

# Loris Middle School

*Power in the Pride*

## 2024-25 Parent & Student Handbook

School Hours: M - F, 7:35 - 3:45

Class Hours: M - F, 8:05 - 3:25

Address:

5209 Hwy 66

Loris, SC 29569

Webpage:

[lm.horrycountyschools.net](http://lm.horrycountyschools.net)

Facebook Page:

[facebook.com/LorisMiddleHCS/](https://facebook.com/LorisMiddleHCS/)

HCS Student Calendar

Principal:

Kelly Shaw

Phone: 843-756-2181

Fax: 843-756-0522

School Colors:

Blue, Gold, and White

School Mascot:

Lion

LMS Student Calendar

Vision	The faculty and staff of Loris Middle School extend a personal welcome to you and your parents as we begin a new school year. 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. 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.
Mission	This handbook and the <a href="#">Horry County Schools Parent/Student Guide</a> 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.

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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

## Who To Contact

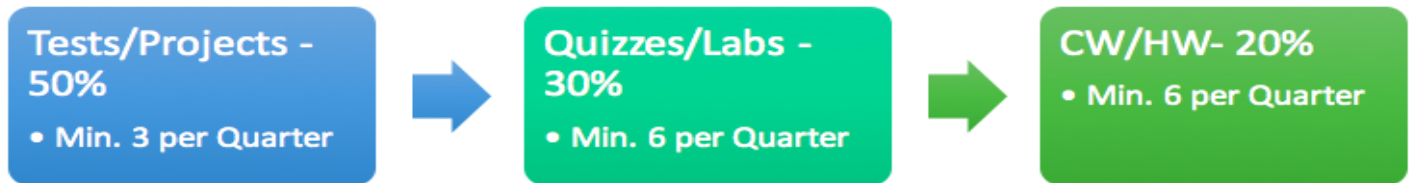
<b>Administration</b>	Mrs. Shaw - Principal Mr. Martin - 6th Grade Mrs. Hamilton - 7th grade Mr. Salmeri - 8th Grade	<a href="mailto:kshaw001@horrycountyschools.net">kshaw001@horrycountyschools.net</a> <a href="mailto:jmartin001@horrycountyschools.net">jmartin001@horrycountyschools.net</a> <a href="mailto:dhamilton@horrycountyschools.net">dhamilton@horrycountyschools.net</a> <a href="mailto:jsalmeri@horrycountyschools.net">jsalmeri@horrycountyschools.net</a>
<b>Athletics</b>	Mr. Martin	<a href="mailto:jmartin001@horrycountyschools.net">jmartin001@horrycountyschools.net</a>
<b>Attendance &amp; PowerSchool</b>	Ms. Baczkowski	<a href="mailto:rbaczkowski@horrycountyschools.net">rbaczkowski@horrycountyschools.net</a>
<b>Band/Orchestra</b>	Mr. Barkley	<a href="mailto:wbarkley@horrycountyschools.net">wbarkley@horrycountyschools.net</a>
<b>Bookkeeper</b>	Ms. Rabon	<a href="mailto:srabon006@horrycountyschools.net">srabon006@horrycountyschools.net</a>
<b>Buses</b>	Mr. Hemingway	843-390-6822
<b>Food Services</b>	Ms. Wilson	<a href="mailto:swilson@horrycountyschools.net">swilson@horrycountyschools.net</a>
<b>Guidance</b>	Mr. Mabry - 6th grade Mrs. Cannon - 7th grade Mrs. Newberry - 8th grade	<a href="mailto:jmabry@horrycountyschools.net">jmabry@horrycountyschools.net</a> <a href="mailto:ncannon@horrycountyschools.net">ncannon@horrycountyschools.net</a> <a href="mailto:jnewberry@horrycountyschools.net">jnewberry@horrycountyschools.net</a>
<b>Nurse</b>	Mrs. Springer	<a href="mailto:tspringer@horrycountyschools.net">tspringer@horrycountyschools.net</a>
<b>PTO</b>	Mrs. Petrill	
<b>Volunteers &amp; Community Resources</b>	Mrs. Livingston	<a href="mailto:llivingston@horrycountyschools.net">llivingston@horrycountyschools.net</a>

