

**STROM THURMOND
HIGH SCHOOL
&
STROM THURMOND CAREER & TECHNOLOGY
CENTER**

STUDENT HANDBOOK 2019-2020

Robert Grimm, Principal
Arthur Northrop, STCTC Director

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Johnston, SC 29832
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This agenda belongs to:

NAME: _____
ADDRESS: _____
PHONE: _____

**Welcome To
Strom Thurmond High School and
Strom Thurmond Career & Technology Center**

Welcome to Strom Thurmond High School. It is a pleasure to welcome you to a new academic year. The start of school is always an exciting time for me and this year it is especially so. Being the new person in the building, I feel like a freshman. For those who are freshman, we can do this together. Upperclassmen, we will need you to help us when you see us struggle, point us in the right direction, and save us a seat at lunch. We thank you in advance for your help.

Students, being your principal and allowing me to spend my days with you is a tremendous honor and one I will not take for granted. The adults of the building look forward to providing you the best education possible. There will be times we fall short, so will you. There are times we will not bring our "A" game, so will you. There are times we will be looking forward to the weekend, so will you. You see, we are in this together. But together we can make it the best year possible.

I encourage you to get involved. Statistics show students who are involved are significantly more likely to have a fun high school experience, graduate on time, and have more friends. STHS offers a large menu of ways to get involved, whether it be athletics, band, the arts, clubs or some yet to be created activity. Get involved!

As principal of STHS, my door is always open. I look forward to the privilege of serving you, the students, and seeing you at the numerous events and activities.

Go Rebels!

Robert Grimm
Principal, STHS

MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of Strom Thurmond High School and the Strom Thurmond Career & Technology Center is to create a safe, energetic, and rigorous learning environment that will engage, empower, and enrich all students.

Strom Thurmond High School Alma Mater

In hallowed affection her dear name appears,
Our bright alma mater will endure through the years.
Courageous and bold, with strength born of truth,
She guards o'er our happy days of youth.
Though our paths may be troubled and imperiled,
Her light guides the way to victory.
For dear old Strom Thurmond High School,
For red, white and blue,
We pledge all our faith and love anew.

Strom Thurmond High School Creed

We have an invincible spirit.
We are the students and faculty of Strom Thurmond High School.
We are headed for greatness and nothing will deter us.
We are exceptional – not just because we say it, but because we work hard at it.
We will not falter in the face of any obstacle placed before us.
We are dedicated, committed, and focused.
We never succumb to mediocrity, uncertainty, or fear.
We never fail because we never give up.
We make no excuses.
We choose to live honestly and honorably.
We respect ourselves and, in doing so, respect all people.
We see a future for which we are accountable.
We have a responsibility to ourselves, each other, and our society.
We are our brothers' keepers.
We believe in ourselves.
We believe in each other.
We believe in Strom Thurmond High School.
Together we have an **INVINCIBLE SPIRIT!!**

2019-2020 Administrative Team

Robert Grimm, Principal
Crystal Hadden, Assistant Principal Louis Scott, Assistant Principal

Guidance

Landon Booker, Director
Kathy McKenzie, Counselor Alisa Church, Counselor

Athletic Director

Mack Hite

Attendance Secretary

Imelda Shoffner

Discipline Secretary

Deleasha Rodgers

Bookkeeper

Donna Guess

Front Office Manager

Jennifer Lanham

Registrar and Guidance Secretary

Lisa Crocker

Nurse

Sharon Fay

Strom Thurmond Career and Technology Center

Arthur Northrop, Director
Connie Shannon, Guidance Sunny Covar, Secretary

Edgefield County School District Administration

(275-4601)

Dr. Kevin O’Gorman.....Superintendent
Mr. David Fallaw.....Assistant Superintendent
Mr. James Courtney.....Director of Maintenance and Operations

Edgefield County Board of Trustees

Mrs. Robin Ball, Chairperson
Mrs. Blair Massey, Vice Chairperson Dr. Willie Campbell, Secretary
Mr. Charles Blackston Mr. Johnny Peterson
Mrs. Deidra Young Dr. Carroll Wates

School Directory

Administration and Front Office	275-1768
STHS Fax	275-1764
Career & Technology Center Office.	275-1767
Attendance	275-1768
NJROTC	275-1768
Transportation	275-1776
Alcohol and Drug Abuse Agency.	637-5388
Child Abuse Agency.	637-3125
District Office.	275-4601
Athletic Information.	Mr. Mack Hite
Club Information.	Club Sponsors
College or Career Planning.	Guidance Office
Discipline.	Grade Level Administrator
Homebound Instruction	Mrs. Lisa Crocker
Illness in School.	Mrs. Sharon Fay
Job Information	Ms. Milhouse
Library/Media Service.	Ms. Marcie Burnip
Lockers and Locks	Mrs. Deleasha Rodgers
Lost Textbooks Information.	Mrs. Donna Guess
Parking and School Security.	Deputy Joshua Corley
Student Concerns	Guidance Office
Scholarships	STHS Guidance Office
School Insurance	Mrs. Donna Guess
School Lunch Program	Ms. Mary Anne Morgan
Signing in or out of school	High School Office
Transportation	Ms. Tanja Bryan

Federal Compliance Statements

Students, parents, school district employees, and general public, please be advised that all vocational opportunities are offered at Strom Thurmond High School and Strom Thurmond Career and Technology Center without regard to race, color, national origin, sex, or handicap.

The Edgefield County School District and all schools do not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, or handicap in admission or access to, or treatment or employment in, its educational programs and activities. Strom Thurmond Career and Technology Center does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, or handicap in admission or access to, or treatment or employment in any vocational class. For further information, contact Title IX Coordinator or Section 504 Coordinator, Jerrilyn Harmon at (803) 275-4601, P.O. Box 608, Edgefield, South Carolina 29824. We do reserve the right to admit or reject students who have been suspended or expelled from their previous school. Such students and their parents (legal guardian) should contact our County School Superintendent (803) 275-4601 for board approval to register in school.

