

**WALTON COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

**MONROE AREA HIGH SCHOOL**

**2017 – 2018 STUDENT HANDBOOK**



**MONROE AREA HIGH SCHOOL**  
BRYAN HICKS  
PRINCIPAL

**WALTON COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

DR. NATHAN FRANKLIN  
SUPERINTENDENT

**Walton County Public Schools**  
200 Double Springs Church Road  
Monroe, Georgia 30656  
(770) 266-4520, Fax (770) 266-4415  
[www.walton.k12.ga.us](http://www.walton.k12.ga.us)

**Monroe Area High School**  
300 Double Springs Church Road  
Monroe, Georgia 30656  
(770) 266-4599, Fax (770) 266-4598  
[www.monroearhigh.org](http://www.monroearhigh.org)  
@MonroeArea

**Monroe Area High School**  
**2017 - 2018**  
**Student Handbook**

Dear Parents/Guardians and Students:

It is our pleasure to welcome you to Monroe Area High School. We are happy to have you as a part of the MAHS family. We know this will be a wonderful year!

The **2017-18 MAHS Student Handbook** is filled with important information regarding school policies and procedures as well as resources to help your student with his or her academic progress. Together the **MAHS Handbook** and **2017-18 WCPS High School Agenda (PAGES)** help guide your son or daughter as they join the MAHS community of students, teachers, support staff, and administrators. We encourage parents and students to review the content together to become better informed about our school. If you have questions that remain unanswered after reading the **MAHS Handbook**, please call the MAHS office and ask for a counselor or administrator. We believe that open and clear communication between school and home is essential to the success of our educational program. Working together leads us closer to the goal of developing excellence for all our students.

We welcome your participation and support during the school year. Working together, we will be able to reach our collective and individual goals. We look forward to celebrating with you the achievements of our students!

**\*\*\*Para conseguir cualquiera parte de este documento en español, por favor pongase en contacto con el administrador de la escuela.**

For additional information, please visit the Monroe Area High School or the Walton County Public Schools websites at:

[www.walton.k12.ga.us](http://www.walton.k12.ga.us) or [www.monroearhigh.org](http://www.monroearhigh.org).



## **GENERAL INFORMATION AND PROCEDURES**

### **MAHS Mission Statement**

*With the assurance of a structured, respectful, and safe environment for learning, the mission of Monroe Area High School is to challenge and prepare students to pursue educational and career opportunities, personal discovery, and responsible citizenship.*

**School Mascot:** Purple Hurricanes

**School Colors:** Purple and White

**GHSA:** Region 8-AAA

### **Alma Mater**

This song is performed at most student assemblies, graduation, and other events. When performed, all in attendance will stand.

#### **MAHS Alma Mater**

*Oh Monroe High, the best school in the land  
True Patriots love in all thy sons command  
With flowing hearts we see thee rise,  
A true school strong and free  
And stand on guard, oh Monroe High,  
We stand on guard for thee.  
Oh Monroe High, glorious and free  
We stand on guard; we stand on guard for thee!  
Oh Monroe High, we stand on guard for thee.*

### **Calendars**

For additional information regarding district and school events, please visit the Monroe Area High School or the Walton County Public Schools websites at: [www.walton.k12.ga.us](http://www.walton.k12.ga.us) or [www.monroeareshigh.org](http://www.monroeareshigh.org)

### **Parent, Teacher, Student Organization (PTSO)**

The PTSO provides additional services to our faculty and staff all during the school year. Joining the PTSO will enable you to become more actively involved in your child's school.

### **Media Center**

The mission of the Monroe Area High School library media program is to support students, faculty, and staff in the pursuit of personal and academic excellence by developing life-long learners that can effectively locate, evaluate, and utilize information, while fostering the love of reading. The Media Center provides a wide range of materials that represent varied levels of difficulty, cover a diverse range of subjects, appeal to all students, and present varying viewpoints. The Media Center provides comprehensive support, instruction, and materials to all students and staff. The media specialist acts as a facilitator to provide individual guidance and formal instruction so students learn to access information from a variety of sources and utilize a variety of technology resources. Students using the Media Center are expected to work quietly on school-related assignments. Students who do not conduct themselves properly in the Media Center may be denied visitation privileges.

The Media Center has a wide range of current print and electronic materials available for student use. Students may check out books, reference materials, and magazines. Students will be assigned a due date based on the material. It must be returned or renewed before that date. A late fine of 10¢ per day per item is accrued after the due date. Please be considerate of others and return all materials to the Media Center promptly. Students are responsible for the materials they check out—lost materials must be paid for. The online catalog is located at [www.wcpsdestiny.org](http://www.wcpsdestiny.org). Students can sign in to search available titles, place holds, and check out e-books.

### **Chromebooks and eSMART**

As part of the eSMART initiative, all high school students in the Walton County School District will receive Chromebooks to use in the classroom for the 2017-2018 school year. All students will be issued a Chromebook to be used for the completion of schoolwork. Students are expected to be prepared for class with a charged Chromebook every morning in

first block. Students must follow the WCSD Acceptable Use Policy when using these Chromebooks. For the detailed policy, please visit <http://wcpesmart.weebly.com/aup.html>.

Walton County School District offers a \$20/year student optional protection plan for the eSMART initiative. Students who choose not to purchase the optional protection plan may be required to check out a Chromebook from the Media Center before first block every morning (no late passes will be written). Chromebooks not covered by the optional protection plan MUST be returned to the Media Center before the end of the school day. Failure to return a loaner Chromebook before the end of the day will result in disciplinary action, which may include ISS, OSS, or other measures determined appropriate by the administrator.

