

# STUDENT HANDBOOK

Opelika High School  
2021-2022

1700 Bulldog Parkway  
Opelika, AL 36801  
(334) 745-9715  
[ohs.opelikaschools.org](https://ohs.opelikaschools.org)



## ALMA MATER

Dear OHS

You are the school for me,  
With your dear colors of red and black  
Leading us, guiding us  
Down the track.

Dear OHS

We're bound in loyalty  
To serve thee ever,  
Forget thee never,  
Our dear OHS.

# OPELIKA HIGH SCHOOL

# STUDENT HANDBOOK

## 2021-2022

### **SUPERINTENDENT OF OPELIKA CITY SCHOOLS**

Dr. Mark Neighbors

### **OPELIKA HIGH SCHOOL ADMINISTRATION**

Dr. Farrell Seymore .....	Principal
Kelli Fischer.....	Assistant Principal
Russ Hardwick.....	Assistant Principal
Mike McKee .....	Assistant Principal
Kelvin Philpot.....	Assistant Principal

### **BOARD OF EDUCATION**

J. Kevin Royal, M.D.....	Chair
Antione T. Harvis.....	Co-Chair
Charles D. Beams, Jr.....	Member
Tipi Miller.....	Member
Patsy Boyd Parker.....	Member

Accredited by  
*Southern Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools*  
and  
*Alabama State Department of Education*

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Opelika, AL 36801  
(334) 745-9715  
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WHAT DO YOU DO?

- 1. If you know you are going to be absent—  
Your parent or guardian should make prior arrangements with an administrator.
- 2. If it is necessary to request early dismissal—  
A parent or guardian on the approved contact list must come to the office with proper identification to check-out a student prior to dismissal.
- 3. If you have lost something or found something—  
See Ms. Holley in the Assistant Principals’ Office.
- 4. If you want to see a classroom teacher after school—  
Make an appointment with the teacher and keep it. Parent conferences are to be scheduled through Ms. Holley.
- 5. If you feel sick or hurt yourself during school hours—  
Report to the nurse in the main office.
- 6. If you need to go to the parking lot—  
You Must Always Have A Pass From An Administrator Prior To Going To The Parking Area During School Hours

WHO TO CONTACT IF YOU HAVE A QUESTION

Assistant Principal for students with last names A-F ..... **Kelli Fischer**  
Assistant Principal for students with last names G-M..... **Russ Hardwick**  
Assistant Principal for students with last names N-Z..... **Kelvin Philpot**

Attendance . . . . .	<b>Mike McKee</b>	Free/Reduced Lunch Forms. . . . .	<b>Margaret Purnell</b>
Buses . . . . .	<b>Kelvin Philpot</b>	PowerSchool Login Info .	<b>Gayle Hudmon</b>
Bus Passes . . . . .	<b>Kelvin Philpot</b>	Lockers. . . . .	<b>Russ Hardwick</b>
Change of Address. . . . .	<b>Gayle Hudmon</b>	Parking Hang-Tag . . . . .	<b>Amber Foster</b>
Check-in/Check-out. . . . .	<b>Mike McKee</b>	Problem-Solving Team . . . .	<b>Kelli Fischer</b>
Conferences . . . . .	<b>Hayley Holley</b>	Student of the Quarter . . .	<b>Russ Hardwick</b>
Emergency Contact Info .	<b>Gayle Hudmon</b>	Term Exam Exemptions . .	<b>Kelvin Philpot</b>
Enrollment Form . . . . .	<b>Renita Jones &amp; Hayley Holley</b>	Textbooks. . . . .	<b>Kelli Fischer</b>
Facilities/Grounds . . . . .	<b>Russ Hardwick</b>	Transcripts . . . . .	<b>Gayle Hudmon</b>
		Virtual School . . . . .	<b>Stacey Guyton</b>

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**Dear OHS Students:**

We are excited to welcome you to another great school year at Opelika High School. At OHS, we continue to seek ways to successfully prepare students for college or a career.

As a member of Opelika High School, you are a participant in one of the best schools in the state. In addition to the outstanding academic programs, we offer strong opportunities to participate in the arts and athletics. Furthermore, we encourage all students to become involved at OHS by participating in one of our nearly 80 clubs. We feel that a student who participates in extra-curricular activities can enhance their high school experience in immeasurable ways.

We hope this handbook will be a helpful resource in making this year special. I look forward to working with you and making the most of your Opelika High School experience.

**Farrell Seymore**  
**Principal**

**Our mission is to educate every child every day. We accomplish this by:**

- Partnering with our families, community, and business/industry to maintain a culture of support and responsibility for student success
- Providing rigorous curriculum and engaging instruction that meets the needs of all students
- Maintaining high expectations and performance standards for our students, employees, families, and community
- Valuing diversity and maintaining safe, supportive environments for all learners
- Enhancing trust through effective communication, fiscal responsibility, accountability, and transparency
- Providing students with a variety of extra-curricular, leadership, service, character development, fine arts, and career exploration experiences to expand opportunities for life-long success
- 

**Vision Statement of Opelika City Schools**

Opelika City Schools will partner with all stakeholders to provide a broad curriculum preparing learners for college or career in a competitive global society.



# **OPELIKA HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION**

**President.....Breckin Gould**  
**First Vice President.....Susannah Couey**  
**Second Vice President.....Lauren Landry**  
**Secretary.....Kyler Mitchell**  
**Treasurer.....Blair Belcher**  
**Historian.....Keely Rider**

**Fellow OHS Students,**

**Welcome to the 2021-2022 school year. I am so excited for this new year with everyone at this incredible school. Opelika High School offers so many different activities and opportunities for each and every student, so I recommend everyone try to get involved! This handbook will be helpful in exploring everything OHS has to offer and in answering any questions you may have.**

**The members of SGA and I are devoted to making this the best school year possible. Please reach out to us with any questions, suggestions, or concerns you may have. Now let's make this year one to remember! God bless and Go Dawgs!**

**Breckin Gould**

**SGA President**

## ACADEMIC INFORMATION

### Academic Requirements for Graduation

Graduation from high school is based upon units earned in grades 9, 10, 11, and 12. This year's juniors must take the ACT. Refer to the chart on page 8 for the exact number of units required at each grade level.

Students must pass four (4) years of English, science, social studies, and math—including Algebra I, geometry, and Algebra II (or equivalent course)—one credit (1) in P.E., one credit (1) in career preparedness, three credits (3) in CTE and/or foreign language and/or arts education, one half-credit (1/2) in health education, and four and a half credits (4 1/2) of electives.

It is the responsibility of each student to understand the requirements for graduation, and he/she should develop a plan designed to meet those requirements. All students must carry eight (8) academic units of work per year, four (4) each term. Students must select a plan of study that will enable them to earn a standard diploma, an advanced diploma, or an occupational diploma. **All required courses must be successfully completed.**

### Athletic Eligibility

Students entering the 10th, 11th, and 12th grades must have passed during the last two semesters in attendance and summer school, if applicable, at least six new Carnegie units with a minimum composite numerical average of 70 in those six units. Four core courses must be included in those units passed and averaged. English, mathematics, science and social studies are core curriculum courses.

Students entering the 9th grade must have passed during the last two semesters in attendance and summer school, if applicable, at least five new subjects with a minimum composite numerical average of 70 in those five subjects.

Students may regain eligibility at the end of the first semester by meeting the same requirements listed above during their last two semesters in attendance and summer school, if applicable. All first semester work used in regaining eligibility must be completed by the fifth day of the second semester.



