

Loris Middle School

Student Handbook

“The beautiful thing about learning is that no one can take it away from you.” ~ BB King

5209 Hwy. 66, Loris, SC 29569
843.756.2181
FAX 843.756.0522

[LMS Webpage](#)

[LMS Facebook Page](#)

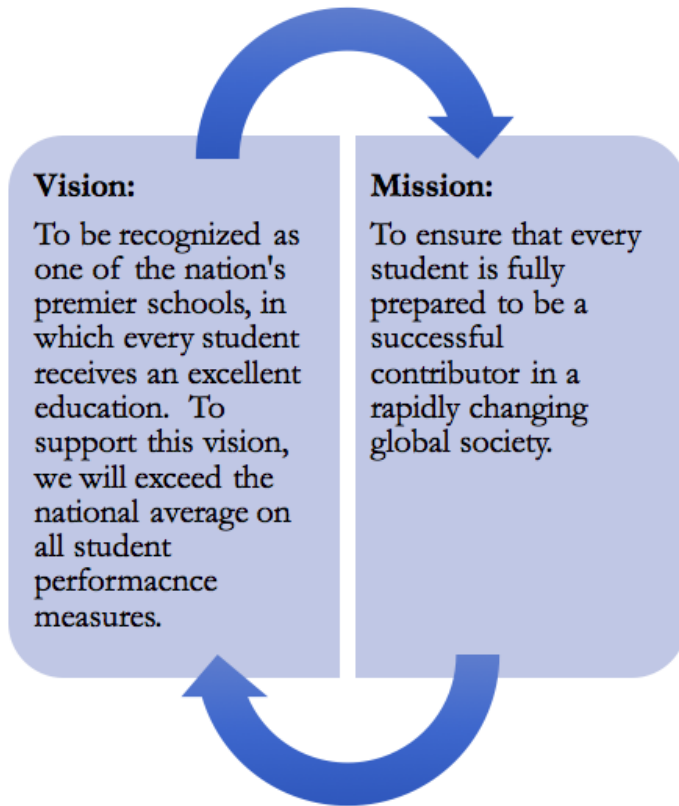
[PowerSchool Parent Portal](#)



#PowerInThePride



Loris Middle School



The faculty and staff of Loris Middle School extend a personal welcome to you and your parents as we begin a new school year. Middle school will be a time of change and new experiences for incoming sixth graders and continued growth and development for seventh and eighth graders. We hope you will take advantage of the many opportunities that will be provided for you.

This handbook and the [Horry County Schools Parent/Student Guide](#) will provide answers to many of your questions concerning school situations. Please read the resources carefully. The information contained here is gathered to help you have a successful, satisfying experience at Loris Middle School.

You are surrounded by teachers, staff members, and administrators who want you to succeed. We care about you and look forward to watching you grow academically, socially, and emotionally throughout the year.

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Loris Middle School does not discriminate on the basis of race, sex, age, national or ethnic origin, religion or disability in the educational programs and activities it operates or in employment opportunities. Loris Middle School complies with the provision Title VI and Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended; Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973. If there are any questions, please call 843.756.2181

General School Information

Attendance

Excused absences are unavoidable absences resulting from such circumstances as illness, death in the family, or home emergencies. The student who has an excused absence must arrange for make-up work on the day he/she returns to school. Following any absences, parents are required to send a note to Ms. Robin Baczkowski, Data Quality Clerk, on the day of the child's return stating the reason for the absence. Students are asked to place the note in Mrs. Baczkowski's folder in the front office or take it directly to her by 8am. Any time a note is not sent, the absence will be coded unexcused. Excessive absences may result in grade level retention. Students are only allowed Educational Trips and 3 Hardships per year. Please see Mrs. Baczkowski to complete the principal approval form. A student may miss no more than ten days per school year per class. A student absent for more than ten days may appeal for subject credit or promotion by furnishing a doctor's statement of absence due to medical reasons to the principal. Intervention for unlawful absences will include parent conferences and, if necessary, referral to the District Attendance Supervisor. If you have questions regarding attendance, contact Mrs. Robin Baczkowski at 756-2181, extension 3405.

Assemblies

Assembly programs are an important part of a student's educational experience. Students must always treat performers and participants with respect. The following procedures will be followed:

- Applaud only at the appropriate time.
- Whistling, loud noises, boos, or stomping on bleachers are not allowed.
- Remain seated with your class until given permission to move
- Talking is not permitted during a presentation.

Awards Day

The Awards Day programs recognize students for their academic achievement each quarter. Students earn rewards at various levels.