As with textbooks, students who fail to clear outstanding fines because of a failure to return a Chromebook assigned to them, will not receive grade reports or transcripts, and class schedules may be inactivated. In addition, students who fail to return their Chromebook will not be allowed to take their semester exam until the Chromebook has been returned or paid for. Students failing to return all materials may not be able to participate in extracurricular programs. No parking permits will be issued to students who owe Chromebook fines. Seniors who fail to clear all fines will not be allowed to participate in the graduation ceremonies. Lost, stolen, or missing Chromebooks must be reported to the school within 24 hours. To pursue a replacement Chromebook the student must file a police report in a timely manner and bring a copy of that report to the school.

The Media Center is the home of the Chromebook Help Desk at MAHS. Students experiencing problems with their Chromebook should seek assistance from the media specialist or a Help Desk student aide. All eSMART policies and Chromebook information are available through county technology at [wcpesmart.weebly.com](http://wcpesmart.weebly.com). Please see that website for up to date information about the program. If you experience problems outside of school, please email the media specialist at [sarah.sapinski@walton.k12.ga.us](mailto:sarah.sapinski@walton.k12.ga.us).

### **Visitors to MAHS**

**Students are not allowed to bring visitors to school without prior administrative approval and must provide a 24-hour notice of the planned visit.** All visitors must comply with MAHS and WCPS policies and procedures. Parents are always welcome and encouraged to visit throughout the year. Appointments are required for anyone who wishes to visit any classroom, athletic field, teacher, or counselor. **\*\* Note\*\* all visitors to the campus must first check in at the main office.** Persons found on campus without permission will be considered in violation and will be asked to leave or face criminal ramifications.

### **Deliveries to School**

Students attending Walton County Public Schools **are not allowed** to receive deliveries at school from vendors or their locations. This includes, but is not limited to, flowers, gifts from any shops, **food deliveries**, birthday cakes, or articles of clothing. All deliveries will be returned to the vendor.

Parents and guardians are allowed to bring school supplies such as notebooks, pencils/pens, paper, textbooks, etc., as well as articles of clothing and lunch to their child **on an emergency basis**. On a case by case basis, a student may be asked to eat lunch in an isolated area if outside food is brought in. Students are expected to be prepared for school every day, which should minimize the number of parent deliveries.

The administration of MAHS reserves the right to limit the number of deliveries and to discontinue this privilege for students and parents who abuse the policy.

### **Students Left On Campus**

The school is NOT responsible for students left on campus before 6:45 a.m. and after 3:00 p.m. unless they are participating in a teacher supervised extracurricular activity. Any student who remains on campus and unsupervised after 3:00 will be subject to disciplinary actions. All students waiting for a ride need to wait outside of the building in the front student pick up area. **Once students exit the building, they may not reenter.**

Students remaining on campus, and who are not under the direct supervision of a Teacher, Coach, Club Sponsor, or other MAHS Staff, will be considered out of area and trespassing on school grounds. The student may receive an administrative referral and/or be charged with trespassing. (See WCPS Student Code of Conduct).

Students who are attending Monroe Area High School on a Permissive Transfer are to provide their own transportation to and from school. Permissive Transfers may be revoked at any time if the parent or student cannot provide a consistent and timely mode of transportation.

### **Textbooks**

Students are expected to care for their books and other school property in a manner that will prolong their usefulness. Loss, unusual wear, or destruction of school property will result in the student being charged a replacement fee.

It is each student's responsibility to return materials and textbooks to issuing teachers. Lockers will be cleaned out at the end of the year, and schoolbooks and materials retrieved through this process will not be considered returned by the individual students to whom they were issued.

Students who fail to clear outstanding fines because of a failure to return all materials assigned to them, will not receive grade reports or transcripts, and class schedules may be inactivated. In addition, students who fail to return their textbooks will not be allowed to take their semester exam until the textbook has been returned or paid for. Students failing to return all materials may not be able to participate in extracurricular programs. Seniors who fail to clear all fines will not be allowed to participate in the graduation ceremonies.

### **Debts / Holds**

Students are financially responsible for lost Chromebooks, textbooks, library books, school-issued uniforms, cafeteria charges, fund-raising products, etc. Such debts should be paid immediately. New textbooks may not be issued until lost textbooks are paid for or arrangements made for payment.

### **Personal Items**

Students should not bring personal items of value to school. The school is **not** responsible for any lost, stolen, or damaged personal items, including electronic devices. **MAHS will not investigate reports of lost or stolen personal items - INCLUDING CELLULAR/ELECTRONIC DEVICES.**

### **Lockers**

Lockers are available on a rental basis (\$5.00 per academic year). Excessive damage or abuse to lockers may result in additional costs to the student. Lockers may be searched by the administration at any time. Students are responsible for all items in their locker at all times. **Students taking any Physical Education Course will be required to rent a secured locker near the gym. Students will be required to place their eSmart Chromebooks in the secured locker during that class.**

### **Property Searches**

Cars on campus, school lockers, book bags, personal belongings - INCLUDING CELLULAR PHONES/ELECTRONIC DEVICES - and students are subject to being searched by school authorities at any time.

### **School Telephone**

Students may use the office phone in an emergency.

### **ADAP Cards**

Initial cards are provided free upon successful completion of the required course(s). Student needing to replace a lost or stolen ADAP Card will be charged a \$5.00 processing fee. See school bookkeeper for replacement ADAP Card.