2019– 2020 Bell Schedule

7:50	1 st Bell
8:00-9:28	1 st /5 th Block
9:33-10:14	Rebel Recon
10:19-11:48	2 nd /6 th Block
11:53-1:46	3 rd /7 th Block/Lunch
1:51-3:20	4 th /8 th Block

Lunch Periods

Lunch periods are determined by **3A** and **7B** classroom locations:

1st lunch (11:48-12:14):

All Career Center Teachers

S Hall

T Hall

Gym

Weight Room

2nd lunch (1:20 – 1:46):

B Hall

C Hall

D Hall

Fine Arts Classes

Portables

***A-day classes** are designated 1st through 4th blocks.

B-day classes are designated 5th through 8th blocks.

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Attendance

Attendance Regulations

The school year consists of 180 school days. Under the A-B block schedule, each one-credit class meets 90 days during the year. To receive credit, a student must attend 85 days. For a half-credit class, the student must attend 42 of the 45 days that the class meets. A student must be in attendance 80 percent of the class period (1 hour and 8 minutes for a yearlong/semester course and 40 minutes for a course during Rebel Recon) in order to be marked present. The classes during Rebel Recon meet every day for 50 minutes.

Written excuses by the parent/legal guardian allow students to make up work but do not excuse absences for the purpose of receiving high school credit when the absences exceed the five/three-day credit limit.

A written statement from a parent/legal guardian, physician, dentist or other recognized licensed/ certified medical practitioner or legal officer is required for each absence. The statement will be dated and include the following: date(s) of absence(s); reason for the absence(s); telephone number of the parent/legal guardian; required signature.

The statement must be presented to the attendance clerk no later than the student's third day back at school. A statement not properly submitted according to the terms of this policy will cause the absence to be recorded as unlawful. False excuses will be referred to the principal or his/her designee for appropriate disciplinary action. Principals may grant exceptions to this policy for extenuating circumstances. No exceptions will be considered if a student has even one absence because he/she cut school.

Intervention for Unlawful Absences

1. Upon a student accumulating three (3) consecutive or a total of five (5) unexcused absences, the student is considered truant. A letter will be sent to the parent/guardian requesting a meeting. Administration will meet with the parents/guardian and/or student to develop a plan to improve attendance.
2. Upon two more unexcused absences, the student will then be considered a habitual truant and a *District Attendance Plan* will be implemented with the District Truancy Officer, parent/guardian and student.
3. Upon two more unexcused absences, the Truancy Officer will schedule a Truancy tribunal meeting to be held at the District Office. Refusal to participate in the tribunal will result in an automatic referral to court.
4. Upon one more unexcused absence, District/School Administration shall send the student (ages 12-17) to the Edgefield County School District Alternative Program for a minimum of 45 school days. Refusal to attend the Alternative Program will result in an automatic referral to court.
5. Once at the Alternative Program, if a student accumulates an additional unexcused absence, the Truancy Officer will refer parents/guardian and student to court.

For detailed information about attendance, you may consult the district attendance policy on the website.

Any student who arrives late to school or who leaves school early MUST sign in and/or out with the front office. Students who do not follow this procedure will be disciplined for cutting school.

No student may participate in any sport or activity on a day she/he is absent unless the absence is of a lawful nature which does not affect the health or safety of the individual.

Attendance Letters

Attendance letters will be sent home after the student has three and five unexcused absences. Each letter will include a detailed printout of the student's attendance. An invitation for an attendance intervention meeting with the principal will be sent after five unexcused absences. Note: Students who do not attend school or classes will not be given consideration for any extension days. The maximum number of permissible absences for any reason is 5 days. **The administration does not condone students missing school as a group for personal interests.**

Homebound

Homebound instruction is a service provided by the State Department of Education for those students who cannot attend school because of physical limitations. Students who cannot attend school because of illness, accident, or pregnancy, even with the aid of transportation, are eligible for homebound or hospitalized instruction. A physician must certify that the student is unable to attend school but may profit from instruction given in the home or hospital by filling out the medical homebound form that the school district provides. The school district then decides whether or not to approve the student for medical homebound services. The school district will consider the severity of the student's illness or injury, the length of time that the student will be out of school, the impact that a long period away from school will have on the student's academic success, and whether the student's health needs can be met at school. The homebound teacher is required to meet the student a minimum of four hours and ten minutes per week. (Homebound attendance does not officially begin until the form is signed by a medical doctor and turned into the attendance clerk.) To learn more about medical homebound services, contact the Director of Special Services at 275-4601.

Cell Phones/ Electronic Devices

The use of cell phones, listening devices, and accessories in any capacity is only allowed in the **Green Zones** on campus. The Green Zones are located in the cafeteria, outside, the commons, and hallways. Headphones, airpods, or earbuds of any kind are not allowed in the halls. **If the cell phones, listening devices, or accessory is visible, it is considered in use.** Cell phone use may also be defined as, but not limited to: sending or receiving calls, text messages, pictures, and motion clips, playing games, voice mail, etc. Any classroom use is at the discretion of the teacher. Students will be held responsible for violations of additional policies while using cell phones. **Students should not use a speaker to broadcast music for any reason during school hours. Electronic items lost at school will not be investigated by school administration.**

If the items mentioned are seen or heard, they will be confiscated and the discipline code will be followed (Level I-B).

Discipline

Acts of disruptive conduct may include, but are not limited to, the following:

- **Level I - Simple Disorderly Conduct**
- **Level II - Disruptive Conduct**
- **Level III - Criminal Conduct**

Level I – Simple Disorderly Conduct

Disorderly conduct includes any activity in which a student engages that tends to impede orderly classroom procedures or instructional activities, orderly operation of the school, or the frequency or seriousness of which disturb the classroom or school. The provisions of this regulation apply not only to within school activities, but also to student conduct on school bus transportation vehicles, and other school sponsored activities.

Consequences may be changed at the discretion of the administration.

Level I-A Offenses (*The tardy policy starts over at the end of each semester.)

- Classroom Tardiness
- School Tardiness

Level I-A Consequences

Offense 1-2: Attendance warning/parent notification.

Offense 3-7: One day in detention hall per tardy.

Offense 8-10: 1 Day ISS per tardy. (After the 9th tardy, an attend meeting will be scheduled.)

Offense 11: One day of Out-of-School Suspension and a parent conference.