- All A's in Academics & S's in Exploratories
- A's and B's in Academics & S's in Exploratories
- Connections Awards
- Perfect Attendance
- Special Acknowledgments Per Quarter

Behavior in the Classroom

In order to be successful at school, students must come to class prepared with paper, pencil, earbuds, and other materials required by the teacher, do all assignments given to them by teachers, and not disrupt the classroom or disturb other students. Disruptive students will be disciplined by the teacher,

or for extreme or severe disruptions, may be issued an office referral and sent to the administrative team.

Books

Students are responsible for the books they are issued, and students are required to pay for lost or damaged books. If a book is lost, the student should get the price from his/her teacher and pay the bookkeeper in the office. If the book is found later, the money will be refunded.

- Never throw, sit on, leave or write in your textbooks or library books.
- Keep up with your books; don't let anyone borrow them; don't put them in someone else's locker; and never leave them unattended.

Bookbags

Bookbags will be stored in student lockers. Classrooms and chairs are not able to accommodate bookbags and may cause a trip hazard. Multiple locker breaks will be established.

Bus Information

Bus routes are coordinated through the Transportation Supervisor, Anthony Hemingway, at LHS for the Loris area. A student may be suspended from riding the bus for misconduct. Profanity, fighting, disobedience, or disrespect of the driver will not be tolerated. Contact the school or the bus supervisor at 843-390-6822 to report any concerns about bus routes, pick up time, or other safety issues. If your child needs to ride a different bus or be a car rider for a day, you must send a note with the details and a number where you can be reached during the day for confirmation. The note should be turned in at the front office first thing in the morning. No changes in transportation will be taken over the phone or after 2:45pm.

Cafeteria Program

LMS will provide breakfast and lunch meals to all students at no cost. If you have questions, you may contact Mrs. Sabrina Wilson at 756-2181, extension 423308.

Car Riders

Car riders are dropped off at the cafeteria and picked up in front of the school; they should be picked up promptly at dismissal. Cars are not allowed in the bus loading/unloading area. Cars should stay in the circle to pick up students. Do not park in the lot unless you are coming inside the school. Students not picked up after dismissal will wait in the lobby area of the school.

Cell Phones/Telephone Use

We discourage students from bringing cell phones to school because they may get lost, stolen, or broken. Students may use a phone with an adult's permission if there is an emergency. However, if you allow your child to bring a cell phone to school,

please refer to the District handbook for policies. **We are not responsible for lost, stolen, or damaged cell phones or other personal electronic items.** Students are not allowed to use school phones unless prior approval has been obtained from office personnel and/or classroom teachers. Please do not ask us to deliver messages unless it is an emergency. Telephone messages disrupt instruction. In emergency situations, you may leave messages with the front desk, and we will deliver the message. After the school day has ended, students may use the office phone as necessary once permission is granted by school officials. If a cell phone disruption impacts the learning environment, a referral may be issued.

Classes

Our school operates on an eight period day which includes the following 60 minute classes: Math, English Language Arts, Science, and Social Studies. Each semester, each student has two exploratory periods for 45 minutes each during which up to four classes may be taken during the year. Students also attend lunch with their grade level peers for 30 minutes daily.

Communication

LMS maintains newsletters, Facebook Page, and a website for you to stay abreast of current events and school initiatives.

Dances

Extracurricular activities, including dances, are a privilege for students who have excellent conduct records at Loris Middle School. All activities are chaperoned by staff and parent volunteers. Students should wear clothing which is comfortable and which meets school dress code guidelines. These dances begin at 3:30 pm and end at 5:00 pm. The admission fee is \$3. Dances will be scheduled and published in the newsletter. Students must have returned a signed permission slip in order to attend. If student is not picked up by 5:30 pm, then the student may lose the privilege to come to the next dance.

Dress Code

See information page below and refer to the [Horry County Schools Parent/Student Guide](#) for a detailed description of acceptable dress. Parents may be called to bring a change of clothing, or the child will be issued alternative clothing upon availability.

Family-School Parenting Room

Our family-school parenting room is available in our guidance office, as a resource to help the school, parents, and volunteers work together. Resources are available for parents to borrow. Various programs and classes will be offered during the year for parents and volunteers, as well as community events.

Field Studies

Academic field studies are enrichment activities. Students who participate must have written parental permission prior to leaving the school campus. Students who have office referrals or academic deficiencies may, upon the recommendation of the principal, become ineligible to participate.

Last updated: 2/12/23

Guidance Services

The guidance office assists students and parents with educational and vocational planning, maintains student records, provides group, and individual counseling, coordinates fall and spring testing (state and nationally mandated tests), and registration of all students. The staff also serves as a liaison with other service agencies.