## Academic Expectations

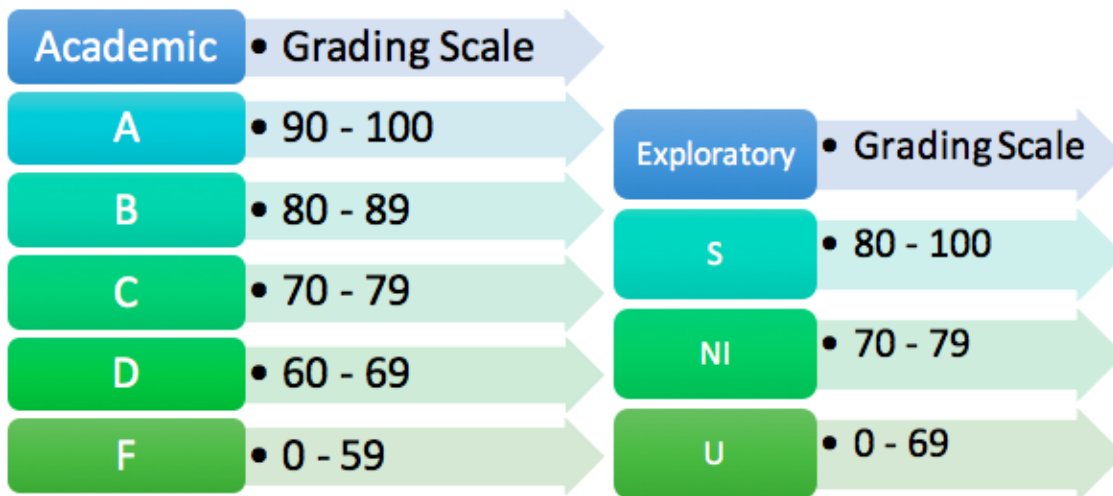
### Awards and Recognition

The Quarterly Awards Day programs recognize students for their academic, behavioral, and fine arts achievement each quarter. Students earn rewards at various levels and for various categories such as Honor Roll, Connections Awards, and Perfect Attendance. Awards day programs will be held by grade level. They will be followed by an incentive celebration with things such as inflatables, music, and movie days. Students can also receive school logo items and coupons from our community partners as a reward.

### Category Weight Information



### Grade Scale Information



### Grading Reports

Grade reports are issued digitally via email. Interim reports are issued four times a year in order for students and parents to monitor progress in each subject. Report cards are issued to students at the end of each quarter. Parents and students have live access to grades and attendance via PowerSchool.

### 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 1 & 2.

### 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).

### **Lions Learning Lab (after school tutoring):**

In our Lions Learning Lab, students will receive assistance on content area assignments, homework, and missing assignments reflected from PowerSchool.

- Lions Learning Lab is typically Tuesday and Thursday from 3:30 pm - 5:00 pm.
- Teachers AND Parents should meet/phone conference regarding exact instruction/assignments that need to be addressed.
- Students will need a completed, up to date form to attend.
- Students will need a form as a "ticket" to attend- unless an electronic copy has been completed.
- For specific questions please contact Rebecca Coleman.
- Bus transportation is available for students.

### **Make up Work Policies**

#### **Work Missed While Absent**

Students who are absent will be given 5 days from the date of absence to make up assignments. It is the students' responsibility to obtain any assignments that were missed. Though the student has 5 days, it is important that they complete and submit the assignment as quickly as possible to prevent them from falling behind. Make up assignments must be completed outside of the normal class time unless the student is directed to do otherwise by the teacher. Contact your child's individual teacher with any questions about make up work policies for assignments not completed while a student was present.

#### **Late Work**

All work is expected to be turned in on time. Students who turn in work past the originally assigned due date will be allowed 5 school days to receive up to 75% credit. A zero must be assigned in the gradebook as a placeholder until the work is turned in. After five days, students will receive a permanent zero for the assignment.