Offense 12: Out-of-School Suspension with pending Referral to a School Level Hearing. (May result in alternative school recommendation)

Level I-B Offenses

- Cell Phone/Electronic Device Violation
- Dress Code Violation
- Food Violation

Level I-B Consequences

Offense 1-2: Warning (Devices will be returned at the end of the day)

Offense 3-4: One day in detention hall per offense. (Devices must be picked up by a parent/guardian)

Offense 5-6: 1 Day ISS per offense. (Devices must be picked up by a parent/guardian)

Offense 7: One day of Out-of-School Suspension and a parent conference.

Offense 8: Out-of-School Suspension with pending Referral to a School Level Hearing. (May result in alternative school recommendation)

Level I-C Offenses

- Cheating (Take paper, teacher calls the parent/guardian, and give the lowest recorded grade with Administrative Referral)
- Dishonesty – Intentionally not telling the truth to faculty members.
- Forged Notes or Excuses
- Plagiarism (Take paper, teacher calls the parent/guardian, and give the lowest recorded grade with Administrative Referral)(Plagiarism cases will be reviewed by a plagiarism committee to determine further action)
- Failing to attend classes or assigned activities and/or leaving a classroom without appropriate approval.
- Possessing, distributing or selling materials unauthorized by the principal.
- Gambling on school grounds or in the school building.
- Abusive or profane language between or among students.
- Using any type of tobacco products at school or any that would indicate use of or possession of tobacco including matches, lighters, e-cigarettes, or similar devices.
- Showing affection toward another student. (i.e. kissing)
- Refusing to obey a reasonable request of or being disrespectful to a teacher, administrator, or other authorized school personnel.
- Disruption of school environment.
- Violation of the Technology Acceptable Use Policy
- Loitering – Any student who is not part of an extra-curricular activity and remains on school grounds beyond 4:00

Level I-C Consequences (*Consequences can be changed at the discretion of the administration.*)

1st Offense: Administrative Conference

2nd Offense: ISS 1 day

3rd Offense: ISS 2 days

4th Offense: 1 day of OSS (Out of School Suspension).

5th Offense: Out of School Suspension with pending Referral to a School Level Hearing. (May result in alternative school or expulsion recommendation)

Level II – Disruptive Conduct

Disruptive conduct includes those activities in which students engage that are directed against persons or property and the consequences of which tend to endanger the health or safety of themselves or others in the school. Some instances of disruptive conduct may overlap certain criminal offenses, justifying both administrative sanctions and court proceedings. The administration may reclassify disorderly conduct (Level I) as disruptive conduct (Level II) if the student engages in the activity three or more times. The provisions of this regulation apply not only to within school activities, but also to student conduct on school bus transportation vehicles, and other school sponsored activities.

Level II Offenses

- Using cellular device to record students, faculty, and staff without permission, including fights and verbal altercations.
- Leaving the school campus without appropriate approval.
- Trespassing on school property.
- Vandalism.(Students shall pay for all damage done to buildings, equipment or other property of the school, staff or other students before returning to school.)
- Threats against others / Bullying
- Abusive language or gestures directed at or to any school employee.
- Possessing or displaying pornographic materials.
- Use of an intoxicant.
- Continued refusal to comply with directives, or disturbances of the school program.
- Fighting, provoking a fight and/or slap boxing.
- Stealing
- Drug paraphernalia
- Gang related activities, materials, etc.; which show support to any gang affiliation or show symbols of violence.
- Bringing fireworks on school grounds.
- Forgery
- Illegally occupying or blocking in any way school property with the intent to deprive others of its use.
- Unlawful assembly or disrupting lawful assembly.
- Inappropriate use of technology (e.g., bullying, harassing, or intimidating other students or district employees, and accessing inappropriate websites).

Level II Consequences

- 1st Offense: 1-5 Days Out of School Suspension
- 2nd Offense: 3-5 Days Out of School Suspension
- 3rd Offense: Out of School Suspension with pending Referral to a School Level Hearing. (May result in alternative school or expulsion recommendation)
- 4th Offense: Referral to Alternative School or Expulsion Recommendation

Level III – Criminal Conduct

Criminal conduct includes those activities in which students engage that result in violence to themselves or to another's person or property or which pose a direct and serious threat to the safety of themselves or others in the school. These activities usually require administrative actions that result in the immediate removal of the student from the school, the intervention of law enforcement authorities, and/or action by the board. The provisions of this regulation apply not only to within school activities, but also to student conduct on school bus transportation vehicles, and other school sponsored activities.

Level III Offenses

- Assault and battery that poses a serious threat of injury or results in physical harm.
- Extortion
- Threat of the use of a destructive device (bomb, grenade, pipe bomb or other similar device)
- Possession, use, or transfer of any kind of weapon in school or on school grounds, such as firearm, knife, blackjack, etc.
- Vandalism or damage to a person or school property of a serious nature.
- Larceny/Theft, possession, or sale of stolen property of a serious nature.
- Furnishing, using, or selling unauthorized substances, as defined by law and/or local school board policy.
- Furnishing, selling, using, or possessing a controlled substances or any substance that is represented as a controlled substance (drugs, narcotics, or poisons).
- Arson
- Sex violations including indecent exposure and offenses against common decency.
- Group or gang-related fighting.
- Any activity that creates or has the potential of creating a major disruption of the school's program.
- Threat of physical harm to any staff member.
- Illegal use of technology (e.g., communicating a threat of a destructive device, weapon, or event with the intent of intimidating, threatening, or interfering with school activities and maliciously transmitting sexual images of minors other than images of the student or images transmitted with the uncoerced consent of the individual in the images).

Level III Consequences

A student, who commits any level III offense, will receive a minimum consequence of immediate out-of-school suspension (OSS), criminal prosecution, and a district level hearing that may result in a recommendation for expulsion.

Extenuating, Mitigating, or Aggravating Circumstances

The board may give the appropriate administrator the authority to consider extenuating, mitigating, or aggravating circumstances that may exist in a particular case of misconduct. The administrator should consider such circumstances in determining the most appropriate sanction.

Discipline of Disabled Students

Disciplinary process

Federal and state laws and regulations require the public schools to meet the individual educational needs of disabled children to the extent that current educational expertise permits.