### **Student Parking**

Students who have valid driver's licenses and proof of insurance must **purchase** parking permits if they wish to park on campus. **Students may only park in the main parking lot (to the right of the building as you face the front entrance)** and only in the student assigned area of that lot. **Student Assigned Area:** Student parking spaces will be used on a first-come, first-served basis. All vehicles must have a valid, assigned parking permit. **All Parking places located between the yellow line (marked on the pavement) and the school building are for faculty and visitor use only.** Students may not park in these spaces under any circumstances and may be subject to a fine if they do so. In addition, the spaces marked "VISITOR" are not for student use. After parking their vehicles, students are to leave the vehicles and come into the building. Students are not to go to their vehicles during the school day. Reckless driving will not be tolerated. Students who abuse their parking privileges will be subject to disciplinary action and may include:

- Parent or owner of the vehicle will be contacted and will be required to move the vehicle from school property.
- Warning stickers applied to windshields of improperly parked cars.
- Vehicle towed.
- Fines up to \$25 per infraction for repeated infractions will be assessed by the school.
- Ultimate revocation of parking privileges for any period, ranging from 5 days to the rest of the year.
- Students can lose driving privileges if they do not pay their debts or fines in a timely manner.

Parking permits are available for purchase from the school for **\$50 for the school year; \$25 if purchased after April 1.** Students who wish to purchase parking permits must fill out an application and return it with payment. Students who leave

campus in their vehicles without permission may have their parking privileges revoked for the remainder of the school year and face additional disciplinary action.

Students who purchase parking permits during the first semester and fail to meet the academic standard of **passing three out of four classes** may have their permits revoked for remainder of the school year.

Students who park on school property without a permit or students who continue to park on school property after their permit has been revoked will have their vehicles towed at the owner's expense. In addition, student will face further disciplinary action. Vehicles found improperly parked will also be towed at the owner's expense. Parking violations may result in parking privileges being revoked for the remainder of the semester.

**No Items** visible on the exterior or from the interior of any vehicle shall contain the following:

Suggestive language, graphics, symbols, or slogans.

Profane language, graphics, symbols, or slogans.

Any references (language, graphics, symbols, or slogans) to drugs, alcohol, tobacco, weapons, or gangs.

Any references (language, graphics, symbols, or slogans) that are demeaning to others.

Any language, graphics, symbols, or slogans that are not in keeping with the values of the community.

***Student parking privileges may be revoked at any time for code of conduct of violations, attendance issues, excessive tardiness, lack of appropriate academic progress, and other violations of school rules and policies.***

**“DRIVING AND PARKING A CAR on SCHOOL GROUNDS IS A PRIVILEGE”**

**Any student whose parking privileges are revoked for any reason will not be entitled to receive a refund of parking fees.**

## **Scholarships/Grants**

Every year Monroe Area High School works with corporations, small companies, government agencies, non-profit organizations, colleges and universities, and private benefactors to secure scholarships and grants for our students. Many of these organizations assign specific eligibility criteria to the selection process and, at times, the award criteria may change. Parents and students are asked to view specific award criteria at the webpages provided or consult their counselor. The counselors continually work to update the list of school awards and outside scholarships/grants on the [counselor website](#).

**School-Level Honors** See the [MAHS website](#) for complete list of honors and further information.

## **ATTENDANCE**

**Important information concerning Student Attendance can be found in the WCPS PAGES document.**

**Perfect Attendance (Awards and Recognition Criteria).** Perfect Attendance is defined as being in attendance in all classes for the entire day and for the prescribed period (quarter, semester, year, and 4 year) stated in the award criteria. This definition will be used when computing perfect attendance for Awards and/or Recognitions bestowed by Monroe Area High School. Only those absences related to an approved school function will **be exempt** when determining perfect attendance.

**\*Perfect attendance does not exempt a student from a state mandated test (i.e. EOC).**

## **Absences**

**Students with 5 or more unexcused absences from any one period will face consequences up to and including OSS.**

Poor attendance negatively affects student success in school. *Please see that your child is in school every day possible and remains in school the entire day.* Requests for early dismissal should be made only when an emergency exists. Any unauthorized absence from school will constitute an act of truancy. Students with 5 or more unexcused absences and all cases of students with 10 or more total absences will be submitted to the School Attendance Officer for further options.

Parents/guardians must let the school know within three (3) days (in writing) the reason for any absence.

The statement should give the reason and list the date of absence as well as the student advisor's name and student number. The student should place the excuse in the secured Student Excuse Box located in the front office. This must be done upon returning from any absence. The attendance office may contact parents by phone to verify reasons for an absence and to promote communication between the school and the home. All notes are kept on file in the office for the remainder of the school year and are NOT returned to the student.

All serious illnesses, doctor's notes, surgery, injuries due to accidents, etc. should be brought to the attention of the school nurse. Any diagnosed illness such as strep throat, mononucleosis, flu, conjunctivitis, etc. requires a note from the doctor allowing the student to return to school. In addition to placing the doctors excuse in the Student Excuse Box, a copy of the note should also be given to the school nurse when the student returns to school.

**It is the student's responsibility to arrange with teachers to make up all work missed during an absence.** Students have **3 school days**, beginning with the date of return, to turn in make-up work from an absence unless the classroom teacher has granted an extension. After 3 days, partial credit or no credit will be recorded for missing assignments. It is the responsibility of the student to arrange a time, convenient for the teacher, to receive any assignments immediately upon their return to school. Please refer to individual teachers' course syllabi for more information regarding make-up work policies.