Guidelines for Behavior

The following are five guidelines for behavior at school and throughout life. These are not rules but are guides for living:

1. Trustworthiness
2. Truthfulness
3. Active Listening
4. No Put Downs
5. Personal Best

Life skills are necessary for the workplace and are incorporated as daily expectations of all students: Integrity - to act according to a sense of what's right and wrong

- ★ Initiative - to do something, of one's own free will, because it should be done
- ★ Flexibility - to be willing to alter plans
- ★ Perseverance - to keep trying
- ★ Organization - to keep things orderly and ready to use
- ★ Sense of Humor - to laugh and be playful without harming others
- ★ Effort - to do your best
- ★ Common Sense - to use good judgment
- ★ Problem-Solving - to create solutions in difficult situations and everyday problems
- ★ Responsibility - to be accountable for your actions
- ★ Patience - to wait calmly for someone or something

Hallway Traffic Procedures

Movement in the halls should be orderly, efficient, and quiet. Students are to walk on the right side of the corridor at all times. Students should walk on the blue line/paw prints on the main hallway. Please refrain from stopping. Remember that since each grade level is on a different schedule, some classes are in session during class changes.

Insurance

Horry County Schools provides limited student accident insurance for all students at no cost to the family. It is secondary to any other insurance coverage and only covers accidents occurring on school property during school hours up to the policy's limits. See the [Horry County Schools Parent/Student Guide](#) for more information.

Lockers

In order to eliminate problems before they occur with lockers, please adhere to the following procedures:

1. Lock combinations must not be shared with others.
2. All lockers are subject to inspection and to the subsequent removal of non-school related items.
3. Stickers and decals may not be used on lockers.

4. Sharing of lockers is not allowed unless the student is assigned to share a locker by the teacher.
5. Personal locks may not be used on a locker without permission from an administrator.

Learning Commons/Media Center

The Learning Commons houses thousands of books and many periodicals for student use. Additionally, students may have papers printed for a small fee. We also have a 3D printer in the Learning Commons for student use. It is open 30 minutes before school each morning and remains open throughout the day and for 30 minutes after school closes. A pass is required in the morning before school begins in order to go to the Learning Commons. Limits are placed on the length of time materials may be checked out, and fines will be charged for overdue materials.

Nurse

Loris Middle School has a full-time nurse, Mrs. Tina Springer, who provides emergency care for illnesses and injuries. She will monitor immunization records and dispense medicine. All medications, either prescription or over-the-counter, must have a form on file. When the nurse is not present, medicine will be dispensed by the adult in the office who has been trained by Nurse Springer. The school nurse may be reached at 756-2181, extension 423401.

Off-limits Areas

The following areas are off-limits to students

- Hallways where students do not have classes
- Teachers' workrooms
- Retention pond and ditches bordering the school
- Any hallway during class time without a pass/permission

Open House

Open House is held in August of each school year. Parents are encouraged to attend to learn more about our school programs and expectations.

Organizers

Students are not required to have an organizer, but may obtain one from the guidance office, if needed.

Parent Conferences

Structured parent conference nights are held bi-annually after the completion of the first and third quarter of the school year. Parents may meet with teachers as needed throughout the year. These conferences are usually held during the teacher's planning period. Parents are encouraged to contact their child's teacher directly by email or phone to schedule a conference. Advance notice is requested but not required so that all participants needed may be prepared and in attendance.

Personalized Digital Learning

Students are issued a district-owned electronic device for instructional use and may only download applications that are

educational. Appropriate consequences including fees will be issued for any misuse of the device or damage to the device. Students who willfully destroy or deface the device will be required to pay for a replacement. Click [here](#) for more Information about HCS PDL.

PowerSchool

Horry County Schools [PowerSchool Parent Portal](#) is a great way for parents to keep track of their child's report card grades, attendance, class schedules, and more through the Internet. Please contact Mrs. Robin Baczkowski, Data Quality Clerk to set up your account.

Safe Schools Act

It is illegal for any person to bring a weapon (gun, knife, or any object that could cause physical injury) on the school campus. This provision includes look-alike objects. When students possess weapons, the police will be called. The school will press charges and recommend that the student be expelled for the year. It is also illegal for any person to threaten (physically, orally, or in writing) or to strike or hit any staff member. The police will be called for any serious violation that requires their assistance and appropriate charges will be filed.

Safety Drills

The safety and welfare of our students and staff is our highest priority at Loris Middle School. Throughout the school year, we conduct safety drills, such as fire, severe weather, intruder, earthquake, tornado, and bus. Prior to these drills, your child's teacher will thoroughly review procedures with the students.

School Pictures

You may purchase regular school pictures, which will be taken in the fall, and special full body pictures to be taken in the spring. Buddy pictures are also available in the spring.