Weapons (Firearms) and Drugs

It is unlawful for a student to possess a dangerous weapon or drugs on school premises. This includes actual possession, as well as constructive possession. Constructive possession would include placing a weapon or drugs in a location on school premises where another student may have access to the weapon. All students must be aware that it is illegal to have a weapon or drugs in their vehicle while it is parked or operated on school premises. A dangerous weapon is any type of firearm, knife, blackjack, metal pipe, or pole, razor, metal knuckles, or any other type weapon, device, or object that can be used to inflict bodily injury or death.

The Edgefield County School Board will expel any student who brings a weapon to school. For purposes of this policy, weapon means a firearm. The term firearm is defined extensively, in the U. S. Code, but generally means a weapon (gun) or destructive device (explosive, incendiary). The school board also intends to expel all students who distribute any controlled substance on school grounds. (Board Policy JICH and JICI) In addition to disciplinary action which will be taken, it is the policy of this District to report the possession of a dangerous weapon to the appropriate law enforcement agency for prosecution in the criminal courts.

* A student reserves the right to bring an object considered to be a weapon to administration prior to 8:30am. The administrator will conduct a thorough investigation and if circumstances dictate consequences could be lowered or dropped from a Level III offense.

Suspended or Expelled Students

A student who is suspended or expelled cannot enter the school grounds (except to attend a prearranged conference with an administrator), cannot attend any school functions (regardless of the fact that they are open to the general public), and cannot ride on a school bus (which is seen as an extension of school property). Trespassing violators will have additional days of out-of-school suspension applied to their disciplinary actions and may possibly face criminal charges. Expelled students must reapply in writing for admission to the Principal. (Readmit conferences are held before school starts the following year.)

Students are reminded that any unlawful activity outside of school could result in suspension or expulsion from school.

* Students who are guilty of breaches of conduct may be suspended or expelled if the offense does not already carry such punishment. Though not specifically mentioned in this list of breaches of conduct, any act which is detrimental to the good order, best interest, and physical safety of the school may be punished according to its nature and degree at the discretion of the administration.

After-School Detention

After-School Detention is held in the cafeteria from 3:30pm to 5:00pm on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday. Students are expected to bring only school-related materials to study and can be assigned work details. If a student is assigned after-school detention but needs to reschedule the detention date, they must reschedule with Mrs. Rodgers, Mr. Williams, or the administrator that assigned the detention before the end of lunch. Rescheduling cannot be done at all after 1:50 on the day of an assigned detention.

Cheating/Plagiarism

Cheating and/or plagiarism are defined as an effort to claim credit for work that is not one's own, or to assist another person to do so. It includes, but is not limited to the wrongful giving, taking, or presenting of any information or material by a student with the intent of aiding himself/herself or another student on any academic work which is considered in any way in the determination of the final grade. Any student found to be in violation of this policy will adhere to the consequences listed in the discipline code Level I-C. Students in violation of plagiarism are required to submit a written reflection to the principal and their teacher. More information will be provided during the administrative conference.

In-School Suspension

This program is designed to keep students who have been suspended in a learning environment. The in-school suspension teacher will explain the rules and regulations of the room to each student who has been assigned. Students are expected to complete the assignments given to them by their regular classroom teachers. Work assigned by the in-school suspension teacher also must be completed before leaving the program. Students will not be able to participate in extra-curricular activities during the period they are assigned to in-school suspension. Assignment to in-school suspension will be at the first available opening/space in the in-school program.

Students who violate the Discipline Code while in ISS will be suspended out of school.

Dismissal Procedures

No staff member will excuse any pupil from school prior to the end of the school day or into any person's custody without the direct prior approval and knowledge of the building principal. The principal will authorize early or otherwise irregular dismissal only when it is requested in person or in writing by the student's parent or legal guardian. The parent or legal guardian must request all non-emergency early dismissals in writing prior to the time of the requested dismissal.

Students who become ill during the day may not leave before obtaining permission from the nurse, unless the parent is present.

1. Students are encouraged to be dismissed only during class changes. This is an effort to minimize classroom disruptions. Class change times are:

9:28 – 9:33, 10:14 – 10:19, 11:48 – 11:53, 12:14 – 12:19, 1:46 – 1:51

2. If a student brings a note to school to sign out early for any reason, that note must be turned in to the front office before 8:00 AM. Notes will not be accepted throughout the day.

3. Notes should include the student's name, the date, time to be released, reason for excuse, parent's name, parent's signature, and a phone number so that the office can verify if needed.

4. Please do not call the front office and ask for a student to be released. We will not release a student from class or campus without either the parent or someone from the emergency contact list physically signing the student out. Please be prepared to come into school to sign out your child when needed.

5. Please bring your driver's license/ID when picking up a student. For the safety of our students, we require a photo ID for verification. Only those individuals listed in the student's data file will be allowed to sign out a student. The student must also come to the front office to check out before leaving the building.

6. If your student drives and has a medical/dental appointment or court date then the student must present a signed note the same day they need to leave campus by 8:00 AM. Without a written notification, a student who drives may leave campus only if a parent or someone from the emergency contact list comes into the school and signs them out.

7. All students will incur an unexcused absence for their time off campus unless they return with a formal doctor's note or a note from the court clerk within the third day back of the absence.

8. Please remember, if your child becomes sick while at school, he/she must be seen in the school nurse's office prior to leaving campus due to illness, unless the parent is present. If your student is too ill to attend classes, please be prepared to come to school to sign your child out for the day.

9. NO check outs will be allowed during state testing or the final exam schedule.

10. In all cases, students are officially dismissed only when they sign out in the front office after receiving permission. If they are returning to school, they must also sign in at the front office.

11. Leaving school without permission will result in a Level II Offense

12. Notes requesting dismissal are not absence documentation. Students must bring medical or parental documentation to excuse all absences due to a dismissal.

In addition, parents will not be able to sign students out after 3:00 pm. This will insure that end of the day procedures are completed and students are released in a timely and organized fashion.

No student will be dismissed during school hours for lunch or to run errands.

Dress Code Violations

Appropriate and non-distracting attire shall be worn in the educational setting. This includes off-campus activities such as field trips, performances and school sponsored events. Students are expected to show pride in themselves and their school by having their dress and appearance in accordance with acceptable standards. Our main concern is that students dress so that their appearance will not distract from the learning process in the classroom.