Students who encounter long-term illness may be eligible for the Hospital Homebound program (HHB).

## **Tardiness**

**Tardies will only be excused with a doctor's note.**

**1<sup>st</sup> block:** All students must be in class by 7:30 A.M. each day. All students arriving to class after 7:30 A.M., without an Excused Tardy Slip, will be counted as unexcused tardy.

**2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, and 4<sup>th</sup> blocks:** All students must be in class when the tardy bell stops ringing. All students arriving after the tardy bell stops ringing, without an Excused Tardy Slip, will be counted as tardy. ***Students who were absent during 1st Block MUST check-in at the front office before reporting to subsequent classes; students are NOT allowed to report directly to 2nd/3rd/4th blocks.***

The following dispositions will be used in dealing with tardiness:

<b>Teacher Level Consequences Per Class</b>	
<b>1-3 Unexcused tardies (in one class)</b>	Verbal warning by the teacher.
<b>4 unexcused tardies (in one class)</b>	Verbal warning. Phone call made to parent by the teacher stating attendance concerns specific to his/her class.
<b>Cumulative Tardies Per Student for all Classes</b>	
<b>5 unexcused tardies</b>	1 Lunch Detention or 1 After School Detention
<b>6 unexcused tardies</b>	2 Lunch Detention or 2 After School Detention
<b>7 unexcused tardies</b>	Student will receive an Administrative Referral and may be assigned to additional detentions, Saturday School, ISS, OSS, Administrative Probation, and/or loss of Parking Privileges. A mandatory parent conference will be held at this level. Student will be required to complete an attendance contract.
<b><i>STUDENTS WHO DO NOT ATTEND ASSIGNED DETENTION WILL BE ASSIGNED ADDITIONAL DETENTION DAYS OR ISS.</i></b>	

**Checking In to School (Student Check-In)**

1. Students must sign in with the attendance office staff upon arriving late to school:
  - a. Students checking in after missing one or more complete classes must be checked in by a parent or guardian.
  - b. Any student checking in after missing one or more complete classes without being checked in by a parent or guardian will be counted as unexcused.
2. Students with 5 or more unexcused absences from any one period will face consequences up to and including OSS.

**Checking Out of School (Parent / Guardian Check Out)**

Parents may check out their child at any time and without prior notice, by coming in the building, providing proper identification, and signing the checkout roster in the attendance office. With the exception of an emergency situation, the student may be delayed from immediately joining the parent in cases such as testing, redressing during PE, or teacher delay.

**Checking Out of School (Other)**

To check out of school without the presence of a parent or guardian, a written request **signed by the parent or legal guardian** must be brought to the office **before 7:30 AM for verification.**



The note must contain the following information:

1. Student's full name, student's advisor, student number and date
2. Exact reason for checking out and requested time of check out.
3. Phone number at which parent or guardian can be reached during the morning. If the parent cannot be reached by phone, the student will not be permitted to leave.

Students must follow these steps:

4. Students remain in class until called to the attendance office for checkout.
5. Any student checking out must sign out at the attendance office after providing an approved check out slip from the attendance clerk.
6. Students leaving school without properly signing out will receive a disciplinary referral for leaving campus without permission.
7. No student will be allowed to check out based on a phone call or faxed note without an administrator approval.
8. Students at least 18 years old and legally emancipated by the court, with the decree on file at MAHS or WCPS, are required to see their counselor for possible exceptions to check-in/-out procedures.

## WCPS BOE policy JBD –4/11/2014 ABSENCES AND EXCUSES, CHECK OUTS AND TARDIES

A student shall not be absent from school or from any class or other required school hours except for illness or other providential cause, unless with written permission of the teacher, principal, or their duly authorized school official. No student or employee shall encourage, urge or counsel other students to violate this policy.

As permitted under state law and State Board of Education policies, pupils 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. serious illness or death in their immediate family which necessitates absence from school;
3. mandated order of governmental agencies, including pre-induction physical examinations for service in the armed forces, or by court order;
4. celebration of religious holidays;
5. conditions which render attendance impossible or hazardous to their health or safety; and
6. voter registration or voting, for a period not to exceed one day.
7. prior permission of principal and consent of parent or legal guardian. (It is the responsibility of the student to secure and makeup all work for this type of absence, not the teacher.)

For perfect attendance purposes, students serving as pages of the Georgia General Assembly shall be counted present on the days missed for this purpose. In addition, students who are present for at least one-half of the instructional day shall be counted present.

Excuses for absences shall be furnished in writing to the school within three school days of return to school and shall be signed by the student's parent or guardian and shall specifically state the reasons for the absence. All excuses will be evaluated by the principal or a designee to determine if the absence is excused or unexcused. The principal has the authority to require additional proof of the legitimacy of the excuse. For example, the principal may require a doctor's statement justifying the absence of the student, and may require proof that the child's condition rendered the child incapable of attending school. Absences due to out of school suspension shall be unexcused. Medical excuses will be accepted when provided. Students are expected to complete necessary work missed in order to meet standards for the course.

A student who has excessive tardies to school and/or to class shall receive disciplinary action according to the Student Code of Conduct. The principal has the authority to require additional proof of the legitimacy of excessive requests for early checkouts. Students with excessive tardies and/or early checkouts may be referred to the school social worker for educational neglect.

## ACADEMICS

### Honor Code

WCPS recognizes honesty and integrity as being necessary to the academic function of the school. The following regulations are in place in the interest of protecting the fairness and validity of our schools, grades, and degrees and to help students in developing standards and attitudes that are appropriate to our society.