#### **Test Correction Policy**

Students are allowed 2 test corrections per quarter, per class. They can earn up to 50% of the points they did not get on their first attempt. For example, if the original score is 50, they can earn 25 pts back>> highest possible score =75. The method used for test corrections is determined by the individual teacher. Examples of ways students can earn points for test corrections are:

- Corrections permitted on the test with explanations of why they got the questions wrong
- Teacher provides remediation to students and incorporates assignments for remediation

The student must request to complete the test correction before the next test. Teachers must return tests in a timely manner in order for students to abide by this process.

#### **Promotion and Retention**

- Students in 6<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> 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

Students are required to take a variety of district and state assessments throughout the year. Those tests include but are not limited to: MAP and iReady Diagnostics, Common assessments, SC Ready (Reading, Writing, Math, and Science, and EOC tests for students in high school credit classes.

### SC READY

- Writing Test.....TBD
- Reading Test.....TBD
- Writing Test.....TBD
- Math Test.....TBD
- Science Test.....TBD

## Schoolwide Expectations and Procedures

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 after school detention, overnight suspensions, in- school or out-of-school suspensions, transfer to the SOAR program, or expulsions.

Loris Middle School uses Positive Behavior Interventions and Support strategies to increase wanted behaviors and decrease unwanted behaviors. Student expectations are outlined and reviewed throughout the year. We understand that disruptive behavior not only impacts the student misbehaving, but the teacher and all other students involved. We will explicitly teach students our expectations and provide guidance in the implementation of those expectations.

## PBIS Expectations Matrix

Students at LMS are expected to be ready, responsible and respectful at all times. Students will be taught the appropriate behaviors and given opportunities to practice and earn PBIS points for consistently adhering to the expectations outlined below.



# Loris Middle School EXPECTATIONS MATRIX



<b>Ready, Responsible, Respectful</b>	<b>Classroom</b>	<b>Main Hall</b>	<b>Grade Level Hall</b>	<b>Restroom</b>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Have materials</li> <li>● Follow teacher instructions</li> <li>● Give your best work on time</li> <li>● Put cell phones away</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Single line on the right</li> <li>● Voice level is 0</li> <li>● Hands and feet to you</li> <li>● Keep off hoodies &amp; hats</li> <li>● Put cell phones away</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Walk on the right</li> <li>● Voice level 2</li> <li>● Hands and feet to you</li> <li>● Keep off hoodies &amp; hats</li> <li>● Put cell phones away</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Get permission &amp; complete hall pass</li> <li>● Be quick and neat</li> <li>● 20 seconds hand washing</li> <li>● Report any issues</li> </ul>
	<b>Recess</b>	<b>Cafeteria</b>	<b>Bus</b>	<b>Everywhere</b>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Listen for teacher instructions</li> <li>● Stay in designated areas</li> <li>● Hands and feet to you</li> <li>● Line up when the whistle is blown</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Have money in hand and number in mind</li> <li>● Stay single file in the line</li> <li>● Once and done, then have a seat</li> <li>● Clean your area before you leave</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Be on time</li> <li>● Look for signs</li> <li>● Go straight to assigned seat</li> <li>● Hands and feet to you</li> <li>● Pick up your trash</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Have appropriate materials</li> <li>● Use the appropriate voice level</li> <li>● Keep hands, feet, and property to self</li> <li>● Remain in assigned location</li> <li>● Follow all staff directives promptly</li> </ul>

## **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:

- Be attentive and respectful.
- Applaud and cheer only at the appropriate time.
- Boos and/or jeers are not allowed.
- Remain seated with your class until given permission to move.
- Talking is not permitted during a presentation.

## **Bus**

Students are expected to adhere to the school's expectations on the bus as well. Bus referrals will be submitted by the bus drivers if students disrupt the safe and orderly transport of students to and from school. Bus misconduct including but not limited to moving seats, profanity, fighting, disobedience, or disrespect of the driver will not be tolerated. This can result in loss of bus privileges, ISS, and/or OSS. Students who fail to follow the expectations on the bus will receive consequences ranging from ISS to bus suspension. Riding the bus is a privilege. A student can lose their privilege to ride the bus for the remainder of the year if they have extreme or excessive referrals.

