

Required Notifications for Student Handbooks/Agendas

Parent's Right to Know Teacher's Training and Credentials

Federal regulations, defined in the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965, require that we provide information to you regarding your child's teachers' training and credentials. We are happy to provide this information to you. At any time, you may ask:

- Whether your child's teacher(s) met state qualifications and certification requirements for the grade level and subject he/she is teaching,
- Whether your child's teacher (s) received an emergency or conditional certificate through which state qualifications were waived, and
- What undergraduate or graduate degrees your child's teacher(s) hold(s), including graduate certificates and additional degrees, and major(s) or area(s) of concentration.

You may also ask whether your child receives help from a paraprofessional. If your child receives this assistance, we can provide you with information about the paraprofessional's qualifications. If you have any questions about your child's assignment to a teacher or paraprofessional, please contact your child's principal or Shannon Hammond, Barrow County Schools Federal Programs Coordinator at 770-867-4527.

School Choice and Supplemental Educational Services

The Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (ESEA) requires that parents of children enrolled in schools that receive Title I funding and that are identified by the state as "Needs Improvement" must have the opportunity to transfer their children to a school that has not been so identified and/or enroll their child in supplemental educational services (i.e., free tutoring). Parents of students eligible for School Choice or Supplemental Educational Services are notified by the district. Barrow County Schools has had the following numbers of students eligible for and participating in School Choice or Supplemental Educational Services during the past five years:

2006-2007	0 eligible, 0 participating
2007-2008	0 eligible, 0 participating
2008-2009	0 eligible, 0 participating
2009-2010	0 eligible, 0 participating
2010-2011	3858 eligible, 261 participating

Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA)

The Barrow County Schools, in Board Policy JR Student Records, designates the following information as directory information:

- Student's name, address and telephone number
- Student's date and place of birth
- Student's participation in official school clubs and sports
- Weight and height of student if he/she is a member of an athletic team
- Dates of attendance while enrolled in Barrow County Schools
- Awards received during the time enrolled in Barrow County Schools

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA), a Federal law, requires that Barrow County Schools, with certain exceptions, obtain written consent prior to the disclosure of personal information from your child's educational records. However, Barrow County Schools may disclose designated "directory information" without written consent. The primary purpose of directory information is to allow Barrow County Schools to include this information in school publications. Unless you, as a parent/guardian or eligible student, request otherwise, this information may be disclosed to the public. Any school district receiving ESEA funds must, upon request of military or higher education institutions, provide access to secondary school students' names, addresses, and telephone listings. School districts must notify parents of the option to require prior written parental consent to such disclosure. School districts must provide military recruiters the same access to secondary school students as is provided generally to postsecondary educational institutions or prospective employers. You have the right to refuse to allow all or any part of the above information to be designated as directory information and to be disclosed to the public upon request.

MEDIA RELEASE Notice

From time to time your student's photograph, art work, poetry, creative writing stories or other pieces of acclaim or interest connected with a school activity or function, may be displayed on the Barrow County School's Web Site www.barrow.k12.ga.us. Also, students may be photographed, video-taped, or interviewed by the news media at school or some school activity or event, unless you, as a parent/guardian object in writing to your student being photographed, video-taped or interviewed to the principal of the school where you student is enrolled. If you wish to exercise this right, you must notify the principal of the school at which the student is enrolled in writing within *10 days from the date of enrollment*.

Protection of Pupil Rights Amendment (PPRA)

The following guidelines will be followed conducting research involving students:

1. No individual, including teachers, administrators, other school district employees and college students, shall gather any data or otherwise conduct research on Barrow County students for his or her own personal use, including use for college classes, dissertations, theses or similar purposes, without receiving approval in advance from the Superintendent or his or her designee.
2. Without the prior written consent of the parent or the student, if he or she is an emancipated minor no student shall be required to submit to a survey, analysis, or evaluation that reveals information concerning:
 - a. political affiliations;
 - b. mental and psychological problems potentially embarrassing to the student or his family;
 - c. sex behavior and attitudes;
 - d. illegal, anti-social, self-incriminating and demeaning behavior;
 - e. critical appraisals of other individuals with whom the student has close family relationships;
 - f. legally recognized privileged or analogous relationships, such as those of lawyers, physicians, and ministers;
 - g. income other than that required by law to determine eligibility for participation in a program or for receiving financial assistance under such program.

3. In order to comply with federal requirements for school systems receiving Title IV funds to collect data on the incidence and prevalence of illegal drug use and violence among youth in school districts, students will be surveyed using the needs assessment survey provided by the Georgia Department of Education. All students in the surveyed grades will be surveyed unless parents complete the Passive Permission form indicating that they do not want their student to participate. Parents will be notified prior to the survey administration and will be given an opportunity to review the survey instrument.