## **Awards Banquet**

A special Awards Banquet designed to honor all students who have excelled academically will be hosted by the school faculty and administration during the 2nd term of the school year. Participation in this banquet is based on a student's GPA.

## **Academic Dishonesty**

*Academic Dishonesty is the unauthorized giving or receiving of information.*

Each student should honorably fulfill his or her academic obligations on a daily basis. These obligations include but are not limited to completing all assignments, preparing assignments independently, studying for assessments, avoiding falsifying on any level, completing all assessments without outside assistance (unless expressly approved by the teacher), and maintaining individual integrity.

### **Examples of Academic Dishonesty:**

- **Copying or allowing others to copy classwork/homework**
- **Using cell phones during testing/assessments**
- **Looking at other students' papers during individual assessments**
- **Copying/taking photographs of teachers' answer documents**
- **Rephrasing an idea or sentence from the Internet and using it on any assignment**
- **Changing data or results for an assignment**
- **Any such or relatable offense that may be deemed as Academic Dishonesty by administration**

The following consequences may be enforced for Academic Dishonesty:

### **First Offense**

1. Zero for that activity **and**
2. Parents notified by the teacher

**Subsequent Offenses** will be referred to the office and may result in suspension. Students will receive a zero (0) for the assignment/activity.

The administration of Opelika City Schools maintains absolute authority in making subjective judgments concerning Academic Dishonesty and the consequence.

**PowerSchool**

Parents and students can view grades, class schedules, attendance records, discipline reports, activity announcements and notes from teachers by accessing the school system’s website **www.opelikaschools.org**. At the beginning of the school year, a student number and personal identification number will be assigned to each student. Parents may contact Mrs. Hudmon or Mrs. Foster in the Guidance Office for more information.

**Problem-Solving Team**

The Problem-Solving Team is a designated school-based committee designed to meet the needs of general education at-risk students. The team consists of regular education teachers, administrators, counselors, and others as needed. The team addresses discipline, drop-out academic and behavioral student challenges. For further information contact Kelli Fischer, Assistant Principal.

**Progress Reports**

Academic progress reports will be sent home every 4 1/2 weeks. For specific dates that the progress reports will be sent home, contact the school’s main office.

**Credits Required for Promotion**

From 9th to 10th . . . . .	5
From 10th to 11th . . . . .	12
From 11th to 12th . . . . .	18
To Graduate . . . . .	26

In addition to meeting the credit requirements, student must pass all four (4) required grade level core courses each year to be promoted to the next grade.

## Diploma Pathway for Students

### Alabama High School Diploma

English	4 Credits	English 9, 10, 11, and 12 or equivalent courses
Math	4 Credits	Algebra I; Geometry; Algebra II w/Trig or Algebra II or equivalent course; 1 math elective
Science	4 Credits	Biology, a physical science, 2 science electives
Social Studies	4 Credits	World History, US History x 2, and Government/Economics or equivalent courses
PE	1 Credit	LIFE (Personal Fitness)
Health Education	1/2 Credit	
Career Preparedness	1 Credit	
CTE and/or Foreign Language and/or Arts Education	3 Credits	Students choosing CTE, Arts Education, and/or Foreign Language are encouraged to complete two courses in sequence.
Electives	4.5 Credits	
<b>Total</b>	<b>26 Credits</b>	

**Advanced Diploma**—A student must pass ten honors or advanced-level courses and two units (2) of the same foreign language.

**For information about the Essential Skills pathway or the AAS pathway, please see your guidance counselor or case manager.**

**Grading Scale**

90-100	.....A
80-89	.....B
70-79	.....C
60-69	.....D
Below 60	..... F

**Exemption from Term Exams Policies**

Exam exemptions will be based on student performance on state-mandated standardized tests. All 9th and 10th graders will take final exams. Exemptions for 11th and 12th grade students will be based on meeting benchmark scores on state-mandated standardized tests. Students must have a “C” or higher in a course to exempt. Students assigned to ISS, OSS, or Tier II for disciplinary or behavioral infractions are not eligible for exemptions. Students enrolled in AP classes are required to take the AP exam as well as mid-term exams at the end of first semester. AP students may not have to take a final exam in May.

\*This policy is subject to change in order to align with state mandates.

**Senior Retakes of Term Exams**

A senior may retake a final examination one time if the following conditions exist:

- 1. The student has a passing grade in the course prior to the exam.
- 2. Failure of a final exam results in course failure.
- 3. Credit for the course in question is required for graduation.

The date and time for the retake will be determined by the course teacher. Any appeals for exceptions to this policy will be made to an appeals committee composed of the principal, senior counselor, and the teacher of the course in question.

**Term Exam Schedule  
2021-2022**

Students should follow the exam schedule each morning. Students are not allowed in the halls during exam periods.

**First Term—**

Students who take alternating-day classes which meet on **Wednesday, December 15**, will take their exams on that day during the regularly scheduled time for those classes. Students of other alternating-day classes will take their exams during the exam schedule.

**Thursday, December 16, 2021** ..... 1st and 2nd Block Exams

**Friday, December 17, 2021** ..... 3rd and 4th Block Exams

**Second Term—**

All other students who take alternating-day classes which meet on **Tuesday, May 24**, will take their exams on that day during the regularly scheduled time for those classes. Students of other alternating-day classes will take their exams during the exam schedule.

**Wednesday, May 25, 2022** ..... 1st and 2nd Block Exams

**Thursday, May 26, 2022** ..... 3rd and 4th Block Exams

**Seniors: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 - Thursday, May 19, 2022**

**Seniors will only report to the classes in which they need to take a final exam.**

OHS Testing Information

Use of Digital Device During the Administration of a Secure Test

The possession of a digital device (including, but not limited to, cell phones, MP3 players, cameras, smart watches, or other telecommunication devices capable of capturing or relaying information) is strictly prohibited during the administration of a secure test. If a student is observed in possession of a digital device during the administration of a secure test, the device will be confiscated.

If a student is observed using a digital device during the administration of a secure test, testing for the student will cease, the device will be confiscated and is subject to search, the student will be dismissed from testing, and the student’s test will be invalidated.

Test Information for Students

Students will participate in standardized state testing and optional national testing. Information concerning testing is available in the Guidance Office. See pages 12-13 for the test schedule for this school year.

Advanced Placement Tests

Opelika High School has been designated an advanced placement school. Any student who would like to take AP courses should contact Ms. Meredith Mitchell, Guidance Counselor and School Test Coordinator. AP tests will be administered in May. Most colleges will accept AP credit.