1. No student should give or receive help on an essay, lab report, test, or other assignment included in any class offered by the school without permission from the teacher and/or administrator.
2. No student should take or share any materials pertaining to the day-to-day conducting of a class, including, but not limited to, tests, lab equipment, roll books and teacher's' edition textbooks without permission from the teacher and/or administrator.
3. No student shall take, sell, give, or lend any material that contains the questions or answers to any quizzes or tests in any class offered by the high school without the permission of the teacher and/or administrator.
4. **Plagiarism is prohibited.** Essays, term papers, tests, and other similar requirements must be the work of the student submitting them. When direct quotations are used, they must be correctly acknowledged using the defined citation style of the class.
5. Failure of any student to abide by the principles set forth in this Honor Code will be subject to disciplinary action. The minimum consequence for each Honor Code violation will be the assignment of a "0" for the work involved.

### Curriculum

WCPS offers a varied curriculum that is continually refined and updated to meet the needs of our students. Following the tenets of the Learning-Focused Schools initiative, students will be asked to work towards mastery of a defined set of essential objectives in all of their coursework. Learning will be expected to go beyond simple recall.

**Grading System**

**A** 90-100      **B** 80-89      **C** 70-79      **F** Below 70

**Credits Needed For Grade Classification**

<u>To be promoted to:</u>	<u>Units needed:</u>	<u>Units needed To Graduate:</u>
Grade 10	6	28 units (Max. possible = 32)
Grade 11	13	
Grade 12	20	

<b>Year entered high school</b>	<b>2012-13 and thereafter</b>
<b>Class of</b>	<b>2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020</b>
<b>Diploma types</b>	<b>One Common Diploma</b>
<b>Credits to graduate</b>	<b>28</b>
<b>Science</b>	<b>4 credits:</b> Biology, Chemistry, Physics, 4 <sup>th</sup> Science *Environmental Science can be a substitute for Chemistry*
<b>Math</b>	<b>4 credits:</b> Algebra I, Geometry, Algebra II, 4 <sup>th</sup> Math
<b>Social Studies</b>	<b>4 credits:</b> World History, US History, Government, Economics
<b>English</b>	<b>4 credits:</b> 9 <sup>th</sup> Grade Literature/Composition, American Literature/Composition, 2 more English/Language Arts courses
<b>Personal Fitness and Health</b>	<b>1 credit:</b> ½ credit of each
<b>Foreign Language Tech/Career Vocation/JROTC/ Computer/Fine Arts</b>	<b>4 credits</b> combination of CTAE, fine arts, foreign language <i>*2 of same foreign language if going to a state university</i>

**Pathway Completion**

The GA DOE has placed an emphasis on students completing at least one pathway, such as in CTAE, academic, and fine art. More information is provided below and will also be discussed during student advisement.

<b>Area</b>	<b>CTAE</b>	<b>Fine Arts</b>	<b>World Language</b>	<b>Academic</b>
<b>Pathways</b>	Advanced Accounting, Agriculture Mechanics Systems, Business Accounting, Business and Technology, Web and Digital Design, Early Childhood Care and Education, Engineering and Technology, Food and Nutrition, Air Force JROTC	Band Art	Spanish	Advanced Placement

**Georgia End-Of-Course (Milestones) Tests**

All students enrolled in 9<sup>TH</sup> Grade Literature, American Literature, Algebra I, Geometry, U.S. History, Economics, and Biology are required to take the Georgia Milestones EOC for that subject in order to earn credit for the course. The

student's EOC score will count 20% of the total grade for the course. These tests are administered at the end of each semester.

### **Senior Information - Graduation**

Seniors will not be allowed to participate in the Commencement Ceremony if they have not met all graduation requirements set forth by the State of Georgia, WCPS, and MAHS. In order to participate in the Commencement exercises, seniors **must** participate in all graduation rehearsals. The principal may dismiss any senior from participation in the graduation ceremonies for poor behavior during rehearsals or failure to follow the WCPS / MAHS Code of Conduct.

### **Exam Exemption Policy and Grade Incentive Guidelines**

For the 2017-18 school year, Exam exemptions will not be allowed at MAHS.

### **Student Recognition Program**

The student recognition programs are designed to reward and recognize those students who excel academically or who exhibit significant improvement in academics, behavior, attitude, and/or attendance. These programs are just one way the school encourages students to work to their potential and put forth their best effort in all that they do. Descriptions of all MAHS recognition programs can be found on the MAHS webpage.

### **Athletics and Extracurricular Activities and Contests:**

Interscholastic activities are a very important part of any high school program. Students who participate increase their leadership and social skills and learn to work in harmony with others. They help create greater school spirit among faculty and the student body. Students participating in interscholastic activities must meet the requirements of the Georgia High School Association (GHSA).

### **Report Cards/Transcripts**

Report cards are issued at increments designated by WCPS. The semester grade is recorded on the student's permanent record, which is kept in the office and used to compute the student's grade point average and to figure eligibility status under Georgia High School Association guidelines. Grades are available on-line (Infinite Campus) to students and parents. Students who have unreturned materials (textbooks, uniforms, library books, etc.) or other outstanding debts to the school will not have their report cards released until all debts are cleared.

### **Schedule Changes**

Once the scheduling process is complete, request for a change in schedule will NOT be allowed with the exception of the following:

- Classes that have already been taken and passed (including summer session).
- Failure to meet prerequisites for class scheduled.
- A change in study that reflects an increase in academic rigor.
- An inability to meet the requirements of a class due to health limitations.