In addition, the Superintendent or his or her designee must approve the use of any such survey, analysis or evaluation before the consent of the parent or student is sought.

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 Barrow County Schools Homepage on the Internet at www.barrow.k12.ga.us for both breakfast and lunch meals. Weekly menu calendars are published in *The Barrow County News*. Monthly child nutrition news will be sent home with breakfast and lunch menus.

Meal Accounts: Each cafeteria has a computer program for tracking meals and payments. **ALL Barrow County School students are assigned computer identification (ID) number from which serves as their meal account number. ALL students must learn their account number to use at the cashier station at the end of the meal line.**

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 to (School name or abbreviation) Nutrition Program with the student's name and account number on the check. Upon receipt of a returned check, payment will be accepted only in the form of cash or money order for the remainder of the school year unless the bank documents in writing that the returned check was due to a bank error. Other purchases from the school office or classroom must **NOT** be included with meal payments.

Free or Reduced Price Meals: Students may qualify for free school meals if they receive food stamps or 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.** Family applications rather than individual applications are used. Only **one application** will be needed per family. **ALL** household members including all children must be listed. School locations are required for all school age children. Please make certain that your application reaches the school nutrition manager at one of the schools your children attend.

Applications will be completed at the time of registration at the Barrow County Professional Development Center.

CAFETERIA CHARGE BOARD POLICY (EE)

Payment is required when meals are selected. Elementary students will be allowed to charge up to 10 meals. Middle School students may charge up to 5 meals. High School students are not allowed to charge meals. A written reminder will be given to the student to take home to inform parents about the charge. If the charge amount is not paid in full, students will be offered a replacement meal at lunch consisting of a peanut butter and jelly sandwich with milk. If the student is allergic to peanuts or milk, a substitute will be given. Report cards will be held until charges are paid.

IT IS OUR HOPE THAT PARENTS WILL NOT PLACE THEIR CHILDREN IN UNPLEASANT CIRCUMSTANCES BECAUSE OF MEAL CHARGES!

	PK-5		6-8		9-12	
	Full Price	Reduced Price	Full Price	Reduced Price	Full Price	Reduced Price
Breakfast 1 Day	\$ 1.00	\$ 0.30	\$ 1.25	\$ 0.30	\$ 1.25	\$ 0.30
Breakfast 5 Day Week	\$ 5.00	\$ 1.50	\$ 6.25	\$ 1.50	\$ 6.25	\$ 1.50
Breakfast 20 Day Month	\$ 20.00	\$ 6.00	\$ 25.00	\$ 6.00	\$ 25.00	\$ 6.00
Lunch 1 Day	\$ 1.25	\$ 0.40	\$ 1.50	\$ 0.40	\$ 1.75	\$ 0.40
Lunch 5 Day Week	\$ 6.25	\$ 2.00	\$ 7.50	\$ 2.00	\$ 8.75	\$ 2.00
Lunch 20 Day Month	\$ 25.00	\$ 8.00	\$ 30.00	\$ 8.00	\$ 35.00	\$ 8.00
Both Meals 1 Day	\$ 2.25	\$ 0.70	\$ 2.75	\$ 0.70	\$ 3.00	\$ 0.70
Both Meals 5 Day Week	\$ 11.25	\$ 3.50	\$ 13.75	\$ 3.50	\$ 15.00	\$ 3.50
Both Meals 20 Day Month	\$45.00	\$14.00	\$55.00	\$14.00	\$60.00	\$14.00

*****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). Students are hereby notified that Barrow County Schools does not discriminate on the basis of gender in its athletic programs. Inquiries or complaints concerning sports equity in this school system may be submitted to the Sports Equity Coordinator at 179 W. Athens St. Winder, Georgia 30680 - 770-867-4527.

TITLE VI AND TITLE IX NOTIFICATION

The Barrow County School District does not discriminate in its education and employment programs on the basis of religion, age, race, color, national origin, gender, marital or parental status, and disability. This district complies with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Title IX education amendments of 1972, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the Americans

with Disabilities Act (ADA) of 1990 and the Perkins CTE Act of 2006. Inquires may be made to the respective coordinator regarding Title VI, Title IX and the Perkins Act or Mr. Matt Thompson regarding 504 and ADA at: Barrow County Schools, 179 West Athens St. Winder, GA 30680, 770-867-4527.

SECTION 504 INFORMATIONAL NOTICE

Section 504 is an Act that prohibits discrimination against persons with a disability in any program receiving federal financial assistance. The Act defines a person with a disability as anyone who: Has a mental or physical impairment which substantially limits one or more major life activities (major life activities such as caring for one's self, performing manual tasks, walking, seeing, hearing, speaking, breathing, learning and working); Has a record of such impairment; Is regarded as having such an impairment. In order to fulfill its obligation under Section 504, the Barrow County School System recognizes a responsibility to avoid discrimination in policies and practices regarding its personnel and students. No discrimination against any person with a disability will knowingly be permitted in any of the programs and practices in the school system. Our Section 504 Compliance Coordinator for the Barrow County School System is Mr. Matt Thompson - 770-867-4527.