Cost: Approximately \$95.00 per test. **AP Exams must be paid for by Oct. 8, 2021**

Opelika High School 2021-2022 Test Schedule

<b><u>Works Keys</u></b> (All Seniors) .....	<b>October 6, 2021</b>
<b><u>Pre-ACT</u></b> .....	<b>October 4-22, 2021</b>
<b><u>PSAT</u></b> .....	<b>October 26, 2021</b>

\*Recommended for sophomores and juniors to enter the National Merit competition. Cost is \$15 by September 3

<b><u>ASVAB</u></b> .....	<b>November &amp; March</b>
<b><u>Mock ACT</u></b> (All Juniors) .....	<b>TBA</b>
<b><u>ACT plus Writing</u></b> (All Juniors) .....	<b>March 29, 2022</b>

\*Required standardized tests may be subject to change

**ACT**

<b><u>Test Date</u></b>	<b><u>Registration Deadline</u></b>
September 11, 2021	August 6, 2021
October 23, 2021	September 17, 2021
December 11, 2021	November 5, 2021
February 12, 2022	January 7, 2022
April 2, 2022	February 25, 2022
June 11, 2022	May 6, 2022
July 16, 2022	June 17, 2022

**Advanced Placement Tests**

\*Recommended for students enrolled in Advanced Placement Courses

<b>Chemistry .....</b>	<b>May 2</b>
<b>US Government.....</b>	<b>May 2</b>
<b>Computer Science A.....</b>	<b>May 4</b>
<b>English Literature and Composition.....</b>	<b>May 4</b>
<b>Macroeconomics.....</b>	<b>May 5</b>
<b>US History .....</b>	<b>May 6</b>
<b>Calculus .....</b>	<b>May 9</b>
<b>Computer Science Principles .....</b>	<b>May 9</b>
<b>English Language and Composition .....</b>	<b>May 10</b>
<b>Physics C.....</b>	<b>May 10</b>
<b>Biology .....</b>	<b>May 11</b>
<b>French .....</b>	<b>May 12</b>
<b>Physics 1.....</b>	<b>May 12</b>

## ATTENDANCE POLICIES

The student's attendance record is available online in PowerSchool. **However, it is ultimately the responsibility of the parent or guardian and the student to ensure that the school's attendance requirements are met.**

### Student Absences

Students may have up to ten (10) unexcused absences in a full-credit course. For half-credit courses (such as health or drivers' education), five unexcused absences will be permitted.

Excused absences include those outlined by OCS board policy. Days absent due to administrative disciplinary decisions (suspension, in-school suspension, time-out, etc.) will not count toward the days absent. Upon return to school, students will have one calendar week to complete any assignments missed during the absence.

OHS will excuse up to five parent notes per semester (not to exceed five total days) for illness, check-outs, etc. After the five-day limit, other documentation, such as a doctor's note, will be required. Failure to submit such documentation will result in an unexcused absence.

In the event that a student is absent, he or she should report to the front office to code the attendance the next school day **before school** (7:00-7:50am.). Students **do not** return absence excuses to teachers. An absent student will have three school days to return an excused note to the front office in order that it may be coded. Notes turned in afterward may not be accepted and may result in unexcused absences for the dates missed. Check-outs from classes will also count toward the absence total permitted.

Being present at school on a daily basis is critical to academic success. Students with unexcused absences will be given a zero for all missed work, and they cannot make it up without written permission from the principal. Students with more than five unexcused absences will be reported to the Opelika City Schools' truancy office.

When a student is absent from school, the student's family will be contacted the following ways:

- **1st all-day absence: notified by automated school messenger**
- **3rd all-day absence: letter from school**
- **5th all-day absence: letter from Central Office; attend a conference with attendance officer and principal (or his designee)**
- **8th all-day absence: letter from school**



If a student exceeds the 10-day allowance for attendance in a course, he or she will fail the course due to attendance. The student may make up the course through an alternative online program provided by the school (as available). Credit for the course should be made up in the semester following the loss of credit due to absences. After successful completion of the online course alternative, the student will receive the original grade issued for the course.

Students may also retake the course during the normal school year as an option.

In the event that a student exceeds the days permitted and feels special consideration should be given, the student may appeal to the principal and his designated committee. The principal has the right to review the request and overturn the failure due to absenteeism. Students should make the appeal no later than two weeks after the end of the semester. The appeal must be done before the next available start date for make-up credit. Students are allowed a maximum of one appeal per academic year.

### **Check-ins and Check-outs**

**NO STUDENT IS TO LEAVE CAMPUS WITHOUT FIRST CHECKING OUT THROUGH THE MAIN OFFICE, AND HE/ SHE WILL NOT BE ALLOWED TO LEAVE SCHOOL UNLESS A PARENT, GUARDIAN, OR PARENT-APPROVED EMERGENCY CONTACT PERSON IS PHYSICALLY PRESENT IN THE SCHOOL'S OFFICE AND PRESENTS A VALID PICTURE ID.**

- **Checking-Out:** Checking-out will only be approved after an office visit by a parent who must speak with the assistant principals' secretary or an administrator. Parents may be called to approve/verify the check-out. Otherwise, students will not be released. **Each check-out will require a parent to come to the check-out office before the student will be released from class.** Any student who leaves campus without adhering to this policy will receive an ISS assignment for each offense.
- **Checking-In:** Students must always check-in through the main school office when arriving to school any time during the day after 8:15 a.m. If the time missed is less than 30 minutes of first block, it will be recorded as a tardy. A check-in after 8:30 counts as an absence for first block.

If the time missed is more than 30 minutes for any particular block, it is recorded as an absence for that class.

**College Visits**

Two (2) one-day college visits for seniors may be scheduled through the Guidance Office where forms are available. Forms must be signed by an administrator prior to the visit. After the visit, forms are to be completed and returned to Mr. McKee.

**Early Dismissals for Driver’s License Test**

Students will be given an excused absence to take their driver’s license test. A Student Enrollment Verification Form from the school office is required at the time of the driving exam.

**School Function**

Students who are away from school on a school-related activity are coded as School Function. While these students will miss class(es), these days do not count as absences. Each student will be responsible for making up any missed work.

**Tardy Policy**

Class time is valuable and has to be protected as much as possible. For that reason, all students must be seated in their desks by the time the tardy bell stops ringing. All teachers are expected to enforce the tardy policy.

- 1. The final determination as to whether a student is or is not tardy rests with the teacher.
- 2. Teachers will manage the excessive tardy problem according to the school wide tardy policy. Students will be allowed three tardies to each class. Students will receive teacher assigned consequences prior to being referred to the office.
  - 4th tardy: Parental conference or notification**
  - 5th tardy: 1 day of principal’s detention**
  - 6th tardy: 2 days of principal’s detention**
- 3. On the seventh and subsequent tardies to any given class, the student must be sent to the designated Assistant Principal with the official tardy form which is to be completed by the teacher.
- 4. The tardy policy will end with the conclusion of first term and starts over with the beginning of the second term.
- 5. Students must always check in through the front office when arriving to school after 8:15 a.m.

**Tardy Referrals and Consequences**

Students must remember that once the referral process begins for tardies, it is the number of times referred that determines the consequences, not the number of tardies accumulated in each class.

<b>1st Referral</b>	— 1 day ISS	<b>4th Referral</b>	— 1 day OSS
<b>2nd Referral</b>	— 3 days ISS	<b>5th Referral</b>	— 3 days OSS
<b>3rd Referral</b>	— 5 days ISS	<b>6th Referral</b>	— OSS until an administrative hearing is held

# DISCIPLINE POLICIES

## Cell Phones

The Opelika City Schools policy on cellular telephones is designed to ensure that the use of cell phones does not interfere with teaching and learning during the school day.