## **Cell Phone Use**

The LMS Administration recommends that NO item of value be brought to school. The school or district and its individual employees assume no responsibility for any damaged, lost or stolen devices or lost or damaged data. Cell phones brought to school are to be powered down, turned off, and out of sight from 7:55 – 3:25 with the exception of lunch and recess. Teachers may ask students to store their devices in a visible cell phone container upon entrance to class. Students who are using a cell phone at an inappropriate time may have their device confiscated. Should a student choose not to comply, the teacher will submit a disciplinary referral. Students with chronic cell phone infractions may be referred to school administration, opening the school disciplinary processes for inappropriate behavior, failure to comply, disrespect, or other such disciplinary applications. Phones may be confiscated by an administrator to be picked up by a parent at the end of the day.

## **Off-limits Areas**

The following areas are off-limits to students:

- Hallways where students do not have classes,
- Teachers' workrooms,
- Woods, parking lot, retention pond and ditches bordering the school,
- Any area without a pass/permission.

## **Restroom**

Restrooms are available for student use at designated times. All students present in the restroom during an incident are subject to disciplinary action.



## Dress Code

See information page below and refer to the [Horry County Schools Parent/Student Guide](#) for a detailed description of acceptable dress. 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.

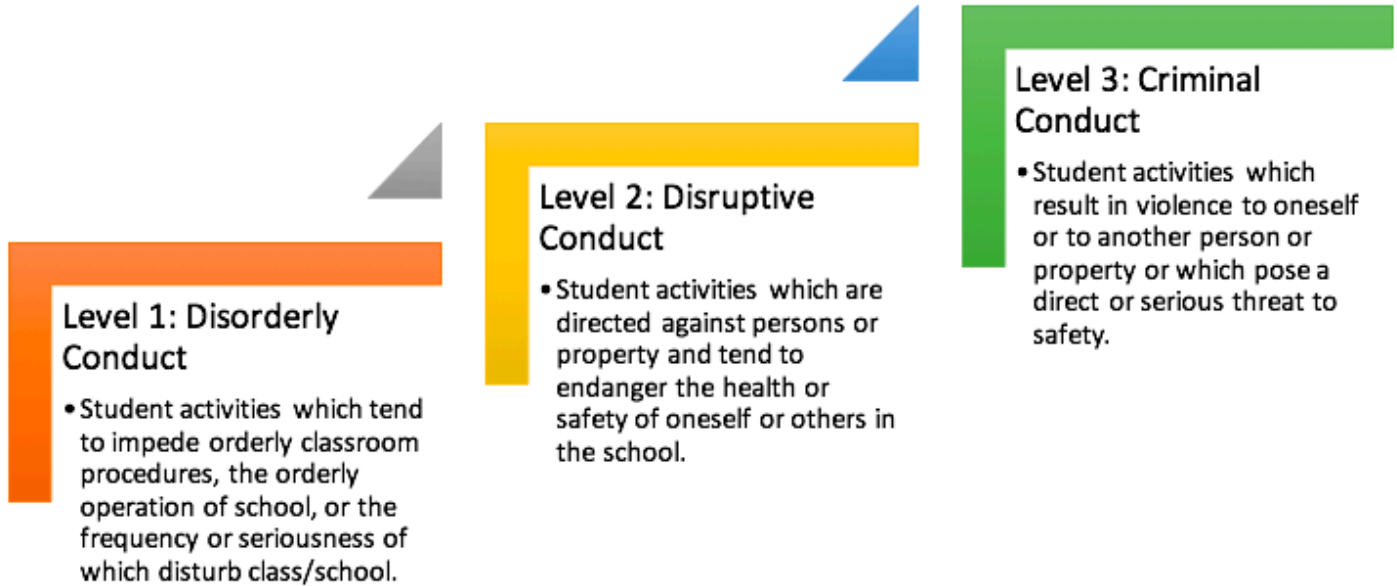
Student dress that is considered appropriate cannot: be offensive; interfere with the educational process, cause disruption, or damage school property. Please note the following guidelines concerning dress:

- 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, skorts, 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.**

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

### Lunch Detention

Lunch detention is a behavior consequence and consists of a student reporting to the lunch detention supervising teacher for each grade level in the cafeteria and eating his/her lunch at a designated table. Students remain at lunch detention for lunch and recess time. Lunch detentions are issued to a student for not following classroom rules or school policy and procedures. Students will receive a paper from his/her teacher with their assigned day. **If you do not report to the lunch detention location/teacher at the beginning of lunch on your assigned day then you will be expected to serve two consecutive days.** If you skip lunch detention twice in a row then you will be given a referral and consequences will be determined by your grade level administration.