Search Provision

Administrators have the authority to search book bags, lockers, or persons when they feel that there is a reasonable suspicion that an individual is in possession of weapons, illegal substances or stolen property. School grounds and facilities will receive periodic searches by R.A.I.D. Corps, a team of highly trained handlers and canines employed to conduct unannounced school inspections.

Student Behavior

Please refer to the [Horry County Schools Parent/Student Guide](#) for detailed district and state guidelines governing student behavior. These documents outline rights and responsibilities of students regarding conduct and safety issues. Parents should read these carefully and discuss them fully with students. We will work with students and parents to assure that all students are provided a safe, orderly learning environment. Loris Middle School will adhere to all policies described. When minor infractions occur, we will conference with individual students, assign detentions, or contact parents if necessary. Serious infractions require parent conferences and may result in

over-night suspensions, in- school or out-of-school suspensions, transfer to the Horry County Education Center, or expulsions.

Test Correction Policy

Test Category Only - 50% (2 per quarter, per class)

- Corrections permitted on the test with explanations of why they got the questions wrong - can earn up to 50% of their points not earned on the original test(ex. 50, then they can earn 25 pts back = 75)

OR

- Teacher can provide remediation to students and incorporate assignments that will allow them to earn up to 50% of the points not earned on the original test
- Time Frame > The student must request to complete the test correction before the next test. Ex. Test 1 must be corrected prior to taking Test 2. A student can't request to correct Test 1 after Test 2.
- End of Quarter > In preparation for high school expectations, for the final test grade, there will be **no** corrections - if a test falls within the last week of the quarter, students cannot make corrections. Projects and Text Dependent Analysis (TDA) Projects are not applicable to this correction policy.

Visiting the School

We encourage parents to make frequent contact with our school, to attend school functions, and to volunteer as chaperones or tutors. We welcome visitors. We ask that you check in at the main office when you arrive, so we may issue you an identification pass. Contact the school, and we will set up conferences or observation times for you. We do not allow students from other schools to visit during school hours. Please give a 24 hour notice, if you can.

Volunteers

Volunteers provide many valuable services to the children and faculty of the school. If you have some time available, even if it's just for one hour a week, we would love for you to get involved and make our school an even better place for our children. Activities such as reading with a child, doing clerical work for a teacher, or assisting with PTO projects are always appreciated. Apply now to Volunteer:

<https://bib.com/SecureVolunteer/HORRY-COUNTY-SCHOOLS/>

Withdrawals and Transfers

Students moving to another school (in or out of the district or state) should get their parent to request transfer information from the guidance office staff.

Yearbook

A very nice hardcover yearbook will be published again this year. The cost is \$35 for this full color edition. The yearbooks will be available near the end of the school year. Thank you for your support of our school.

Who to Contact:

Athletics (LHS)	Barry Brooks	843.390.6800
Attendance	Robin Baczkowski	843.756.2181
Bookkeeper	Stephanie Rabon	843.756.9560
Buses (LHS)	Anthony Hemingway	843.390.6822
Discipline	TBD - 6 Joseph Martin - 7 Danielle Hamilton - 8	843.756.2181
Food Services	Sabrina Wilson	843.756.2181
Guidance & Lockers	Nichole Jackson - 6 Jessica Newberry -7 Jason Mabry - 8	843.756.9569 843.756.9564 843.756.9567
Homebound	Robin Baczkowski	843.756.2181
Media Center	Jennifer Neafsey	843.756.2181
Nurse	Tina Springer	843.756.9574
Principal	Kelly Shaw	843.756.2181
Secretary & Volunteers	Stephanie Gause	843.756.2181
Technology	Dawn Hardee	843.756.2181
Textbooks	Joseph Martin	843.756.2181

Attendance Information

Excused absences are unavoidable absences resulting from such circumstances as illness, death in the family, or home emergencies. The student who has an excused absence must arrange for make-up work on the day he/she returns to school. Following any absences, parents are required to send a note to Ms. Robin Baczkowski, Data Quality Clerk, on the day of the child's return stating the reason for the absence. Students are asked to place the note in Mrs. Baczkowski's folder in the front office or take it directly to her by 8am. Any time a note is not sent, the absence will be coded unexcused. Excessive absences may result in grade level retention. Students are allowed 3 Educational Trips and 3 Hardship requests per year. Please see Mrs. Baczkowski to complete the principal approval form. A student may miss **no more than ten days** per school year per class. A student absent for more than ten days may appeal for subject credit or promotion by furnishing a doctor's statement of absence due to medical reasons to the principal. Intervention for unlawful absences will include parent conferences and, if necessary, referral to the District Attendance Supervisor. If you have questions regarding attendance, contact Mrs. Robin Baczkowski at 756-2181, extension 423405.