1. Students are permitted to use cell phones before entering the building on a school day and after exiting the building at the end of a school day.
2. The use of cell phones for any purpose – including phone calls, text messaging, games, and other functions – is not permitted during the school day or in the building at any time.
3. Cell phones must not be visible during the school day. They should be stored in a secure location (vehicle, pocket, purse, locker, athletic bag, etc.).
4. Cell phones must be turned completely off (not simply on silent or vibrate mode) during the school day.
5. Students participating in field trips, extracurricular activities, and athletic events must get permission from their coach or sponsor for using a cell phone after school hours or on after-school bus trips.
6. At all times, the use of camera phones is strictly forbidden in private areas, such as locker rooms, washrooms, dressing areas, classrooms, and offices. When necessary, camera phone violations may be treated as Level II or Level III offenses. Such use may also be in violation of the criminal code of Alabama.
7. Any phone communication during the instructional day will take place on school telephones with permission from office personnel with the exception of emergency situations deemed by the principal. Parents should continue to call the school for any emergency situation.
8. Students are not to bring cell phones into a classroom where standardized testing is taking place. Teachers will collect any student cell phones in classrooms where standardized testing is occurring. Phones will be returned in accordance with school policy.
9. Possession of a cell phone by a student is a privilege, which may be forfeited by any student not abiding by the terms of this policy. Students shall be personally and solely responsible for the security of their cell phones. The Opelika City School System shall not assume any responsibility for theft, loss, or damage to a cell phone, or unauthorized calls made on a cell phone.

## Violations of Cell Phone Policy

Confiscated cell phones are subject to search by school officials. Cell phones may be picked up from the office before or after school only.

**1st Offense** — Cell phone confiscated and returned to parent.

**2nd Offense** — Cell phone confiscated and returned to parent. The student will be assigned 2 days of after school detention.

**3rd Offense** — Cell phone confiscated and returned to parent. The student will be assigned 3 days of ISS.

**Any Following Offense** — Cell phone confiscated and returned to parent. The student will be assigned 5 days of ISS.

## **Conduct/Misconduct**

We believe good behavior is a cooperative effort and requires good common sense. If all students adopt the policy that the main purpose of attending school is to receive an education and strive toward that goal, disciplinary problems would be nonexistent.

If approved in advance by the administration, a teacher's classroom rules and policies will be supported. The students will receive copies of the rules, or they will be visibly posted in the classroom.

## **Dress Code and General Appearance**

The Opelika City Board of Education and administration recognize the effect that student dress and grooming have upon student behavior and commitment to learning. The Board and administration further recognize the role of parents in assisting their children in making appropriate choices regarding clothing, accessories, and personal appearance. In order to maintain an atmosphere conducive to learning, it is required that all students exercise good taste with regard to their personal appearance. Attire considered disruptive or that could present a health or safety problem is not appropriate.

Any clothing, appearance, or personal hygiene and grooming practices that draw an inordinate amount of attention to the individual student are considered inappropriate for school. The dress and/or grooming style of any student must not interfere with the educational process of other students.

- **Students must be neat and clean at all times.** An unkempt or sloppy appearance is not appropriate in the learning environment of school.
- **Male students must have shirts tucked in at all times. Belt buckles must be visible at all times.**
- **Pants, shorts, and skirts that have belt loops must be worn at the waist and with a BELT.** Pants, shorts, and skirts without belt loops must be worn at the waist and should fit properly.
- **Pants worn too low, too long, too large, or too loose are not permitted.** Pajama style pants, snap-aways, and sweatpants are prohibited.
- **Athletic type pants may be worn only during physical education classes.** Athletic type pants include but are not limited to, wind suits

pants, nylon gym/athletic shorts, soffes, “Umbros,” spandex, sweat pants, and soccer shorts.

- **Students are to wear clothing in the manner it was designed to be worn**, i.e., clothing worn backward or inside out, suspenders undone are not allowed.
- **Students are not to wear clothing that reveals the body in an inappropriate manner.** (Examples: clothing which is too tight, too short, bare at the midriff, bare at the sides, sundresses, “spaghetti strap” type tops, tank tops, and off-the-shoulder tops, low-cut front or back tops, sheer or see-through clothing, etc. **Undergarments should be worn in an appropriate manner and should not be visible.** Clothes with holes in them that reveal the body in an inappropriate manner are not allowed.
- **Students may wear shorts to school under the following stipulations:** Old worn/torn, or other type cut-offs, athletic (gym), “Umbro,” “Soffes,” other nylon type, spandex, sweat type, tennis, or swim suit type shorts are not allowed.
- **Student athletes** (Cheerleaders, majorettes, band members, etc.) **may wear required game day attire previously approved by the sponsor and principal.**
- **Skirts, shorts, and dresses must be mid-thigh or longer in front and back. No slits or leg openings may be above mid-thigh.** Whether the student is standing or sitting, the length of skirts and dresses must be appropriate. Spandex pants, leggings, leotards, etc., may be worn only when the article of clothing worn **with them reaches to the mid-thigh requirement. (Long t-shirts are not allowed.)**
- **Facial and/or tongue jewelry is not allowed for males or females.** Students are not to wear jewelry, ornaments, or accessories, i.e., excessively noisy jewelry and/or belts, that distract from the educational process or interfere with proper speech communication.
- **T-shirts or any other type clothing or personal item bearing a reference to firearms, alcoholic beverages, tobacco products, drugs, drug-related slogans, and/or any other wording, drawings, pictures, etc., which in any way can be interpreted as being “off- color,” suggestive, obscene, offensive, or relating to violence, etc., are not permitted.** “Gang” related slogans, names, apparel, etc., are not permitted in school or at any school-related activities. Gang related items include, but are not limited to, bandanas, washrags, doo rags, etc. These items are not to be worn or to hang from a pants pocket.
- **Caps, hats, bandannas, doo rags, sunglasses, or other headwear are not to be worn during the regular school day.** Headbands, designed to maintain hair placement, will be allowed.
- **Outerwear (coats, sunglasses, gloves, etc.) is not to be worn in**

- the building during normal school time unless temperature or individual medical problems dictate this to be appropriate.**
- Sweatshirts and lightweight jackets are permitted.
- **All students are required to wear their hair in such a manner that is not considered unkempt, unclean, or impairing vision.** Students should not wear excessive or distracting make-up, i.e., face paint.
  - **Students are required to wear appropriate shoes to school at all times--no bare feet.** House slippers, boots with chains, steel toes, or other metal reinforcements or decorations are not allowed.

**Actions for Dress Code Violations:**

<b>1st</b> — Administrator’s Warning	<b>5th</b> — 5 days ISS
<b>2nd</b> — 2 days Detention	<b>6th</b> — 1 day OSS
<b>3rd</b> — 1 day ISS	<b>7th</b> — 3 days OSS
<b>4th</b> — 3 days ISS	<b>8th</b> — 5 days OSS

Students in violation of the dress code will be required to change immediately. If this requires checking out, the absence will be unexcused. The administration of Opelika City Schools maintains the absolute authority in making subjective judgments concerning student dress and personal appearance.

**Drug Use**

The possession or use of alcoholic beverages or any controlled substance (drugs) by a student at school or prior to coming to school or while involved in a school function or activity is a serious violation of school policy and will result in immediate indefinite suspension and/ or placement at the Opelika Learning Center. **The Opelika City Police Department Will Be Notified.**

**Fighting**

The following consequences are the maximum penalties for all fights that occur at Opelika High School or at any Opelika High School activity:

1. Immediate removal from the campus/activity and assignment of out-of-school suspension (OSS).
2. Days out-of-school suspension may be followed by an immediate assignment of five (5) days of in-school suspension (ISS).
3. The Opelika City Police Department may be notified and a written report made by an officer. If the fight warrants a more severe response, the officer will be asked to take further action.
4. If a student participates in more than one (1) fight in any given school year, he/she will be indefinitely suspended and referred to a review committee for consideration of placement. This should not be interpreted that a student will automatically receive an alternative placement recommendation nor that he/she must fight more than once to warrant a review committee meeting.