### After School Detention

After School detention is a behavior consequence and consists of a student reporting to the after school detention supervising teacher for each grade level. Students remain at after school detention from 3:30 - 4:45. After school detentions are issued to a student for not following classroom rules or school policy and procedures. Students and parents will receive notice from an administrator with their assigned day. **If you do not report to the after school detention location on your assigned day then you will be expected to serve two days.** If you skip after school detention twice in a row then you will be given an additional referral and consequences will be determined by your grade level administrator.

### In-School Suspension (ISS)

In-School Suspension (ISS) may be assigned in lieu of out-of-school suspension (OSS). Students that receive this penalty report after with their books, assignments and materials to the ISS classroom at 8:20 am on the day they are assigned. Students may be assigned to ISS for a full day, multiple days, or part of a day. Students will be given a work accountability sheet with assignments to complete in ISS.

### Out-Of-School Suspension (OSS)

Out of School Suspension (OSS) may be administered as a disciplinary measure in some cases. When a student is suspended out of school, he/she will not be allowed to come on any HCS grounds unless it is with a parent for a scheduled conference with an administrator. The student is not allowed to attend any functions at any Horry County School including extracurricular activities during the suspension. Not adhering to this may result in additional disciplinary action.

### SOAR Academy

SOAR Academy is an alternative educational program for students with excessive or extreme discipline referrals. Students who are assigned to SOAR are not allowed to come on any other HCS grounds unless it is with a parent for a scheduled conference with an administrator. The student is not allowed to attend any functions at any Horry County School including extracurricular activities. Students must meet specific criteria, including community service, to return to LMS from SOAR. For further information about student conduct, please refer to the HCS Parent/Student Handbook.

### Expulsion

Expulsion is the exclusion of a student for the remainder of the school year from classes or any school related functions. Expulsion is recommended by the administration for any activity which violates criminal laws. Expulsion is also applied in cases involving serious misconduct and continued minor misconduct after reasonable disciplinary measures have failed to achieve satisfactory results. Some offenses result in automatic expulsion. For further information about student conduct, please refer to the HCS Parent/Student Handbook.

## General School Information

### Attendance

Excused absences are unavoidable absences resulting from such circumstances as illness, death in the family, or home emergencies. Excessive absences may result in grade level retention. 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. If you have questions regarding attendance, contact Ms. Robin Baczkowski at [rbaczkowski@horrycountyschools.net](mailto:rbaczkowski@horrycountyschools.net) or 843-756-2181, ext. 423405.

### Absence Procedures

- Student: Arrange for make-up work the day you return to school.
- Parent: Ensure a parent note or excuse is turned in to Ms. Baczkowski on the day of the child's return.
  - Parent notes are unexcused absences. A parent can request a principal approved absence.

### Principal Approved Absences

- Students are only allowed Educational Trips and 3 Hardships per year.
- Please see Ms. Baczkowski to complete the principal approval form.

### Excessive Absences

- A student may miss no more than **ten days** per school year per class.
- Excessive absences may result in grade level retention.
- Excessive absences for outside services such as counseling, OT, etc. may also result in truancy
- Intervention for unlawful absences will include
  - parent conferences and, if necessary,
  - referral to the District Attendance Supervisor

### Arrival and Dismissal

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 are not in class by 8:05 am will be marked tardy.

### Late Arrivals

Students who arrive after the 8:05 morning tardy bell, unless riding on a school bus, **must be signed by an adult.** Students will receive an unexcused tardy pass to class. This should be a rare occurrence. Tardies are disruptive to the students and the instructor. The tardy is only excused if the student has a medical excuse. **Upon the fourth unexcused tardy, a referral will go to the administrator for disciplinary action.**

### 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. Students will not be dismissed after 2:50 unless prior approval has been given by Mrs. Shaw. Excessive earlier dismissals may affect a student's grade and attendance, resulting in summer school.