1. Appropriate Attire:

- Skirts and shorts must be at least fingertip length or longer when standing (leggings or tights do not substitute for length). **Sheer leggings and tights worn as pants must be covered by a top that is finger-tip length.**
- Young men's shirts must have sleeves.
- Clothing (pants, shorts, skirts) must cover undergarments.
- Pants, shorts and skirts must be worn at the waist.
- Straps on young ladies' tops must be the width of her "three fingers", no off the shoulder shirts.
- Proper supportive foundational garments must be worn.

2. Inappropriate Attire:

BANDANAS ARE NOT PERMITTED ON CAMPUS- VIOLATION WILL RESULT IN CONFISCATION.

- Hats, Head Scarfs, Hoods, and Head Coverings must be removed once a student enters the building.
- Tank tops, tube tops, halter tops, tops with string straps and plunging necklines that expose cleavage.
- Bare midriiffs and backs, "racerbacks"
- See-through garments.
- Excessively long wallet/pocket chains (longer than 6 inches).
- "Sagging" pants are prohibited. Sagging is when the crotch of the pants is near the knees or below the waist line.
- Jeans with rips and holes above the knee where skin can be seen.
- Bedroom shoes, loungewear/pajamas, and blankets.
- Clothing that promotes tobacco, alcohol, drugs, violence, gangs, or disrespect to others.
- Extremely tight clothing.
- No grills of any kind are allowed in a student's mouth.

3. State Health Regulations require that shoes and shirts must be worn at all times in a public building.

4. The display of obscene or profane language or gestures on clothing may result in an out-of-school suspension. While the displayed message may not be obscene or profane, the message conveyed may still be deemed inappropriate for the high school, and students will be asked not to wear the clothing.

5. The administration will make the final judgment on the appropriateness of clothing and/or appearance and reserves the right to prohibit students from wearing any articles of clothing or other items which lead to or may foreseeably result in the disruption of or interference with the school environment. The administration reserves the right to require a student to change clothes if what he or she is wearing is deemed to be inappropriate for school. In the event the administration determines a student's dress is inappropriate for school in accordance with this policy, the administration will either require the student to change or will inform the student not to wear the garment to school again. The misconduct will be handled with disciplinary action if it occurs more than once. **If a student has to go home to change, the absence(s) will be unexcused. Students who cannot go home to change or refuse to change will be offered a chance to fix the situation or sit in ISS for the remainder of the day.** Repeated violations of the Dress Code will be treated as disruptive behavior in violation of the District's Behavior Code level 1-B. Consequences can be changed at the discretion of the administration.

Food Regulations

No food or drink products may be taken from the cafeteria or canteen into classrooms, gym, and other areas of the school. All trays of food items should be properly removed from the cafeteria and student lounge areas. Students may not have food delivered to school from a public eating establishment.

No food or drink may be consumed in the classrooms or gymnasium, **with the exception of plain water in clear, resealable plastic containers.**

- **Plain water** is defined as unembellished water that comes from a tap, water cooler, or similar source or is purchased off the shelf or from a vending machine. It does not include flavored waters, or clear sodas (7Up, Sprite, etc.).
- **Clear containers** means colorless, transparent containers through which contents may be more easily identified at a glance. Containers that are tinted blue or red or any other color do not qualify as clear.
- **Resealable containers** means a screw on cap or push/pull valve that, when closed, precludes spillage if the container is upset. Cups with press-on lids and slits for straws are not acceptable. Containers should remain sealed between drinks.

Administration reserves the right to request an inspection of the contents of the clear, resealable plastic containers at any moment. If food or drink items are seen, they will be confiscated and the discipline code will be followed (Level I-B).

Non-Students on School Grounds

The principal is empowered to take appropriate action against non-students who invade the building, grounds, or other school property. Such action will include the right to call the police authorities and serve warrants. The authority for such is Article 5, 16-551 of the South Carolina Code of Laws: “disturbing school – it shall be unlawful: (1) For any person willfully or unnecessarily (a) to interfere with or disturb in any way or in any place the students or teachers of any school or college in the State; (b) to loiter about such school or college premises, or (c) to act in an obnoxious manner thereon; or (1) For any person to (a) enter upon any such school or college premises or (b) loiter around the premises except on business, without the permission of the principal or person in charge. Any person violating any of the provisions of this section shall pay a fine of not less than \$100 dollars nor more than \$1000 dollars or to be imprisoned in the county jail for not less than 30 days nor more than 90 days.”

Tardy Regulations

Promptness is expected; tardiness to class is unacceptable. Tardiness is defined as the arrival of a student in the classroom beyond the scheduled time that homeroom or class is to begin, which is after the bell has finished ringing. (Once the classroom door is closed, the student is tardy). Students who are tardy interrupt instruction, distract other students, and miss part of class. Tardiness is both an attendance and discipline problem. Any student found to be in violation of this policy will adhere to the consequences listed in the discipline code Level I-A. The tardy policy starts over at the end of each semester.

* Each teacher is instructed to lock and close classroom doors at the tardy bell. Any student who does not make it inside the classroom before the tardy bell will report immediately to the cafeteria for a tardy pass. No teacher is to admit students to class after the tardy bell without a pass from either the front office personnel or the tardy supervisor.

General Procedures

Canteen

Canteens are located in the commons area next to the gym. They will be opened at lunch time for your convenience. Students will be responsible for keeping the canteen clean at all times. The canteen may be closed at any time if the area is not kept clean. The canteen will be supervised and operated by the NJROTC students and instructors at the high school and staff in the Career Center.

Club Meetings

No student meetings will be held in the school building during or after school unless they are under the supervision of a faculty member. All campus meetings must be approved by the administration. Faculty sponsor must request meetings to the principal 48 hours in advance. All class projects, club projects, and other school-connected schedules must be cleared through the principal's office.

Entering the Building

Students can enter the commons area and cafeteria parts of the school before the 7:50 bell. Students are to talk in a low tone and are not to block any entrance or exit. **Students are not to sit in cars or stand in parking lots before, during, or after school. They are to report to the building immediately upon arriving and must leave the school grounds immediately after exiting the building.** Any student who is not part of an extra-curricular activity and remains on school grounds beyond 4:00 will be referred to administration for loitering.

Exams

A comprehensive semester exam will be administered in each subject area at the end of the second and fourth nine-week grading periods and will carry a weight of 20 percent of the semester grade. An exam schedule will be determined by the school administration.