### **Advisement**

Students are grouped by grade level and assigned a faculty adviser who, along with the guidance counselors and classroom teachers, will assist the student in making decisions about course of study, post-secondary considerations, career choice, and monitoring academic achievement. The students will meet in advisement periodically and stay with the same advisor for their high school career as is feasible. The advisor and counselor will serve as a consistent contact point for students and parents.

## **DISCIPLINE PROGRAMS**

### **Lunch Detention:**

Lunch detention is assigned by a teacher or administrator. The program is offered Monday through Friday during each lunch period. Failure to serve the entire lunch detention or non-attendance for a lunch detention may result in additional lunch detention days, an administrative referral, or will result in disciplinary action that may include after school detention, ISS, OSS, or other measures determined appropriate by the administrator.

### **After School Detention:**

After school detention is assigned by a teacher or administrator. The program is offered on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays for an hour after school. Failure to serve the entire detention or non-attendance for an after-school detention may result in additional detention days, an administrative referral, or will result in disciplinary action that may include ISS, OSS, or other measures determined appropriate by the administrator.

### **In-School Suspension Program (ISS):**

The In-School Suspension Program (ISS) is a discipline approach that utilizes the removal of a student from the regular school setting to a supervised setting away from the mainstream of regular school routines. ISS may be assigned for a portion of the day or for the entire day. All students begin ISS with an orientation. This orientation examines the expectations and rules of the program. Students in ISS are counted present and complete regular classroom work for credit. The ISS teacher will also have materials for remediation or enrichment that can be used when low achievement is contributing to students' behavioral or adjustment problems. In the event that certain assignments or tests are not suitable to be given in ISS, the student will be afforded many opportunities to complete these under the supervision of the classroom teacher. Students must properly complete all assignments provided by the teachers and, if applicable, additional assignments given by the ISS teacher, and serve all assigned days before they may return to regular classes. Any time missed from ISS due to absence, checking out, arriving late, etc., must be made up before a student is released back to regular classes. A student's behavior in ISS determines if additional days must be served beyond the original assignment or if the student must be suspended Out-of-School (OSS). Students and parents must understand that ISS is an alternative to OSS and that repeated referrals to ISS are an indication that a student's inappropriate behaviors are not being corrected.

### **Out-of-School Suspension (OSS)**

Out-of-School Suspension (OSS) is a discipline approach that utilizes the removal of a student from all classes and activities of the school. Students under OSS are not to be on campus unless they are accompanied by a parent/guardian and report to the office. Students under OSS who come on campus without the expressed permission of the administration will be referred to local law enforcement officials as trespassers. Students under OSS are not allowed to attend any WCPS extra-curricular activity.

### **Prohibited Items**

- A. The following items are expressly forbidden at all times and will be confiscated immediately with possible legal action taken against the person(s) found to be in possession:

Firearms of any kind (to include airsoft type)	Knives, box cutters, or other sharp objects
Fireworks or explosives (to include ammunition)	Drugs, alcohol, or other controlled substances
Tobacco products or paraphernalia	Lighters, matches, smoking paraphernalia, e-vape/electronic cigarettes
Obscene items, books, magazines, pictures, etc.	Water pistols or balloons
Playing cards	Skateboards
Animals/pets	Sport cards or sport equipment (balls, bats, etc.)
Toys	Gang-related objects, symbols, drawings, clothing, etc.
Laser pointers	"Hacking" software, other restricted electronic hardware and software

- B. This list includes examples and is not limited to these specific items.  
C. Students are to notify school staff immediately when prohibited items are found in the school or on the school grounds. Students are advised not to handle these items.

- D. Any prohibited item that is confiscated from a student will be returned **to the parent** unless the item is turned over to local law enforcement in accordance with state and local mandates.
- E. Students are not allowed to sell any items, food or non-food, at school during the school day without prior approval of an administrator.
- F. Students are advised that the administration has the legal authority to conduct a search of students, their lockers, their possessions, and their automobiles when on school grounds. The administration is required to have only a "reasonable suspicion" to conduct such searches. Students failing to comply with school officials in conducting such searches will be turned over to law enforcement authorities.
- G. Students are advised that any adult employee of the Walton County School System, including bus drivers, custodial staff, paraprofessionals, school secretaries, substitute teachers, as well as regular teachers and administrators, has the right to give reasonable instructions to students and expect these instructions to be carried out. Failure to carry out reasonable instructions will result in serious disciplinary action.
- H. In a continuing effort to maintain drug-free schools, school officials will work cooperatively with local police in soliciting and allowing drug dogs to search all areas of the school campus (including personal items, lockers, vehicles), and conduct other searches as allowed by law.

**Cell Phones / Electronic Communication Devices and Other Electronic Devices Used By Students**

***"If possession of an electronic communication device by a student in school is permitted, the local board policy shall not permit the use by a student of any personal electronic communication device during classroom instructional time." (O.C.G.A. 20-2-1183 (2009).***

**The policy stated below will be the common policy used by all staff with the exception of those specified by the teacher within his or her classroom and related to specific instruction.**