### Tardies

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 are in their assigned location at all. Students must have a hall pass from the teacher/staff if they are in the hallways during class time.

## **Cafeteria Program**

LMS will provide breakfast and lunch to all students at no cost. If you have questions, you may contact Mrs. Sabrina Wilson at 756-2181, extension 423308. Breakfast will be served in the cafeteria. If students bring in their own breakfast, it must be consumed in the cafeteria. A la carte items may still be purchased.

## **Cheating and Plagiarism**

Cheating and plagiarism may result in the student receiving a zero for the assignment with no opportunity to re-do the assignment. There are instances where cheating and/or plagiarism may result in a referral to your grade level administrator. Every LMS student is expected to uphold the highest standards of honor with regard to academics, activities, and other school-related pursuits.

## **Classes**

Our school operates on a seven period day which includes the following: four 60 minute classes year long classes (Math, English Language Arts, Science, and Social Studies) and two 45 minute connection semester long classes.. They can have up to four different connection classes each year.

## **Communication**

LMS maintains newsletters, a Facebook Page, and a website for you to stay abreast of current events and school initiatives. Download the [PowerSchool Parent Portal](#) app to stay up to date on your child's grades.

## **Dances**

Dances are a privilege for students. Dances are chaperoned by staff and parent volunteers. Students should wear clothing that is comfortable and meets school dress code guidelines. Dances are from 3:30 pm - 5:00 pm. The admission fee is \$5. Dances will be scheduled and published in the newsletter and on Facebook. Students must have returned a signed permission slip and paid in order to attend. Dance tickets will be available for purchase the morning of each dance from 7:35 am - 9:00 am. No ticket purchases will be allowed after 9am for any reason. If a student is not picked up by 5:15 pm or has excessive discipline, they may lose the privilege to come to the next dance. Students are expected to follow HCS and LMS rules and procedures at the dance. Students who misbehave may receive disciplinary action and not be allowed to attend the next dance.

## **Extracurricular Activities**

LMS will follow health and safety guidelines as established for classrooms and entire schools. LMS offers a variety of organizations and clubs for our students including Junior Beta Club, Student Government, etc. Students and parents are responsible for making transportation arrangements for students who stay for after school activities.

## **Athletic Programs**

7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> graders may participate in B-Team football, basketball, cheerleading, and wrestling and Junior Varsity or Varsity sports such as soccer, tennis, golf, track, volleyball, and cross country. All students are invited to try out for these programs as long as they meet the eligibility requirements of the South Carolina High School League.

**In order to participate or practice you must have the following information complete:**

1. Current Physical (after April 1st)
2. All components completed and approved at - [studentcentral.bigteams.com](http://studentcentral.bigteams.com) (parent and student side)

**Students with failing grades, excessive absences, and/or discipline referrals may not be allowed to participate in a game. This is at the discretion of the principal and coach.**

## **Family-School Parent Resource Room**

We have a family-school parent resource room in 507. The Parenting Room is a resource to help the school, parents, and volunteers work together. Various programs, classes, and community events will be offered during the year for parents and volunteers. Resources such as computers, printers, and a scanner are available for parent use.

## **Food Policy**

Food is prohibited in classrooms. Breakfast and lunch must be consumed in the cafeteria. Students may have beverage containers with a lid. Glass bottles are not permitted. No canned beverages will be allowed outside of the cafeteria. We strongly discourage students bringing energy drinks to school. If a student shares, sells, or gives their energy drink to another student, they may receive disciplinary consequences.

## **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.

## **Field Trips**

Each grade level will have at least two field trips. Field trips can be for academics, behavior, clubs/organizations, and more. Students who participate must have written parental permission prior to leaving the school campus. Students must turn in payment and permission slips by the deadline stated on the permission slip. No exceptions will be made. Students who have excessive office referrals, failing grades, and/or excessive absences (excused or unexcused) may, upon the recommendation of the principal, become ineligible to participate. No refunds will be issued to students who lose the privilege of attending a trip due to discipline, academics, or excessive absences.