There will be no exemptions for students taking high school/Carnegie unit courses through grade 11. Seniors are eligible to exempt an exam with an average of 90 or higher, provided the student has met all attendance requirements. The 90 or higher average exemption applies to **final exams** for a semester course and the second semester of a year-long course during a student's senior year. (All dual enrollment courses are subject to higher education institution policies).

No early or makeup exams will be given to any student without administration approval. Senior final exams will be as follows: May 26th: 1A/3A; May 27th: 5B/7B; May 28th: 2A/4A; May 29th: 6B/8B.

Fees

All students are required to pay a \$25.00 instructional and activity fee when they register for school. Students enrolled in some courses may be required to pay additional fees for expendable materials. For example, all students in a registered in a lab science course will pay an additional \$10.00 lab fee. Lockers may be rented from the office for \$5.00. No decals or writing on lockers will be permitted. Only school- furnished locks can be on lockers! Lost locks will cost the students \$5.00 each. Students who drive cars will be required to pay \$20.00 for parking permits. Permits will not be sold to any student with outstanding fees. Students with three or more discipline offenses could lose their privilege to drive to school. No refunds will be issued for the loss of a parking permit. (See Permits/Parking Regulations for more information.)

Fire Drills

Fire drill evacuation plans will be reviewed by each classroom teacher. To prevent a possible tragedy, we must all cooperate to insure that everyone knows his proper route out of the building in case of fire. All students, faculty, and staff must leave the building during the drill. Fire drills take place on a monthly basis without advance notice. Everyone will move away from the buildings a distance of at least 100 feet in a single file line. Anyone pulling a false alarm will be suspended from school and recommended for expulsion as well as recommended for legal action.

Fund Raising

The Board believes that it is a poor policy to solicit money from the general public to meet the needs of the schools. It shall be the policy of the Board to familiarize the constituency of the District with the needs of schools and to

request the taxpayers to pay sufficient taxes to provide a good school program. However, the Board shall permit students to engage in fund-raising to support certain approved student activities.

All money making projects by any organization or club must have approval by the principal and superintendent. Such fund-raising campaigns by students shall be kept to a minimum. The selling of items for outside groups which are not school related is strictly prohibited, and violations are liable for suspension from school. Students will be responsible for turning in all monies received in payment of products sold by school organizations to the appropriate sponsor/sponsors. Students are reminded to collect full price for sold article at the time of sale.

Hall Passes

Hall passes are located in the student agenda. Any student out of class must have his/her agenda signed by the teacher who has granted the student permission to be out of class. There is ample time between classes to use restrooms and get water. Students are not to stay after class to finish assignments or tests. Teachers do not have authority to write students a pass to another class.

Hall Regulations

- Students are not to be in the halls without a pass signed by their teacher during class time.
- Students are to refrain from standing in the door paths and in the hall intersections during the change of classes.
- There must be no running or loud talking in the halls.
- There must be no eating or drinking soft drinks in the hall or in the classrooms. Food items from the lunchroom are not allowed in the school building.
- Students are not permitted in the hallways the first and last 5 minutes of each period.

Health Room

Students who become ill during school are to go with a teacher pass to the health room located in the high school office. The nurse will make arrangements for you to go home or to the health room. Students who are sick are not to go to the restroom.

The health room is for those with emergency illnesses. Students with headaches or colds cannot be accommodated. Students who are too sick to be in class are too sick to be in school. School personnel and the school nurse are not permitted to provide medication of any sort to students.

All medications taken and/or distributed at school must be under written guidelines by a student's parent/guardian or a physician and must be secured in the nurse's office.

Immunizations

As students register, the nurse will verify if they have a valid SC Immunization Certificate. If they do, the certificate/copies will be sent to guidance with all other registration material for the permanent records. If the students do not have valid SC certificates, temporary certificates will be issued by the nurse. The school's and health department's copies will be sent to guidance. The school's temporary copy should be filed in the permanent record and the nurse should mail the DHEC copy to the appropriate agency. The nurse will monitor the status of the temporary certificates and notify the administration at the end of 21 days/3 weeks if the certificates are not clear. The administration will send the suspension letters and meet with the parents to work toward successful resolution of the situation as needed. Students without documented proof of immunization records will be sent home after 30 days until proof is furnished.

Inclement Weather Procedures

If poor weather conditions or other circumstances force schools to close or to dismiss early, parents are reminded to listen to the local radio station or TV station for that information. If possible, announcements will be made by 7 a.m. on the day schools are to be closed. If weather changes during the day and schools are to close early, the

announcement will be made immediately: Channel 6, Channel 12, Channel 26, WJES/WKSX- Johnston, WBBQ-Augusta, and WSCZ-Greenwood.

If there is a tornado approaching, the following actions should be taken:

- In School: Go to the interior hallways in the building. Stay away from windows. Do not look through or stand near any windows. Open a window and a door to the classroom before leaving the room. DO NOT go to the auditorium, gym or any structure with large, poorly-supported roofs.
- In Open Country: Move away from the tornado at a right angle. If there is not time to escape, lie flat in the nearest ditch or ravine.
- In Cars or Buses: Stop and leave the vehicle. Lie down in the nearest ditch or ravine.

Individual Health Care Plans/Individual Health Plans (IHPs)

Individual health care plans are also called individual health plans or IHPs. School nurses who are registered nurses write IHPs to guide how a student's health care needs will be met while at school. The nurse works with the student, the student's parents or legal guardians, the student's health care provider, and other school staff to write the plan. IHPs are written for students who have special health care needs that must be met by school staff during the school day. IHPs are also written for students who have been approved by the school district to self-medicate or self-monitor. To learn more about IHPs, talk with your child's school nurse or the Director of Special Services at 275-4601.

Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) 2004

Students, ages 3 through 21 years, may receive services under the IDEA if the student needs special education and related services to benefit from his or her educational program. A team decides if a student qualifies for services under the IDEA. The team includes the student's parent or legal guardian, teachers, and other school staff. The team develops an Individualized Education Program (IEP) if the student meets federal and state requirements. The IEP outlines a plan for helping the student receive a Free Appropriate Public Education (FAPE) and meet goals set by the team. The IEP may include health services for the student during the school day if needed. Contact the Director of Special Services at 275-4601 to learn more about the IDEA.