**Students may possess and use electronic communication devices in accordance with the following rules and procedures:**

- a) Students may use Cell Phones/Electronic Communication Devices and other Electronic Devices that **are not otherwise restricted**, during the following times: before and after school, during scheduled class change, during scheduled lunch periods.
- b) Cell Phones/Electronic Communication Devices and other Electronic Devices should not be used or visible, and must be completely turned off during instructional time and other times that may interfere with the educational mission of the school or if they pose a safety hazard. (To include but not limited to Test Sessions, Advisement, assemblies, fire or inclement weather drills, restroom breaks etc.).
- c) **Any type of personal listening device to include but not limited to: ear buds, headphones, bluetooth, etc... are not allowed to be used during school hours (7:30 am-2:40 pm). During school hours, these items should not be visible and should be stored away.**
- d) The use or display of an electronic device during restricted periods will result in an Administrative Referral.
- e) Taking pictures or videos and making audio recordings of students, teachers, administrators, or other WCPS personnel **is prohibited at any time** without the expressed written permission of the principal or an administrator.
- f) Parents/Guardians are to refrain from calling/emailing/texting their child during instructional time. In the event of an emergency, the parent/guardian may contact the student via the school's phone system.
- g) **All violations** of these rules and procedures may result in confiscation of the device by an administrator.
- h) A confiscated device will be secured in the Front Office. Devices will be returned to a parent/guardian (or responsible adult assigned by the parent/guardian and confirmed in writing) at the end of the school day. The student can pick up the device **after** a 3-day (school days) waiting period. At the end of the waiting period, students may pick up their device before the school day begins or after the school day has concluded.
- i) The **failure of a student to relinquish** an electronic device at the request of an administrator or other member of the MAHS staff will result in an automatic administrative referral.
- j) The use of any electronic device to cheat, or otherwise falsify student work or official records, will result in an Administrative Referral and may result in a penalty of ISS, OSS, or expulsion from WCPS.
- k) The use of an electronic device during any state or national test administration may result in the invalidation of the test and disciplinary action up to and including expulsion.
- l) The inappropriate use of any electronic device in connection to the Internet will result in an Administrative Referral and may result in a penalty of ISS, OSS or expulsion from WCPS. (Refer to WCPS BOE Internet Policy)
- m) **This Policy includes but is not limited to cell phones, pagers, beepers, radios, tape players, CD Players, MP3 and MP4 players, iPods, ZUNE, Gameboys, PSP, i-Pads, smart watches, cameras, etc.**

n) The school is not responsible to investigate lost or stolen personal electronic devices.

**The principal has the right to modify or revoke the terms and conditions for the possession and use of Cell Phones/Electronic Communication Devices and other Electronic Devices at any time. Changes to this policy will be communicated through daily school announcements and will be posted on the Monroe Area High School Website.**

## Monroe Area High School Dress Code

Walton County Board of Education Policy JCDB states students are to dress in a manner that is reasonable and not distracting to other students and teachers. Any dress of an extreme nature will not be tolerated. Each school principal will make final decisions regarding student dress in his or her school.

### The following guidelines are the regulations that support WCPS Policy JCDB:

1. Students must be in compliance throughout the entire school day (i.e. students may not make temporary adjustments to their clothing in an attempt to correct clothing already deemed unacceptable. The correction must last the remainder of the school day.)
2. Clothing should not cause a distraction to the educational environment..
3. Shirts and shoes must be worn at all times.
4. The highest point of any dress or skirt length must be **no shorter** than 5” above the knee.
5. The highest point of any pants, short, or gym short length (including slits, rips, and/or tears) must be **no shorter** than 5” above the knee.
6. Any holes 5” above the knee must not reveal skin.
7. Skirts, pants, shorts, gym shorts, shirts, and blouses:

Must be fastened and worn at the waistline.	No sleepwear shall be <b>worn</b> this includes clothing and footwear.
No exposed or visible undergarments are <b>allowed</b> .	No sleeveless shirts, dresses, etc. shall be <b>worn</b> .
No cleavage shall be <b>visible</b> .	No part of the midriff shall be <b>visible</b> .
Any holes 5” above the knee must not reveal skin.	

8. **No headgear of any sort**, to include but not limited to hats, ball caps, durags, headbands, visors, sunglasses, bandanas, scarves, knit hats, kerchiefs, and hoods, shall be worn inside the building.
9. No chains shall be worn or be visible outside the clothing. Examples include choke chains, wallet chains, studs, dog collars, heavy metal jewelry, etc.
10. Blankets will not be allowed.
11. **No item of** clothing, jewelry, headgear, or other visible personal items shall contain the following:
  - Suggestive language, graphics, symbols, or slogans.
  - Profane language, graphics, symbols, or slogans.
  - Any references (language, graphics, symbols, or slogans) to drugs, alcohol, tobacco, weapons, or gangs.
  - Any references (language, graphics, symbols, or slogans) that are demeaning to others.
  - Any language, graphics, symbols, or slogans that are not in keeping with the values of the community.
12. **Any “dress”** (clothing, hair color, jewelry, accessories, piercings, etc.), determined, by an administrator, to be **of an extreme nature** is prohibited and is a violation of the Dress Code.
13. All students taking Physical Education classes will abide by the dress code as outlined above.
14. Students violating the MAHS Dress Code will be referred to an administrator or designate.
15. Violations of the MAHS Dress Code will result in the following:
  - **First Offense:** Offense will be documented and the student asked to correct the dress code issue in a timely manner. A parent/guardian may be contacted to assist in resolving the dress code issue.

