Haymon-Morris uses the CATS acronym to define student expectations under PBIS. Throughout the building there are signs that define the expectations for that area of the building. Students will earn points each day by following school-wide and classroom expectations and by displaying positive behaviors that surpass expectations. These points align with our CATS creed, which is shown below. Students will use points to purchase Fun Friday events and other rewards through PBIS Rewards (digital platform). Students who are not able to purchase Fun Friday due to a low point balance will be provided with the opportunity to complete missing assignments and/or make up work during the event.

BUS DISCIPLINE

Students who ride the school bus may do so as long as they display safe and reasonable behavior. Choosing not to follow the bus behavior guidelines may result in suspension or loss of bus service. The bus driver is responsible for the safety and well-being of the students on the bus. The school administrator will determine the consequences of misbehavior and the reinstatement of bus service for the offending students should a suspension become necessary. **A suspension applies to all buses** unless otherwise designated by school officials. The responsibility for student supervision by the school shall begin when the student boards the bus in the morning and is retained until the child leaves the bus at the end of the day. **Riding the school bus is a privilege not a right** and may be revoked for safety and discipline infractions. Further details regarding bus discipline can be reviewed in the [BCSS Student Handbook](#).

Bus Rules

1. Students will follow the directions of the driver.
2. Students will be at the bus stop 5 minutes before the bus arrives. Students will wait in an orderly line.
3. Students will help keep bus clean and in safe condition.
4. Students will cross the roadway in front of the bus, only after receiving hand signal from driver.
5. Students will go directly to an available or assigned seat when entering the bus. Keep aisles and exits clear.
6. Students will remain properly seated, back against the back of the seat, bottom against the bottom of the seat, and keep hands to themselves.
7. Students will not eat, drink, chew gum, or bring tobacco, alcohol or drugs on the bus.
8. Students will not carry animals, glass objects, nuisance items, hazardous materials, or weapons onto the bus.
9. Students may only bring approved objects on the bus that can be held on their lap.
10. Students will refrain from using loud voices, profanity and/or obscene gestures, and respect the rights and safety of others.
11. Students will not extend head, arms, or objects out of the bus windows and will refrain from yelling out windows.
12. Students will be totally silent at railroad crossings.
13. Students will stay seated until time to get off the bus.
14. Students will respect themselves, others and property.
15. Students must provide a written note, signed by a parent or guardian and a school official, giving permission to ride a different bus, and get on or off the bus at a special bus stop location.

16. New Bus Riders or students that move to a new physical address must provide their bus driver and school administrator with a note stating the new address. Attending school should provide the bus driver with student information showing changes in Infinite Campus.

BCSS STUDENT BUS TRANSPORTATION CHANGES PROTOCOL

Note: This protocol is for short-term (daily) changes only. For any long-term change in transportation, please use the appropriate Transportation Change Form available in your school's front office. Student must have a written note from a parent or guardian that is dated and signed referencing the particular day(s) affected. This will apply even if the parent makes the request in person at the school. Details regarding protocol performed by school office personnel can be reviewed in the [BCSS Student Handbook..](#)

No bus transportation changes will be accepted over the telephone.