Instructional Assignments

At the high school level, due to the content of some college preparatory (Honors) and college level courses (AP), homework is necessary on weekends, over holidays and over summer vacation. At the secondary level, the teacher will record a grade of zero for any homework assignment not turned in or checked (if it is kept in a journal or notebook). At the end of the nine weeks, the teacher will average all homework grades to derive a percentage grade for homework assignments. Each teacher will provide their students with a syllabus containing the specified information for weightings.

Since the instructional time at school is at so limited, it should be used for instruction or supervised practice/extension activities. It will not be used by students to do their homework at school. Teachers should announce tests at least one day in advance.

Late Arrivals (Non-Bus Riders)

Students who arrive at school late must report to the main office to sign in and then to class with an admit slip. Students will not be excused for oversleeping, car trouble, and running personal errands for their family, such as taking family members to other schools or jobs. Students are to be at school and in their classroom seats before the tardy bell rings. Students who do not sign in with the front office will be considered cutting and will be disciplined accordingly.

Late Buses

All late bus students should go directly to the front office and sign the Late Bus Sign-in sheet. Those students not signing this sheet will not be excused.

Lockers

Lockers will be issued to students at registration. Combination locks are provided for each student and are the only the only ones which may be used on school lockers. A fee of \$5.00 will be charged for all lost locks. Lockers are provided to each student so that school-related items may be conveniently stored. Lockers should not be used for storing other items since lockers are subject to inspection and subject to the subsequent removal of non-school related items. **The school is not responsible for the loss of items from school lockers.**

Students should make certain that lockers remain locked when not in use. No valuables should be left in any locker at any time. **All lockers are school property and may be searched when there is any suspicion that the locker might contain drugs, alcoholic beverages, weapons, or other items that might be considered dangerous to students or to school property.** Lockers will be inspected periodically. Students are not to write on or place stickers on or in their lockers. Students in a P.E. class must give valuables to their teacher for safekeeping. Students are not allowed to share their lockers with anyone and they must keep their lockers locked when not in use with a school lock. Students will pay for any damages to lockers. Students are not allowed to go to their lockers during 3A or 7B if the locker is in an area of the building where classes are conducted. You must plan your time to your locker accordingly.

Lunch Procedures

At the beginning of the school year, students will be assigned a lunch period based on their 3rd (A-day) and 7th (B-day) block class locations. Areas will be designated that will be open to students during lunch periods. Students are not permitted in the halls without a pass during lunch, excluding inclement weather. **Students cannot have two lunch periods and are not to be dismissed from class early to go to lunch.** Students who bring lunch to school may eat it in the cafeteria or lunchroom areas.

Cafeteria rules are as follows:

- Put books in locker before going to the cafeteria.
- Walk to your place in line. Do not run.
- No cutting in line or shoving.
- No saving places for other students.
- Students cannot purchase lunch for another student.
- Have change ready and keep lines moving as rapidly as possible.
- Sit at any table of your choice.
- No shouting, wandering about the cafeteria, or behaving in such a way as to disturb others.
- Put your trays away when you are finished.
- If you are not eating in the cafeteria, do not stand in the serving line.
- Clean up any dropped or spilled food.
- **Students are not permitted to leave campus for lunch.**
- Students may not have food delivered to school from a public eating establishment.
- **Food or drink is NOT allowed in the hallways or classrooms. The only exception to this rule is water, in a clear resealable container.**
- **Designated eating areas include the cafeteria, outside commons, and front commons. Students are not permitted to eat lunch or congregate on the ramp or outside of the restrooms.**

Make-Up Work

Students are expected to be in school on a regular basis to achieve specific curriculum objectives and develop concepts adopted by the district. They will be required to make up all work missed. Instructional personnel will provide information on assignments, provide help and permit the completion of work missed due to absences.

When lawful absences occur, immediate attention is to be given by the teacher, student and parent/legal guardian to work missed by the student. Special efforts must be made by each of these to see that missed work has been made up. The teacher will specify a reasonable period of time to make up the missed work based on the length of absence and school time missed. An automatic unsatisfactory grade for absences in this category is not permitted. However, after reasonable efforts have been made by school personnel without success, an unsatisfactory grade may be given. When unlawful absences occur, students and/or parents/legal guardians are to request information on assignments missed. Teachers are to clearly inform students and/or parents/legal guardians of required assignments and are to give students one week to make up the work missed on their own. If work is not completed satisfactory in one school week, an unsatisfactory grade may be assigned for the work. The weight of this grade will be no greater than that which the assignments would ordinarily carry.

It is the student's responsibility to make up any missed schoolwork. Students are not allowed to make up work during the class period. Instructors may require students to remain after school to make up tests, and the students may be dismissed as soon as tests are complete.

Students who return following out-of-school suspension or any absence have the right to request make-up work within five (5) days of their return. It is the student's responsibility to request assignments from the instructor. The work must be completed within 10 days of the student's return to school.

Parties

No parties during school hours are allowed under any circumstances without the advanced approval of the principal.

Permits/Parking Regulations

Student drivers must buy a parking permit (\$20.00) to be entitled to use the parking area for students. The cost of the permit is the same throughout the entire school year. **All fees must be paid prior to the purchase of a permit, and no student may drive to school before purchasing a permit.** Students with three or more discipline offenses could lose their privilege to drive to school. No refunds will be issued for the loss of a parking permit.

After the car has been parked, students are required to leave the area immediately. There will be no sitting in automobiles at any time. Students are not to go into the parking lot during school hours unless accompanied by school personnel. All students are urged to lock their cars. The school is not responsible for any losses. Courtesy and good judgment is expected of all students parking or driving on the school grounds. Please note that **school administration has the right to search all vehicles on school grounds without notice.**

Parking permits are needed for cars, trucks, and motorcycles. The permit must be displayed in the proper location (mirror hang tag). The regulations that govern student parking will be issued to each student that requests a permit. Any student driving in a fast and/or reckless manner, littering on campus or in the parking lot, and playing music too loudly on school grounds will lose driving privileges for a period of time to be determined by administration. Driving across the grass is not allowed. Additional parking violations will incur the following charges:

1st Violation- Warning **Each Violation After the 1st -** \$5 per violation

Any violation of traffic laws may cause a student to lose parking and driving privileges on campus.