## **CONSEQUENCES FOR NON-COMPLIANCE WITH SCHOOL PERSONNEL/USE OF PROFANITY**

School personnel will take a “zero tolerance” position with students who refuse to comply with adult intervention when they (adults) are attempting to break-up fights. If either, both, or all participants involved do not immediately cease fighting when intervention is made by a school official/employee, the following procedures will be implemented:

1. The Opelika City Police Department will be called for assistance. Additional appropriate responses will be taken by school personnel to reinforce to the participant/participants the inappropriateness of their action and misconduct.
2. During the intervention by an adult, if profanity/inappropriate language is used or used at any time after the participants are separated and before being completely off the campus, the same procedures as stated above will be implemented.
3. Any student who contributes to the disruption during a fight by interfering, inciting disorder, or hindering adult intervention will be subject to disciplinary action. Such behaviors include but are not limited to running to watch or encouraging students to fight.

### **Gambling/Gambling Paraphernalia**

Cards, dice, sports gambling squares, and other gambling paraphernalia are not permitted on campus. These items will be confiscated and held pending disposition of individual offenses. Reminder—gambling is a serious violation of school policy and subject to stern disciplinary action.

### **Suspension from School**

Students may be suspended out of school (OSS) for committing infractions of school rules and policies. A parent/guardian conference is required before a student may return. An OSS is considered an unexcused absence; students will not be allowed to make up academic work missed. Suspended students may forfeit their right to hold major school or club offices. A student assigned OSS cannot participate in any school activity during the day or night, nor can he/she be on campus.

The in-school suspension program (ISS) serves as a punitive social consequence for infractions to school policy. Assignments to ISS are for a full day; there are no early dismissals for field trips, doctor's appointments, work, or to participate in class or school activities. Any student who misses partial time must make up a full day. School assignments can be made up, but it is the student's responsibility to ensure the teacher gives him/her the work.

Students assigned to ISS cannot participate in extra-curricular activities during the day of the suspension. However, they can participate in activities that occur after school.

## OATS

Students may be enrolled in Opelika Alternative to Suspension for a specific number of days at the discretion of administration. Students that do not attend may face further disciplinary action and be marked unexcused.

## Tobacco

Students and employees are not allowed to use any form of tobacco during the school day or while on campus. Neither are they permitted to carry tobacco products, cigarette lighters, nor matches. Students caught using tobacco products in the school building, on campus, or at any function sponsored by the school will be subject to appropriate disciplinary action. The 1st offense will result in 3 days ISS; 2nd offense–3 days ISS; 3rd offense–3 days ISS; 4th offense–indefinite suspension.

## Weapons and Fireworks

Any student who uses, threatens to use, or is in possession of a knife, club, or any dangerous weapon will be subject to immediate indefinite suspension from school. Any student using or in possession of fireworks is also subject to indefinite suspension. **The Opelika City Police Department Will Be Notified And Proper Charges Filed When Appropriate.**

**CONSEQUENCES FOR ALL ACTIONS THAT ARE NOT COVERED IN THIS HANDBOOK AND INTERPRETATION OF ALL RULES WITHIN THE HANDBOOK SHALL BE DECIDED AT THE DISCRETION OF THE SCHOOL ADMINISTRATION.**

## EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

### Clubs and Organizations

Students are encouraged to develop an interest and become active participants in the extra-curricular programs offered at OHS. **Students interested in any of these activities may request a meeting with any sponsor, director, or coach to learn more about the activity. All interested students are encouraged to apply for the extracurricular program of their choice.** Detailed descriptions of all organizations can be found in the *OHS Activities Handbook* which will be provided to all students at the beginning of the school year.

### Field Trips

The responsibility and authority for planning field trips rests with the classroom teacher. Field trips must be approved by the principal prior to final plans. A minimum notice of two weeks is expected, and students must have written parental permission to participate. These rules will



apply:

1. Any student who is failing, near failing, or who has accumulated seven (7) or more absences for the current term in a class may not be eligible to participate in field trips or other school activities.
2. Every teacher has the option of not allowing a student to participate in these types of activities based on the reasons listed in statement #1.
3. The teacher should immediately notify the sponsor when he/she becomes aware of a field trip or school activity that involves his/her students who are in violation of meeting these requirements. The principal is the only person who can make an exception to this policy.
4. Students will not be allowed to participate due to obvious needs to remain in class. However, if the trip is for a team competition (academic, athletic, vocational, etc.), the policy may not apply if approved in advance by the principal.
5. Each teacher may determine if a student is or is not performing at his/her best in a particular class. If in the teacher's opinion the student is putting forth his best effort, the teacher is not required to refer that student under this policy.
6. Field trips and other activities that occur away from the school campus must be approved through the principal's office before issuing lists of students' names and before arrangements are made for the trip/ activity.

## FACILITIES

### Fire Drills/Severe Weather Drills

Fire and severe weather drills will be held periodically. These guidelines must be observed by all students during a drill or for an actual emergency:

1. Stop all work immediately.
2. Remain silent for instructions.
3. Follow the evacuation plans given.
4. Move quietly and promptly to your designated area.
5. Remain with your teacher/class.
6. Remain in designated area until an all clear signal is given to return.
7. Return to the classroom in the same manner and through the same exit as you departed.
8. Disruptions during drills or actual procedures will result in very firm disciplinary action.

### Physical Facilities

Students should take pride in the school facilities available for their use. Students and employees share the responsibility for upkeep and security.

## Mainstreet and Hallways

Mainstreet is the focal point of Opelika High School and provides space for many formal and informal activities throughout the year. Students are always expected to display appropriate behavior and manners when using Mainstreet.

Move through the hallways as quickly as possible without running or making unnecessary noise. There should be no stopping or loitering in the hallway. Students in violation of this policy are subject to consequences.

## Media Center

The Opelika High School Media Center (LRC) houses print and audio-visual materials as well as an internet lab for students and teachers. The LRC will serve as a learning laboratory in all phases of course work offered at Opelika High School. The librarians and library staff encourage all students to take advantage of the services and materials offered in the LRC. The following procedures should be observed at all times when using the these facilities:

1. The LRC will be available for students from 7:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
2. Students desiring to use the LRC before school or during the school day must have a written pass with an appropriate teacher's signature. Always check in at the main desk when entering the LRC. The librarian or library assistants must sign each pass before students are allowed to leave the LRC to return to class.
3. Books, other than reference books, may be checked out for a two-week period and re-checked out by presenting the book at the LRC desk to be recorded. Students are responsible for the care of all materials on leave from the LRC. Periodical and reference books may be checked out for one day.
4. A fine of ten cents (\$.10) a day will be charged for overdue books. Lost or damaged books must be paid for by the person who checked them out from the LRC.
5. Students are not allowed to check out books or other materials for other students.
6. Students must display proper behavior at all times when in the LRC.

## Parking

**Parking on campus may be limited to juniors and seniors.** Once students arrive on campus they should lock their vehicles and immediately leave them when they arrive. **Loitering in the parking lot is strictly prohibited.** Students are not to be in their cars or the parking area at any time during the day and cannot leave campus at any time without checking out in the office. Under no circumstances should student vehicles be parked anywhere except the designated student parking area. Parking off campus is not allowed including but not limited to, across Lafayette Parkway or across railroad tracks.