- **Second Offense:** Offense will be documented and the student will be asked to correct the dress code issue in a timely manner, a parent/guardian will be contacted to assist in resolving the issue. Student will be assigned Detention or ISS.
- **Third Offense:** Offense will be documented and the student will be asked to correct the dress code issue in a timely manner, a parent/guardian will be contacted to assist in resolving the issue. Student may be sent home for the remainder of the day. Student may be assigned ISS, OSS or other punishment that may be required to avoid repeated violations of the Dress Code Policy.
- At any time the student may be sent home for the remainder of the day due to a dress code issue.
- **On all levels of Dress Code Offenses:**
  - If the student is unable to correct the Dress Code violation in a timely manner, he or she may be placed in ISS for the remainder of the day or until such time as the issue is resolved.
  - Upon correcting the Dress Code violation, the student may be permitted to return to their scheduled classes.

***The principal has the right to modify or revoke the terms and conditions of the MAHS Dress Code Policy at any time. Changes to this policy will be communicated through daily school announcements and will be posted on the Monroe Area High School Website.***

### **Bullying Policy**

#### **WCPS BOE Policy JCDAG “PROHIBITION OF BULLYING” 7/12/2011**

All students have a right to a safe and healthy school environment. All schools within the Walton County School district have an obligation to promote mutual respect, tolerance, and acceptance among students, staff, and volunteers. Student behavior that infringes on the safety of any student will not be tolerated. A student shall not bully, harass, or intimidate another student through words or actions. The school district’s Student Code of Conduct prohibits bullying, harassment, and intimidation and is printed in the student/parent handbook and made available to students, parents, and staff at the beginning of the school year.

**The term “bullying”** as used in this policy and in the Student Code of Conduct means:

1. Any willful attempt or threat to inflict injury on another person, when accompanied by an apparent present ability to do so;
2. Any intentional display of force such as would give the victim reason to fear or expect immediate bodily harm; or
3. 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 or visible bodily harm;
  - Has the effect of substantially interfering with a student’s education;
  - Is so severe, persistent, or pervasive that it creates an intimidating or threatening educational environment; or
  - Has the effect of substantially disrupting the orderly operation of the school.
4. Retaliation by a student against another who made a bullying report is strictly prohibited. The retaliating student will be subject to a disciplinary hearing with possible Law Enforcement charges filed.

**For additional information on Bullying, please visit the Walton County Public Schools website at:**  
[www.walton.k12.ga.us](http://www.walton.k12.ga.us)

### **MAHS Bullying Reporting Procedures**

Bullying happens when someone hurts or scares another person on purpose. The person being bullied has a hard time defending him or herself. The negative behavior happens over and over. Students, parents, or bystanders who report bullying will complete the Student Bullying Report form.

**First Accusation of Bullying**, Counselor is to do the following:

1. Investigate the incident to determine if this truly is a bullying situation. (Refer to definition of bullying.) Have student fill out a Student Complaint of Bullying Incident Form.
2. If the incident is substantiated as bullying, speak with the child accused of bullying, inform the child of the specific behavior that is considered bullying and remind student of the code of conduct.
3. Develop a student contract and get each student to sign.
4. Call the parents of both students involved to inform them of the situation.
5. Start a folder and scan copy of Student Contract and send electronic copy to appropriate administrator.

**Second Accusation of Bullying** (if first complaint was substantiated)

1. The Student Complaint of Bullying Incident should be sent to the guidance counselor.
2. The guidance counselor will investigate



3. Parents of the accused will be called and asked to attend a conference with their child. Counselors will provide resources for student and parent.
4. Student will be placed on strict administrative probation.
5. Referral will be sent to an administrator for disciplinary action.

**Third Accusation of Bullying** (if two incidents have been substantiated)

1. The Student Bullying Report should be sent to the appropriate administrator by the counselor.
2. The administrator will investigate and conference with alleged student and parent.
3. Students with 3 substantiated and documented bullying incidents will face disciplinary action up to and including expulsion from WCPS.

### WCSD Nondiscrimination Policy

It is the policy and practice of the Walton County School District to provide opportunities without regard to race, color, gender, religion, national origin, handicap, disability, genetic information or veteran status in its educational programs and activities. This includes, but is not limited to: admission, educational services, financial aid and employment. Questions related to the application and compliance of this policy may contact the school system's coordinator, Dr. Lance Young, at 200 Double Springs Church Road, Monroe, Georgia 30656 or at (770) 266-4520, or lance.young@walton.k12.ga.us.



Important Website

 <p><a href="http://www.georgiastandards.org">www.georgiastandards.org</a></p>	 <p><a href="http://www.schoolology.com">www.schoolology.com</a></p>
 <p><a href="http://www.galileo.usg.edu">www.galileo.usg.edu</a></p>	 <p><a href="http://www.usatestprep.com">www.usatestprep.com</a></p>
 <p><a href="http://www.dds.ga.gov/Joshua">www.dds.ga.gov/Joshua</a> (Joshua's Law)</p>	 <p><a href="http://www.collegeboard.org">www.collegeboard.org</a> (SAT, PSAT, AP)</p>
 <p><a href="http://www.actstudent.org">www.actstudent.org</a> (ACT)</p>	 <p><a href="http://www.gadoe.org">www.gadoe.org</a></p>
 <p><a href="http://www.ed.gov">www.ed.gov</a></p>	 <p><a href="http://www.waltonchamber.org">www.waltonchamber.org</a></p>
 <p><a href="http://www.walton.k12.ga.us">www.walton.k12.ga.us</a></p>	 <p><a href="http://www.monroearahigh.org">www.monroearahigh.org</a></p>



**The MAHS Student Handbook covers many of the school's policies and procedures but not all. Please check the MAHS and WCPS websites frequently for updates and additions. The principal has the right to modify the policies of the school as the need arises. Changes to these policies will be communicated in a timely manner through daily school announcements and will be posted on the Monroe Area High School Website.**