## **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. The 6th and 7th grade counselors will reach out to you regarding goal setting conferences for your child. The 8th grade counselor will contact you regarding an IGP conference.

## **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 and Bookbags**

Students will not be issued a locker. Bookbags will be placed in a secure place in every classroom. See your grade level administrator with questions. Students keep their backpacks with them and must follow classroom procedures regarding their use.

## **Learning Commons/Media Center**

The Learning Commons houses thousands of books and many periodicals for student use. It is open 30 minutes before school each morning and remains open throughout the day. A pass is required 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. Fines will also be charged for materials that are not returned.

## **Medicine and Illnesses**

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. If a student becomes ill and cannot

remain in class, they must obtain a pass and report directly to the health office. Unnecessary visits to the health office are to be avoided.

### **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**

LMS does not provide students with over the counter medicine such as Tylenol. All medications, either prescription or over-the-counter, must be brought in by an adult and have a form on file. Open and/or unlabeled medication will not be accepted. When the nurse is not present, medicine will be dispensed by the adult in the office who has been trained by Mrs. Springer. Students who bring in medication will face disciplinary action.

- 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. Students who bring medicine without permission will be subject to disciplinary action.
- 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.
- 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. **ALL RISING 7<sup>TH</sup> GRADERS MUST HAVE A TDAP BOOSTER BEFORE ENTERING 7<sup>TH</sup> GRADE.** Please provide proof of immunization to our nurse.

### **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.

Last updated: 2/14/24



## [HCS Medical Homebound Forms](#)

**Note:** Sanitary napkins for female students will be housed in the nurse's office.

### **Open House**

Open House is August 17th from 3:30 - 5:30. Parents are encouraged to attend to learn more about our school programs and expectations and to meet your child's teachers.

### **Parent Conferences**

There will be a schoolwide parent teacher conference night after the completion of the first and third quarter. They are tentatively scheduled for November 7th and March 27th from 4pm - 6pm. Parents and teachers may also request conferences as needed throughout the year. These conferences are usually held during the teacher's planning period, before school, or immediately following school. Teachers will not be pulled during their class time for a conference. Parents are encouraged to contact their child's teacher by email or phone to schedule a conference. Advance notice is requested so all participants will be prepared and present.

### **Personal Electronic Devices**

Cell phones, earbuds, and any other personal electronic devices should not be used or visible except during designated times (gym/cafeteria during arrival, lunch, and recess). Headphones are only allowed in class with teacher permission and for instructional usage only. We discourage students from bringing cellphones to school because they may get lost, stolen, or broken. **LMS is not responsible for lost, stolen, or damaged cell phones or other personal electronic items.** Administrators and staff are not responsible for searching for lost or stolen devices. Students will not be allowed to miss class time or wander the building alone to search for devices. It is the student's responsibility to keep up with their personal electronics.

### **PowerSchool**

Access [PowerSchool Parent Portal](#) to keep track of current grades, attendance, and class schedules. PowerSchool is updated in real time. Contact Ms. Baczkowski for information on accessing the account.

### **Prohibited Items**

For the safety, wellness, and fidelity of the learning environment the following items are not prohibited: Fidget Spinners, Electronic Tablets, laser pointers, pen shocker, electronic gaming devices, blankets, stuffed animals, rollerblades, and skateboards. Students are not allowed to bring animals to school (unless it is a district approved service animal). If brought to school, these items will be confiscated and returned at the end of the day or returned to the parent/guardian at the discretion of school administration. Students are subject to disciplinary action/office referral for habitual offenses.

### **Public Display of Affection (PDA)**

Students may not hold hands, hug, kiss, or display any other forms of public affection.

### **Recess Equipment**

Students may not bring recess equipment to school. LMS will provide equipment to use during recess. Personal recess items will be confiscated and held until the end of the day or for a parent to pick up. Repeated instances may result in a disciplinary referral.

### **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 charges may be filed.

Last updated: 2/14/24



## 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 the Standard 17 Bus Drill. Prior to these drills, your child's teacher will review procedures with the students. Some drills will be announced while others will be unannounced.