1. **All students who drive and park on campus are required to purchase a \$10.00 parking permit. Any lost or damaged hang tag will require a student to purchase another hang tag at regular price.**
2. Any student operating a motor vehicle in the school area must have a valid driver's license, tag receipt, and insurance card.
3. Motor vehicles brought to school by students must meet the Alabama State Requirements for safety factors.
4. Any student who violates good, safe driving standards or who fails to abide by the school's driving/parking regulations may be forbidden to use his/her vehicle in the school area for an indefinite period of time and may be subject to disciplinary action.
5. The school reserves the right to make necessary adjustments to parking/ driving regulations at OHS. Refusal to observe these regulations could result in the revocation of parking and/or driving privileges and appropriate disciplinary action being taken.
6. No student-driven vehicle shall use an illegal muffler, air horn, or other noise-making device in the school area.
7. Parking permits must always be displayed on the interior rearview mirror while on campus.
8. Parking permits will be sold at OHS during published, designated times.
9. A senior may not buy a parking permit for an underclassman. Students found guilty of this offense may have their parking privileges revoked. When purchasing parking permits, students must have in hand their driver's license, current registration information, and proof of insurance coverage for the vehicle.
10. Students must comply with all parking signs or markings. The following are NO PARKING areas:
  - a. Grass areas on campus
  - b. Curbs in front parking lot
  - c. Area next to band room
  - d. Curbs on drive in front & rear of building
  - e. All curbs painted yellow
  - f. Handicap parking spots
11. Violations of parking regulations may result in the vehicle being towed at the owner's expense.
12. **The school assumes no responsibility for damages to vehicles parked on the campus.**

**Visitors**

Permission will not be granted to bring visitors to OHS during the school day. We do not allow friends, former students, or others to visit our students at any time. This includes the lunch hour. **REGARDLESS OF THEIR BUSINESS IN THE BUILDING, ALL VISITORS MUST REPORT TO THE OFFICE BEFORE CONTINUING TO ANY OTHER AREA OF THE BUILDING OR GROUNDS.**

Parents are invited and encouraged to visit the school, and parent-teacher conferences are most important in improving the learning atmosphere. Conferences with teachers before or after school must be scheduled through the main office.

**STUDENT SERVICES**

The guidance staff offers individual counseling, group counseling, transcript evaluation, and registration information to all students and parents. Counselors are assigned to students based on the following breakdown:

<b>Mr. Huguley</b>	<b>Mrs. Sherfield</b>	<b>Mrs. Mitchell</b>
Students A – F	Students G - M	Students N - Z

**PARENTAL RESPONSIBILITIES**

The Opelika High School administration believes that the ultimate responsibility for a student’s behavior rests with the student and his/her parent or guardian. Students are to respect adult authority, which includes adherence to all school rules, regulations and procedures. OHS anticipates that parents will be concerned and cooperative in dealing with any behavioral problems which may arise, and expects this cooperation to be made apparent to the child.

**Parent Advisory Committee**

The Parent Advisory Committee serves as a liaison between the Opelika High School administration and the Opelika community. The PAC discusses with the principal and his staff questions or comments for which parents or students may need assistance.

The PAC helps ensure community-wide participation at Opelika High School. This enhances the probability that each student or parent will know a committee member whom he/she can call and request that a particular matter be discussed either privately or at a committee meeting. This committee meets monthly at OHS. Membership is open to all parents.

Contact the Activity Director, Amber Landers, if you would like your name added to an email distribution list to learn about school announcements.

## **SCHOOL PROCEDURES**

### **Arrival and Departure**

Students must arrive to school prior to the first bell and report to their designated areas. All car riders and walkers must enter and exit through the front entrance of the school. All bus riders must enter and exit through the arena doors, following and abiding by bus dismissal procedures. All students who walk to and from school and cross Lafayette Parkway must use the crosswalk.

Underclassmen should report to the Mainstreet gym. Upperclassmen should report to the Arena. All students are welcome to report to the cafeteria for breakfast beginning at 7:40 am. Students must remain in one of the three designated areas until the first bell.

### **Bulletins & Posters**

All advertisements, posters, bulletins, etc., must be approved by the club sponsor, the Activities Director, and the principal before they can be placed within the school or on the school campus.

### **Other Electronic Devices**

Other electronic devices such as, but not limited to, digital cameras, camcorders, PDA's, MP3 players, and headphones may not be visible during the instructional day. All items not picked up at the end of the school year will be donated or discarded.

### **Dances**

Only OHS students and their dates will be allowed to attend school dances. Names of dates who are not OHS students must be placed on the date list with the dance sponsor prior to 4:00 p.m. on the day of the designated deadline. All school rules and regulations apply at all school dances. Students who leave the dance will not be readmitted.

### Guests

1. Guest forms are due by 4:00 p.m. on the day of the designated deadline.
2. Only juniors and seniors (as classified by the number of credits earned) are allowed to bring someone who is not an OHS student.
3. No middle school or middle school-aged students are allowed.
4. No one over the age of 20 is allowed.

### Tickets

1. Students must purchase their own tickets. Students may not purchase a ticket for other students. With permission of school officials, parents may purchase their child's ticket.
2. Tickets are non-transferable.

- 3. Tickets are non-refundable.
- 4. Ticket sales will not be limited.

Passes Out

- 1. Once students enter the dance, they are not allowed to leave and re-enter, even if they pay again.

Dress Code

- 1. Dress code for all school sponsored dances will be provided well in advance of the event. For any questions prior to the dress code being released, contact OHS Staff.

Rules

- 1. Objects that are prohibited at school (such as firearms, weapons, cigarettes, any type of drugs or alcohol) are also prohibited at all OHS dances.
- 2. Lewd, obscene, and vulgar dancing is prohibited at OHS dances.

**Expenses (subject to change)**

Graduation Fee .....	\$80.00
Breakfast .....	FREE for 2021-2022 School Year
Lunch (Student).....	FREE for 2021-2022 School Year
Milk.....	\$0.50
Extra Entree.....	\$2.50
Homecoming Dance Pictures.....	\$25.00 and up
Parking Fee .....	\$10.00
<i>Perspectives</i> (Student Magazine).....	\$10.00
Prom Pictures .....	\$25.00 and up
Prom Tickets .....	Approximately \$50.00
School Pictures.....	Package Choices \$14.00 and up
Senior Cap and Gown Pictures.....	Package Choices \$35.00 and up
Senior T-Shirts .....	\$15.00
Student Basketball Ticket (purchased at school).....	\$5.00
Student Football Ticket (purchased at school) .....	\$6.00
Summer Reading Books .....	\$20.00 (estimated)
Zig-Zag (Yearbook) .....	\$70.00

## **Financial Obligations**

Students must meet all financial obligations before participating in field trips, choral trips, band trips, and athletic camps. Seniors must clear all debts before receiving caps and gowns.

## **Internet and Other Instructional Technology**

Access to the Internet and other instructional technology programs allows the availability of material that may not be considered to be of educational value in the context of the school setting. This school system has taken many precautions to restrict access to controversial materials. However, on a global network it is impossible to control all materials which might be found purposely or inadvertently. Therefore, all students beyond the primary grades in the Opelika City Schools who use the Internet will be required each school year to sign an Internet Ethical Use Agreement which must be co-signed by parents or guardians.