Tardiness to Class/Arrival and Dismissal Times

Students are expected to report to school and classes on time. Students should arrive no earlier than 7:35 AM. Students not riding buses should be picked up at dismissal time. Students who arrive after the 8:10 morning tardy bell, unless riding on a school bus, **must be signed in by a parent**. This should be a rare occurrence. Tardies are disruptive to the students and the instructor. Depending on the situation and the length of the tardiness, some tardies to class will be viewed as cutting class. In order to safeguard the welfare of our students and to protect instructional time, it is necessary that all students at all times be where they are assigned to be. Students must have a hall pass from the teacher/staff if they are in the hallways during class time.

Late Arrivals

Students should report to the attendance office to receive a pass to class. A parent must sign the student in if they are tardy. The tardy is only excused if the student has a medical excuse. **Upon the fifth unexcused tardy, a referral will go to the administrator.** Any student **not in class by 8:10** is considered Late.

Early Dismissal

Loris Middle School operates under a closed campus policy. Students are to remain on campus from the time they arrive at school until they are properly dismissed. If a student must leave school early, please send a note requesting early dismissal and try to coordinate the time around class changes. A student may check out through the front office only if a parent, guardian, or approved adult comes to school to sign the student out. This procedure is in place to avoid continual class interruptions during the last instructional block.

Bus Behavior Expectations

Bus routes are coordinated through the Transportation Supervisor, Anthony Hemingway, at LHS for the Loris area. A student may be suspended from riding the bus for misconduct. Profanity, fighting, disobedience, or disrespect of the driver will not be tolerated. Contact the school or the bus supervisor at 843-390-6822 to report any concerns about bus routes, pick up time, or other safety issues. If your child needs to ride a different bus or be a car rider for a day, you must send a note with the details and a number where you can be reached during the day for confirmation. The note should be turned in at the front office first thing in the morning.

To assure safety on school buses, it is essential that students and parents recognize the necessity for all bus riders to cooperate fully with the bus driver and to observe the rules that they remain seated on buses and conduct themselves in an orderly manner. The bus driver has responsibility for supervision of students in the bus. He/she may stop the bus at any time misbehavior or threatening behavior offers a hazard to safe driving. A student who creates a disturbance shall be reported to his/her school administrators. Appropriate disciplinary action shall be taken. (Regulation JKD-R, 6/21/99). The following regulations govern the conduct of students and other passengers on school buses serving Horry County Schools. The bus driver shall assure that his/her passengers abide by them. Parents should not try to solve disagreements with drivers or students at school bus stops. Please contact the local bus supervisor.

Video Cameras: Students on a school bus are subject to being videotaped at any time in order to promote safety. The cameras record video and audio. The tapes may be used by the administration in taking disciplinary or other appropriate action against the students. (Policy JCDAD, 9/18/95).

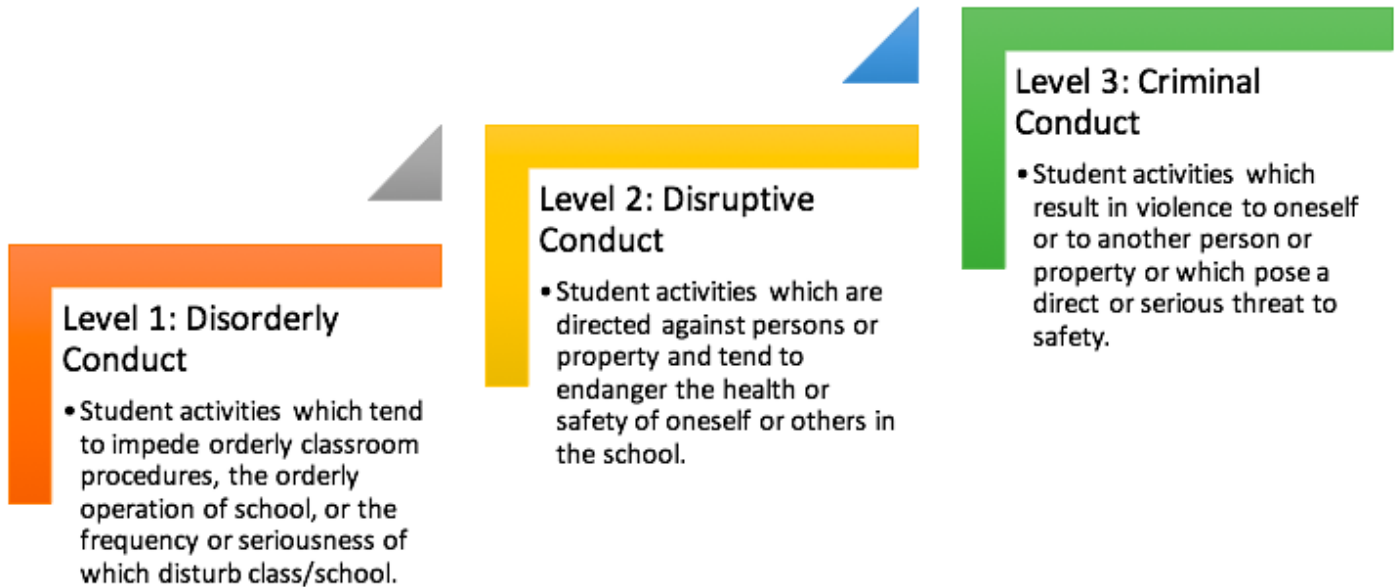
NOTE: Suspension from the bus is NOT suspension from school. The student is expected to use an alternative means of transportation to come to school and to return home.