SCHOOL ATTENDANCE and Georgia's Compulsory Education Law

School attendance is a high priority in the Barrow County School System. Regular attendance is vital to each student's academic progress and the development of positive habits for his/her adult life. *Georgia Law O.C.G.A. 20-2-690.1* mandates school attendance for students between the ages of 6 and 16. This law also applies to younger children once they enter school. According to *O.C.G.A. 20-2-690.1* parents are responsible for enrolling and sending their children to school and the school staff is responsible for enforcing this law. Any student who has more than five unexcused absences in a school year is truant. School days missed as a result of an out of school suspension shall not count for the purpose of determining student truancy.

Failure to comply with Georgia's Compulsory Education Law (O.C.G.A 20-2-690.1) may result in consequences for both students and parent/guardians. Consequences for students include, but are not limited to, detention, Saturday school, revocation of driving privileges, and referral to juvenile justice for truancy. Consequences for parents/guardians include a fine of not less than \$25.00 and not more than \$100.00, imprisonment not to exceed 30 days, community service, or any combination of such penalties at the discretion of the court for each absence. Parents may also be charged with deprivation for failure to comply with this law.

Student absences may be excused for the following reasons:

1. Personal illness and when attendance in school would endanger their health or the health of others.
2. A serious illness or death in the immediate family necessitates absences from school.
3. Absences mandated by other governmental agencies, including pre-induction physical examinations for service in the armed forces, or court ordered.
4. Observing a religious holiday that necessitates an absence from school.
5. Conditions that render attendance impossible or hazardous to their health or safety.
6. Registering to vote or voting, for a period not to exceed one day.
7. A maximum of five (5) school days per school year may be excused for students whose parent or legal guardian is in military service in the armed forces of the United States or the National Guard in order for the student to visit with his or her parent or legal guardian prior to such

parent's or legal guardian's deployment overseas to a combat zone or combat support posting or during the parent's or guardian's leave from such a deployment.

(Note: Students serving as pages for the Georgia General Assembly are counted present on the days serving in the Assembly. In addition, students who are present for at least one-half of the instructional day shall be counted present partial attendance).

Full-day school attendance is very important to student success. Students who arrive late or leave early miss important segments of classroom instruction.

Student Code of Conduct *(see separate document)*

Clubs and Organizations

Clubs and organizations are available at several Barrow County Schools for student participation. The clubs and organizations that are available are listed in student handbooks/agendas. If you do **NOT** want your child to participate in a club or organizations you must notify the principal in writing by completing the clubs and organizations section of the policy signature letter. You may obtain a policy signature letter from the school office. If a club or organization not listed below is started during the school year, students will have to have parental permission prior to participation.

Prohibition Against Bullying

The Barrow County School District prohibits conduct which may be construed as 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 data or software that is accessed through a computer, computer system, computer network, or other electronic technology of a local school system, 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.

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.

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/Testing/.

TEENAGE AND ADULT DRIVER RESPONSIBILITY ACT (TAADRA) (MS/ HS only)

Georgia's Teen-age and Adult Driver Responsibility Act (TAADRA) of 1997, requires that local School systems certify that a student's attendance pattern and discipline record permits him or her to have a Georgia learner's permit or driver's license. Student's driver's licenses may be suspended for the following reasons.

1. Has dropped out of school without graduating and has remained out of school for ten consecutive school days.
2. Has ten or more school days of unexcused absences in the current academic year or ten or more school days of unexcused absences in the previous academic year.
3. Has been found in violation by a hearing officer, panel, or tribunal of one of the following offenses, has received a change in placement for committing one of the following offenses, or has waived his or her right to a hearing and pleaded guilty to one of the following offenses:
 - Threatening, striking, or causing bodily harm to a teacher or other school personnel;
 - Possession or sale of drugs or alcohol on school property or at a school sponsored event;
 - Possession or use of a weapon on school property or at a school sponsored event. (The term weapon is defined by Georgia Code Section 16-11-127.1 but shall not include any part of an archeological or cultural exhibit brought to school in connection with a school project.);
 - Any sexual offense prohibited under Georgia law (Chapter 6 of Title 16);
 - Causing substantial physical or visible bodily harm to or seriously disfiguring another person, including another student.

More information on TAADRA can be found on the Georgia Department of education website at http://www.doe.k12.ga.us/sia_titleiv.aspx?PageReq=SIATaadra