### Rules and Conditions for Use

- The transmission of any material in violation of any United States and/or State regulation is prohibited.
- The transmission of any copyrighted material, threatening or obscene material or material protected by trade secret is prohibited.
- The use of the Internet for commercial activities, product advertisement, or political lobbying is not allowed.

### Network Etiquette

- Do not reveal your personal address or phone numbers of students or colleagues unless approved by those individuals. E-mail addresses are frequently shared and may be used.
- Be polite. Do not use abusive language in any communication.
- Do not use the network in such a way that you would disrupt the use of the network for others.
- Note: Electronic mail is not guaranteed to be private. People who operate the system have access to all mail.

Messages relating to illegal activities may be reported to authorities and may result in the loss of use privileges as well as other disciplinary actions.

### Controversial Material

Users may encounter material which is controversial and which users, parents, teachers or administrators may consider inappropriate or offensive. It is the user's responsibility not to initiate access to such material. Users who voluntarily access such material may be prohibited from using Internet services.

### Consequences for Violation of this Ethical Use Agreement

The first violation of the Ethical Use Agreement will be considered a

Type I violation of the Student Code of Conduct. A second violation and subsequent violations will be considered Type II violations of the Code of Conduct.

**Lockers**

Lockers will be assigned to students as soon as possible. They should be kept neat, orderly, and locked at all times. Students should report all malfunctions or problems concerning lockers to the Assistant Principals’ office. Do not give your combination to anyone, and do not leave money or valuables in your locker. The school will not be responsible for items stolen from your locker.

**THE SCHOOL RESERVES THE RIGHT TO SEARCH ANY LOCKER WHENEVER NECESSARY.**

**Loitering**

Loitering is not allowed in any hallway or on campus during the day as well as before or after school hour. After school, students are expected to leave campus promptly unless they are under the supervision of a staff member. Violators of this policy will be subjected to disciplinary action. **Students are expected to be out of the building and off school grounds by 3:45 p.m.**

**Breakfast/Lunch**

<p><b>SPECIAL DIETARY NEEDS PROCEDURE</b></p> <p>Our cafeteria prepares nutritious meals at school that are in compliance with the dietary guidelines recommended by U.S.D.A. If a student has a special diet or needs due to a physical or medical condition, please contact the Opelika City Schools Child Nutrition Supervisor at 745-9700 for information. A diet prescription and instructions will be required from your child’s physician.</p>
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**Food Guidelines at School**

In order to meet new State and Federal health requirements, food items and beverages that have sugar or corn syrup as the first, or main ingredient, and/or high calorie foods (high fat) with low nutritional value, cannot be given to students during the school day. We are asking parents to refer to the approved food list, available in the school office, when they send food items to school for various activities. We encourage parents who provide their child’s lunch to use these guidelines as they plan menus. Particularly avoid sending carbonated beverages, candies, and large servings of potato chips, etc. to the school.

Students may buy lunches on a daily basis or purchase certain individual items from an a la carte line. Lunches may not be charged. See lunch prices on page 28.

**STUDENTS MUST BRING LUNCHES IN THE MORNING OR PURCHASE A SCHOOL LUNCH. COMMERCIAL FOODS MAY**



**NOT BE DELIVERED TO CAMPUS, NOR WILL LUNCHES BE ACCEPTED IN THE OFFICE. STUDENTS WHO CHECK IN OR OUT MAY NOT BRING A COMMERCIAL FOOD BACK TO CAMPUS WHEN THEY RETURN.**

In accordance with Federal Law and U.S. Department of Agriculture policy, this institution is prohibited from discriminating on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age, or disability.

To file a complaint of discrimination, write USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20250-9410, or call (800) 795-3272 (voice) or (202) 720-6382 (TTY). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

Students who bring their lunches to school will eat in the assigned lunch area. Students are not to carry lunch trays from the lunch area. Students must remain in the lunch area during their assigned lunch period.

**NO FOOD OR DRINK WILL BE ALLOWED ANYWHERE EXCEPT THE LUNCH AREA.**

**Non-School Organizations or Activities**

Groups or organizations that are not school-sponsored may not carry on any activity within the school. This policy prohibits selling, soliciting money, posting of announcements, initiations, or meetings during school hours or on the school campus. This policy also prohibits selling products for personal gain.

**Office Use**

If it is necessary for a student to go to the office, he should have a pass which has been signed by the teacher who has charge of the student for that block. No student should remain in the office unless he/she has been designated as an office assistant during the given period.

**STUDENTS MAY NOT USE THE OFFICE TELEPHONE EXCEPT WHEN GIVEN PERMISSION BY OFFICE PERSONNEL.**

**Personal Property**

Personal possessions, such as money, clothing, jewelry, etc. are the responsibility of the individual student. These articles should be kept in your possession at all times. It is recommended that students not bring large sums of money or valuable personal property to school. **The school assumes no responsibility for theft or loss of personal property.**

**Physical Education Regulations**

Students registered for the physical education program must dress out and participate each day unless a medical excuse is filed with the teacher. If a student is to be excused for a particular day or for a brief period, a written excuse from the parent is required. The P.E. teacher will determine when and if a medical excuse becomes necessary for the student to be excused

for non-participation.

#### A. Uniforms for Boys' Physical Education

1. T-Shirts
2. Shorts
3. Sneakers
4. Socks/golf socks

#### B. Uniforms for Girls' Physical Education

1. T-Shirts
2. Shorts
3. Sneakers
4. Socks/golf socks

C. Each student is responsible for his own valuables. Check items of value with the teacher in charge. **Do not bring money or other valuables to class.**

D. Students must cooperate in keeping the gym, locker rooms, and bathroom facilities clean.

E. No equipment/apparatus should be used unless a teacher is present.

### **Social Functions**

Social functions held at Opelika High School are for Opelika High School students and guests only. Appropriate identification will be required for admittance. The school exercises the same rights of authority at all school sponsored functions as during the regular school day. **All School Rules and Policies Apply At School-Sponsored Activities.**

### **Telephone Use (Office)**

The office telephone is not to be used by students unless it is an emergency. Except under unusual circumstances, telephone messages will not be delivered to students, and students are not to be dismissed from classes to use the telephone except for an identified emergency.

### **Textbooks**

All textbooks used by students are state-adopted and are provided by Opelika City Schools. Since these books must be used for six years, no marks of any kind should be placed in them except for the name of the student on the inside cover. Lost or damaged state-owned textbooks must be paid for when the course is completed. Transcripts and official records are not issued until textbooks have been cleared. It is the student's responsibility to return the textbook he/she has been issued.

### **Visitations**

Students are not to visit other schools during school hours, except for

school sponsored events. Permission will not be granted to bring visitors to OHS during the school day.

## **SYSTEM POLICIES**

### **AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT SPECIALIST**

The ADA Specialist for Opelika City Schools is the Asst. Superintendent for Administration, Mr. Kenneth Burton, Opelika City Board of Education, P.O. Box 2469, Opelika, Alabama 36803-2469, telephone (334) 745-9700, fax (334) 745-9721.

### **CHILD FIND**

The Opelika City Schools is committed to locating and serving students with disabilities birth to twenty-one within the school system's jurisdiction. If you would like to refer a child for an evaluation for special education services please contact the Special Education Coordinator at (334) 741-5601.

### **DRUG & ALCOHOL INTERVENTION PROGRAMS**

Students wishing to receive assistance in dealing with drug or alcohol related problems may do so by making appointments with a counselor or an administrator. No disciplinary action will be taken against a student seeking help, and all information will be kept in confidence.