If the bus supervisor and the principal determine that a student's behavior on the bus poses a direct and serious threat to the safety of himself/herself or others on or off the bus, the student will lose his/her riding privileges for the remainder of the school year (Regulation JKD-R, 6/21/99). Students may also be suspended from school for offenses that occur on the bus.

Discipline Guidelines

Student offenses are divided into three categories by the district:

A student’s prior record will be considered before sanctions are applied. Sanctions to be applied in cases of Level 1, 2, or 3 include, but are not limited to, In-School suspension, withdrawal of privilege/exclusion from participation in activities, restitution of property and damages where appropriate, confiscation of illegal equipment, Out-of-School suspension, recommendation for alternative education program, recommendation for expulsion, and other sanctions as approved by the administration.



Examples of behaviors at each level are below. This is not an exhaustive list. Conduct on the same level may receive different consequences depending on the prior discipline record, circumstances, district policy, and school policy.

<p>Acts of Level 1 conduct may include, but are not limited to, the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Detention violation • Disrupting Class; • Inappropriate language; • Violation of class rules; • Cutting class; • District Medication Violation; • Tardy; • Off limits; • Horseplay • Phone Violation (only allowed at recess); 	<p>Acts of Level 2 conduct may include, but are not limited to, the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Aiding others (provoking a fight); • Bite/ pinch/spit and hick/kick/push; • Inappropriate affection; • Major disruption; • Tobacco, tobacco products, electronic or vape smoking devices; • Refusal to obey/defiant; • Bus violation; • Disrespect; • Confrontation/altercation; • Three acts of Level I offenses. 	<p>Acts of Level 3 conduct may include, but are not limited to, the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Threat to staff; • Bomb threat; • Making a false fire alarm; • Arson; • Fighting; • Assault; • Drug use, distribution, or possession; • Gambling; • Weapons; • Three acts of Level II offenses.
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Dress Code

Students, with parent guidance, have the responsibility for dressing in an appropriate manner while on campus or when involved in school activities such as field trips, sports activities and dances. Personal appearance of students should promote health and safety, contribute to a positive learning environment, and project a positive image of the school district to the community.

The administrative team reserves the right to determine what is offensive and inappropriate in regards to hair styles, unnatural hair coloring, and clothing. In the event the administration determines a student's dress/hair is inappropriate in accordance with this policy, the administration will require the student to call home.

Student dress that is considered appropriate cannot: be offensive; interfere with the educational process, cause disruption, or damage school property. Please note the following guidelines concerning dress:

- Attire must comply with requirements for health and safety. Items such as spiked jewelry, dog chains, and metal toe plates are not allowed.
- Attire must not be immodest, obscene, profane, lewd, vulgar, indecent, or offensive. Pants and tops must be worn so that underwear or mid-skin is not showing (no sagging). Sleeveless shirts should have at least 3 inch straps.
- Examples of unacceptable external clothing includes, but is not limited to, boxer shorts, tube tops, fishnet apparel, exposed midriff/crop top apparel, bike shorts, swimming attire, pajamas/sleepwear/loungewear, halter tops, racer back tops, muscle shirts, and form-fitting exercise apparel.
- Shorts, skirts, and dresses must be worn no shorter than below the fingertips while the student is standing with his/her hands at sides. **Holes in jeans must also comply with this rule.**
- Leggings, tights, yoga pants, or bottoms of similar fit are not allowed without apparel worn over them that reaches mid-thigh.
- Uniforms for extra-curricular activities that are worn during the school day must be modified to conform to the guidelines set forth in this policy.
- Attire must not evidence membership or affiliation with a gang.
- Attire should not have pictures or references to weapons or violence.
- Attire must not display any information about, or advertise for, alcoholic beverages, tobacco, and other such products. Attire may not display any information, drawings, and/or other representation concerning illegal drugs, inappropriate use of controlled drugs or other substances, including use, possession, distribution, and/or paraphernalia associated with the foregoing.
- Headgear such as hats, hoodies, bandanas, sweatbands (except in physical education), and sunglasses are not to be worn inside the building.
- Attire must not contain images or wording deemed inappropriate or offensive by an administrator
- **An administrator has a right to address any dress code item that disrupts the school environment.**