## School Pictures

All students will be required to take a picture in the fall for use in the yearbook, PowerSchool, and for student IDs. You may purchase pictures during that as well as during the optional spring picture session. Only students with prepayment will take spring pictures. Buddy pictures are also available in the spring.

## School Telephones/Messages

Students are not allowed to use school phones unless prior approval has been obtained from office personnel and/or classroom teachers. Students who come to the office without permission to use the phone will receive a disciplinary consequence for being off limits. If you allow your child to bring a cell phone to school, it is the student's responsibility to keep up with and protect their device. **We are not responsible for lost, stolen, or damaged cell phones or other personal devices.** To prevent disruption to instruction, messages will not be given to students during class. In emergency situations, you may leave messages with the front desk, and we will deliver it to the student during class change. 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 will be issued. This includes phone calls and/or messages from parents sent to students during class time. Students are expected to follow the HCS acceptable use policy for any device used on campus. Students will receive disciplinary action if they use or have their phone during unauthorized times.

## 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, stolen property, or other inappropriate items. 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 Information Change

It is imperative that the school office be notified immediately of any change of address, phone numbers, or emergency information during the academic year. Every student must have an emergency phone number on file.

## Technology

### Personalized Digital Learning

Before a student may use a device, the student and parent must sign the Policy for Student Use of School Issued Devices which can be completed during registration. A paper form will also be available throughout the year. Students who are in good standing with technology fees will be issued a **district-owned** electronic device for instructional use only. Students with excessive fines will not be issued a device until payment arrangements have been made. **Students are responsible for all procedures on use and care of their school-issued device.** Students who pay the Technology Fee will be allowed to take their devices home. All other students will have to leave their device at school. The school reserves the right to check student devices at any time. Appropriate consequences will be issued for any misuse of the device including intentional damaged include but are not limited to: temporary loss of device, permanent loss of device for the remainder of the school year, disciplinary action ranging from lunch detention to expulsion hearing, referral to law enforcement, restitution in vandalism instances. Parents/Guardians may decline the assignment of a device. The technology fee "digital device insurance" can be purchased to help alleviate the cost of the student's device if damaged. Click [here](#) for more Information about HCS PDL.

## TextBooks

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, write in, or damage your textbooks or library books.
- Keep up with your books. Don't let anyone borrow them or leave them unattended.

## Transportation/Bus Information

Bus routes are coordinated through the Transportation Supervisor, Anthony Hemingway, for the Loris area. Contact the bus office to report any concerns about bus routes, pick up time, or other safety issues. Contact your grade level administrator for incidents involving other students on the bus. 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 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 or the school administrator.

Bus misconduct including but not limited to moving seats, profanity, fighting, disobedience, or disrespect of the driver will not be tolerated. This can result in loss of bus privileges, ISS, and/or OSS.

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 2:30pm.**

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 recordings 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.

## Car Riders

Car riders are dropped off and picked at the cafeteria via the carrider loop. 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 are not allowed to walk to the parking lot unattended. Students will not be released to anyone at the cafeteria door or allowed to walk to the parking lot. Students not picked up after dismissal will wait in the lobby area of the school. Students must be picked up by 3:45pm. Student operated motor vehicles are not allowed on campus.

## Visiting the School

We welcome visitors and encourage parents to make frequent contact with our school, to attend school functions, and to volunteer as chaperones or tutors. We ask that you check in at the main office when you arrive, so we may issue you an identification pass. Parents are not allowed to observe classes without an administrator present. Contact the school, and

we will set up conferences or observation times for you. Advance notice is required. We do not allow students from other schools to visit students/staff during school hours.

## **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. All volunteers must complete a background check every three years. If you have already submitted a volunteer application at another school, contact Lisa Livingston, so we can have you added to the list at LMS. New volunteers must submit the background check and volunteer form at this link:

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

## **Withdrawals and Transfers**

Students moving to another school (in or out of the district or state) must get their parent/guardian to request transfer information from the guidance office. Records will not be released to another school without a proper records request.

## **Yearbook**

A hardcover yearbook will be published each year. The cost is \$35. Yearbooks will be issued to students near the end of the school year. Students who purchase yearbooks will get to participate in a yearbook signing day. Advance purchase is recommended because we typically sell out. Thank you for your support of our school.