## **OPELIKA HIGH SCHOOL IS A TOBACCO-FREE ENVIRONMENT.**

### **ENRICHMENT SERVICES**

According to the state definition, intellectually gifted children and youth are those who perform or who have demonstrated the potential to perform at high levels in academic or creative fields when compared with others of their age, experience, or environment. These children and youth require services not ordinarily provided by the regular school program. Children and youth possessing these abilities can be found in all populations, across all economic strata, and in all areas of human endeavor. Any individual with knowledge concerning a student's abilities may refer a student to be considered for an evaluation to determine if the student qualifies according to state criteria. In addition, all second grade students will be observed as potential referrals for enrichment services using a gifted behavior checklist provided by the State Department of Education. A referral to the Gifted Referral Screening Team (GRST) may be made by contacting the special education coordinator. The GRST will review information related to the student's aptitude, performance, and characteristics to determine if an evaluation for gifted eligibility is warranted.

## **NON-DISCRIMINATION STATEMENT**

The City of Opelika Board of Education is an equal opportunity agency and prohibits discrimination or harassment in any of its educational programs, including employment, on the basis of sex, race, religion, national origin, color, age, disability or reprisal in its programs and activities and provides equal access to the Boy Scouts. The Board of Education complies fully with the provisions of Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, Section 504 Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended, and the appropriate Department of Education regulations.

The following people have been designated to handle inquiries regarding the non-discrimination policies: Mr. Kenneth Burton, Section 504, ADA, and Title IX Coordinator; Ms. Jean Miller Title VI Coordinator, PO Box 2469, Opelika, AL 36830-2469; telephone (334) 745-9700; fax (334) 745-9721.

## **SAFE SCHOOL POLICY**

The Opelika City Board of Education and Opelika High School personnel believe that a businesslike, orderly and safe atmosphere must be maintained at all times. It is the responsibility of all students and staff members to adhere to self-discipline and conduct themselves with respect and consideration for the rights of others.

It is the responsibility of each school staff member to enforce the policies of Opelika High School and the Opelika City Board of Education to ensure that every individual is given the best and safest environment in which to work and learn.

The entire staff of Opelika High is committed to creating and maintaining a safe educational environment and to ensuring that the rights and human dignity of every member of the education community are respected.

Discrimination in regards to race, religion, color, national origin, gender, age or handicap is against all that we believe in and strive to achieve. Sexual harassment is discrimination and is reprehensible. Neither sexual harassment nor sexual assault will be tolerated. **Violent Behavior and Discrimination Have No Place In This School and Will Not Be Tolerated.**

It is the policy of Opelika High School to promptly investigate and seek equitable resolution of allegations of any form of discrimination.

## **SECTION 504 OF THE REHABILITATION ACT**

Students in need of services through Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 are those known or suspected to have a disability which substantially limits a major life activity. Major life activities are functions such as caring for one's self, performing manual tasks, reading, concentrating, thinking,

communicating, walking, seeing, hearing, speaking, breathing, learning, and working. A student who qualifies under Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act may receive supplementary services within regular education or services under special education. If you would like to refer a child for an evaluation to determine eligibility under Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act or if you would like to obtain a copy of “Parent/Guardian and/or Student Procedural Safeguards and Rights Under Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act,” please contact the 504 Coordinator at (334) 741-5601.

# Regular Bell Schedule

7:55.....	Call-in-Bell
8:00-8:10.....	Pledge, Announcements
8:10-9:46.....	1st Block
9:46-9:50.....	Transition to 2nd Block
9:50-11:27.....	2nd Block
11:27-11:31.....	Transition to 3rd Block
11:31-1:44.....	3rd Block
1:44-1:48.....	Transition to 4th Block
1:48-3:25.....	4th Block
3:25.....	Student Dismissal

## **A.O. Bell Schedule**

**7:55. . . . . Call-in-Bell**

**8:00-9:24. . . . . 1st Block**

**9:24-9:28. . . . . Transition to A.O.**

**9:28-9:58. . . . . A.O.**

**9:58-10:02. . . . . Transition to 2nd Block**

**10:02-11:27. . . . . 2nd Block**

**11:27-11:31. . . . . Transition to 3rd Block**

**11:31-1:44 . . . . . 3rd Block**

**1:44-1:48 . . . . . Transition to 4th Block**

**1:48-3:25. . . . . 4th Block**

**3:25. . . . . Student Dismissal**

# Pep Rally Schedule

**7:55..... Call-in-Bell**

**8:00-9:30.....1st Block**

**9:30-9:34..... Transition to 2nd Block**

**9:34-11:03..... 2nd Block**

**11:03-11:07.....Transition to 3rd Block**

**11:07-1:16..... 3rd Block**

**Lunch Schedule**

- A 11:08-11:33**
- B 11:38-12:03**
- C 11:43-12:08**
- D 11:48-12:13**
- E 12:13-12:38**
- F 12:18-12:43**
- G 12:23-12:48**
- H 12:53-1:16**

**1:16-1:20.....Transition to 4th Block**

**1:20-3:25..... 4th Block**

**Pep Rally from 2:55-3:25 (Students will be dismissed from pep rally at 3:25)**



# IMPORTANT DATES

School Pictures .....	Tuesday, August 24
Homecoming .....	Friday, October 15
Work Keys (Seniors) .....	Wednesday, October 6
PSAT (Sophomores & Juniors) .....	Tuesday, October 26
ASVAB (Military-bound students) .....	November & March
Course Registration .....	February 2022
Prom .....	Friday, April 1
ACT plus Writing (Juniors) .....	Tuesday, March 29
AP Exams .....	May 2-12
Awards Day & Senior Picnic .....	Friday, May 20
Project Graduation Picnic .....	Saturday, May 21 at Spring Villa
Baccalaureate .....	Sunday, May 22 at 8:30 a.m. in OPAC
Graduation .....	Friday, May 27 at 7 p.m. in Bulldog Stadium
Project Graduation Party .....	May 27 from 11 p.m. to 3 a.m.

# Holidays/Non-Attendance Days

Labor Day Holiday (No School) . . . . .	Monday, Sept. 6
Fall Break . . . . .	Oct. 11-12
Professional Development Day (Students do not attend.)	Wednesday, Oct. 13
Veteran's Day Holiday (No School) . . . . .	Thursday, Nov. 11
Thanksgiving Holidays . . . . .	Nov. 24-26
Winter Holidays . . . . .	Dec. 20-Jan. 4
School dismisses Friday, Dec. 17 (half-day) & re-opens Wednesday, Jan. 5	
Teacher Work Day (Students do not attend.) . . . . .	Tuesday, Jan. 4
Martin Luther King, Jr., Holiday (No School). . . . .	Monday, Jan. 17
President's Day Holiday (No School) . . . . .	Monday, Feb. 21
Spring Break . . . . .	March 14-18
School re-opens Monday, March 21	
Professional Development Day (Students do not attend.) . . . .	Friday, April 1
Last Day of Classes . . . . .	Thursday, May 26
<i>Days closed for inclement weather will be made up on dates to be announced.</i>	

# Reporting Periods & Report Card Distribution

Quarter	Dates	Report Card Distribution
First	Aug. 9-Oct. 8	Oct. 17
Second	Oct. 9-Dec. 17	Jan. 7
Third	Jan. 5-March 22	March 13
Fourth	March 23-May 26	May 29 (mailed)

*All dates and activities present in the handbook are subject to change.*