Consequences for failure to comply with dress code

1st offense	2nd offense	3rd offense	4th offense	5th offense
Parent Contact	ASD or ISS During Connections	1 Day ISS	2 Days of ISS	1 Day of OSS

Grading Information

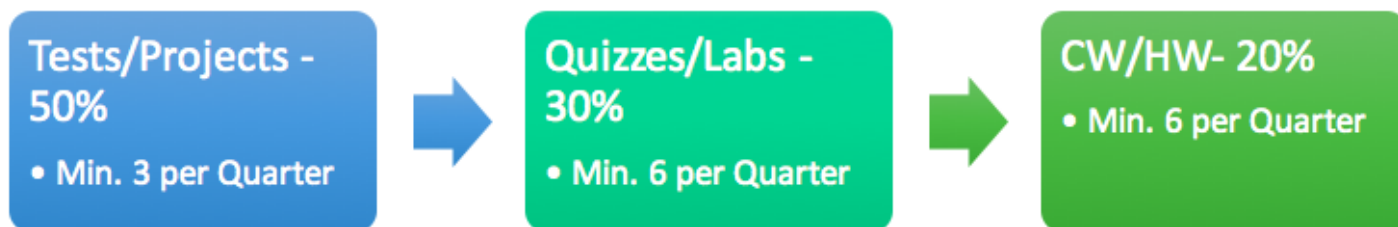
[Horry County Schools Student Calendar](#)

Awards and Recognition

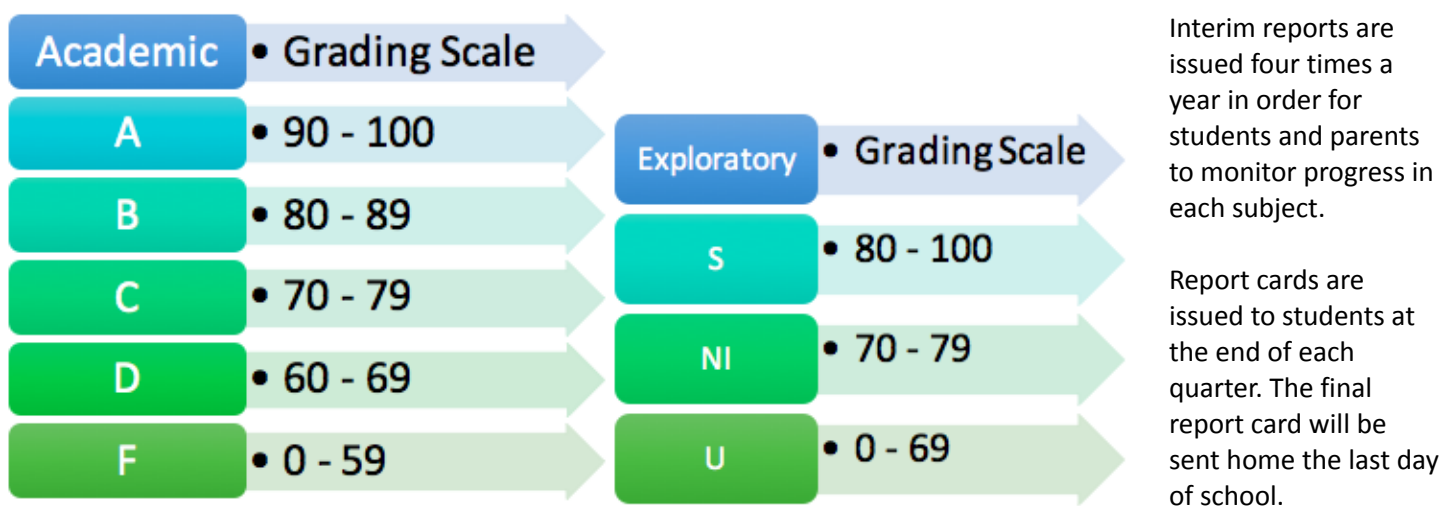
The Quarterly Awards Day programs recognize students for their academic and fine arts achievement. Students earn rewards at various levels. Students receive school logo items and coupons from our community partners as a reward.

- All A's in Academics & S's in Connections
- A's and B's in Academics & S's in Connections
- Connections Awards
- Perfect Attendance
- Special Acknowledgments Per Quarter

Category Weight Information



Grade Scale Information



Parent signatures are requested on interims, discipline reports, and report cards. In exploratory classes, students will receive either an S for satisfactory, NI for needs improvement, or U for unsatisfactory as a grade. Academic grades are reported using numerical grades.

High School Credit Classes

LMS offers several high school credit bearing courses. All courses offered for high school credit include a cumulative final exam weighing as much as 20% of the final grade. Students may earn one Carnegie unit of high school credit by successfully completing the course requirements. Currently LMS offers: Algebra I Honors, English I Honors, Geometry Honors, and Fundamentals of Computing.

Homework

Teachers will assign homework each evening, Monday through Thursday, and very seldom over a weekend or holiday.

Here are the guidelines we follow:

1. Homework should always reinforce skills already covered during classroom instruction.
2. Homework can not count more than 20% of a student's grade for the quarter.
3. Parents are encouraged to contact principals and/or teachers when the homework quality and quantity appear unreasonable.
4. Middle school teams plan together to ensure that assignments are coordinated so that all tests and major assignments are not due on the same day(s).
5. Maximum time for total homework should not exceed ten minutes per subject per grade level nightly; this should include time required for nightly reading (Ex: 6th grade= 60 minutes, 7th grade= 70 minutes, 8th grade=80 minutes).

Promotion and Retention

- Students in 6th – 8th grades are expected to learn, at a minimum, curriculum standards in English language arts, Mathematics, Science, and Social Studies, and meet attendance requirements.
- Students failing to meet promotion criteria will be retained.
- Students may attend summer school for one or two subjects to be considered for promotion. Failing 3 or 4 subjects will result in repeating academic grade the following year.

District and State Testing Information

● MAP and iReady Diagnostics	6th - 8th Grades	[Aug, Dec, Mar]
● Common Assessments -	6th - 8th Grades	[Throughout the year]
● SC Ready - Reading, Writing, and Math	6th - 8th Grades	[May]
● SC PASS - Science	6th Grade	[May]
● EOC Tests	Algebra 1 & English 1	[May]

School Nurse Information

The school nurse is responsible for ensuring that:

- the administration of medication is properly documented
- that therapeutic benefits and side effects are monitored
- that appropriate information is communicated to parents, health care provider, and school staff

Sick Students

If a student becomes ill at school and cannot continue to stay in class, he/she should obtain a pass from the teacher to go to the nurse. After assessment and treatment as needed, the student should return to class or a parent will be called by the nurse. If an accident does occur, the school nurse may administer first aid and will notify the parents and/or call EMS. Any treatment beyond first aid is the responsibility of the parent and/or family physician. Seventh graders receive hearing and vision screenings and dental checks.

Medication

- The parent or guardian of the student must request in writing that the student be given medication.
- The parent and child's health care practitioner request and consent must contain the following information:
 - name of medication
 - dose to be given
 - time to be given
 - number of days to be administered
 - any special instructions
- Consent forms:
 - [Permission for School Administration of Non-Prescription Medication](#)
 - [Permission for School Administration of Prescription Medication](#)
 - [Self Medicating Form](#)
 - [Self-Monitoring Form](#)
- The medication should be brought to school by the parent, guardian, or a responsible adult. The medication will be brought to school in a container appropriately labeled by the pharmacy, health care provider, or in the original container.
- If prescription medication must be kept by the student (inhalers), the student must also have in his/her possession a medication permit signed by the school nurse. The permit will be attached to the student organizer.
- Leftover, outdated medicines will be discarded after two months.
- Medications will be prepared and sent on field trips, when possible, and when advance notice is given to the school nurse. The teacher will be responsible for transportation, securing, administration and documentation of medication on field trips.
- An Individual Healthcare Plan may be developed to assist our school in addressing your child's healthcare needs.

Immunizations

All students are required to have a completed South Carolina Certificate of Immunization. Students entering the seventh grade must receive (or have received) a Tdap vaccine in order to attend school along with an updated South Carolina Certificate of Immunization to prove your child has had the vaccination.

Medical Homebound

Medical homebound instruction is provided for students with and without disabilities who cannot attend school for a medical reason – a mental or physical condition that exists due to an accident, an illness, or pregnancy – even when transportation is furnished. The goal of homebound instruction is to provide continuity of instruction and to facilitate the student's return to a regular school setting as quickly as possible. State Board of Education Regulation 43-241 outlines the provision of medical homebound services. [HCS Medical Homebound Forms](#)