Any student wanting to drive a car or truck to a vocational shop must have prior written permission of the teacher and Mr. Northrop. No student can park behind the vocational shops. Violation of this policy will result in three days in-school suspension.

Returned Checks

In the event your check is returned for insufficient funds, a letter will be sent home by the bookkeeper. A fee of \$15 will be charged for each returned check.

School Accident Insurance

An opportunity is given to each student to purchase school insurance for either a nine month or twelve month period through Bollinger Specialty Group. More information can be found at www.bollingerschools.com. The cost will be determined by the insurance company. Two policies for accident insurance are available to students. One is a school-time only plan that provides coverage from the first day of school or at 12:01am following the date of purchase through the end of June. The other is a full twenty-four hour coverage policy that provides coverage from the first day of school or at 12:01 am following the date of purchase through the last day of summer vacation. The parent should read a copy of the policy coverage to become familiar with the terms of the policy.

School Publications

School news prepared for parents, publication in the newspaper, television, or radio will be approved by the administration. In order for a student to be featured in a publication, a media release form must be signed.

Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973

Section 504 is a federal law that requires public schools to make adjustments so that students with certain disabilities can learn and participate in settings like other students who do not have disabilities. To be eligible for services under Section 504, a student must have a condition that substantially limits one or more major life activities. A team decides if a student is eligible. The team should include the student's parent or legal guardian, the student (if able), and others who know the student or know about the student's disability, such as a teacher, a guidance counselor, a school nurse, and other school staff. If the student is eligible, the team develops an individual accommodation plan. The individual accommodation plan explains how the student's needs will be met while at school and may include health services for the student during the school day if needed. To learn more about Section 504, contact the Director of Special Services at 275-4601.

Senior Late Arrival/Early Dismissal

Each senior student must complete an application and submit it to the guidance department. All approvals for this program will be made on a case by case basis by the guidance department and by administration. The rising senior should complete the application process during the summer registration or by the 10th day of the school year.

Participation in this program is a senior privilege. Failure to follow appropriate procedures becomes a discipline issue. **Approved students must sign in/out daily with the front office and wait in the front lobby for rides.** If a student fails to be in the lobby, they can be written up for being in an unauthorized area, with normal discipline procedures to follow.

Students with Special Health Care Needs

Many health care services can be provided for students to keep them at school where they can learn and participate with other students. Our goal is to provide information to parents and legal guardians about some of the services and programs available for addressing the health care needs of students during the school day to help students succeed in school. It is important that the necessary health care information is shared with the appropriate people, such as teachers on duty during lunch, bus drivers, and cafeteria employees, to make sure that the students' needs are met throughout the school day.

Substitute Teachers

Students are expected to follow the instructions of substitute teachers. Insubordination or failure to follow the directions of a substitute teacher will be dealt with strictly by the administration.

Telephones

Students are not allowed out of class to use office phones unless they are sick or there is a real emergency. The office phone can only be used to call home because of illness. Students must conduct all other telephone business before school, during their lunch break, or after school. Calls are not to be made during class time.

Transportation & Buses

While riding buses at all times, students are under the supervision of school officials. **Thus, riding the bus is an extension of school.** Students are to leave the high school on the bus that will take them to their home. Students must ride the same regular scheduled bus to school or home. **If a change of buses is needed, a student must submit a signed, written request stating the reason for the change and the name/address of the new destination to the front office by 8:00 am. The Transportation Department will approve/deny the request, and the student will be provided with a slip that must be given to the bus driver.** Every precaution for a safe transportation system must be exercised. All bus passengers are reminded that the driver is in charge of the bus at all times. All passengers are to obey the instructions of the driver or face disciplinary action of school officials.

All bus passengers are reminded that buses will depart from campus each afternoon five minutes after school is dismissed. When the conduct of an individual is such that it jeopardizes the safety of others, he/she will be asked to provide his own transportation.

Bus Rules:

- Observe same conduct as in the classroom.
- Be courteous, use no profane language.
- Do not eat or drink on the bus.
- Keep the bus clean.
- Cooperate with the driver.
- Do not smoke.
- Do not be destructive.
- Stay in your seat and sit facing the front of the bus.
- Keep hands, head and feet inside the bus.
- Do not crowd or push around door of bus.
- No running or shoving near bus.
- Bus driver is authorized to assign seats.

Level I Bus Consequences

Consequences can be changed at the discretion of the administration.

- 1st Offense: Warning/Parent Notification.
- 2nd Offense: One Week Suspension from the bus.
- 3rd Offense: Two Week Suspension from the bus.
- 4th Offense: Suspended from the bus for the remainder of the year.

The bus drivers have been trained to follow the proper rules and regulations of the Director of Transportation and South Carolina Highway Department. Students are to report any and all bus driver concerns to the administration no later than one day after the problem.

Use of High School Building After School Hours

At no time will the high school building or any other high school facility be used by any student or adult except under the direct supervision of a high school teacher unless School Board approved. If a teacher gives a student or students permission to remain in the building after school hours for work or practice, this work or practice must be under the personal and direct supervision of the teacher or sponsor and with the understanding that the building be cleared by 4:00 p.m. Students should not be in the building without the supervision of a teacher. Teachers or other designated staff members are to wait until all students have left campus. **Students are not permitted in the teachers' lounge to get refreshments.**

Any program taking place after school hours must be planned in advance, have the approval of the principal, and be listed on a master calendar in the office. All programs must be properly supervised by a faculty member or other designated staff member. Any students who are on campus without supervision after 4:00 will be trespassing.

Visitors

- **Visitors to the campus MUST check in with the front office, present his/her driver's license, and receive a Visitor's Badge. Visitor's badges must be worn at ALL times and must be returned to office prior to exit of the building.**
- Students are not permitted to have visitors except for their parent or legal guardian with an approved parent visitor form.
- Visitors are not permitted to ride school buses to school.
- **No visitors are allowed during exams.**
- No visitors are permitted in a classroom without principal's written permission. (See observation request form)
- Visitors who wish to see teachers must schedule a time during the teachers planning period.
- Teachers must come get the visitor and escort the visitor back when the visit is complete.

Guidance Counseling and Services

Guidance and counseling services at Strom Thurmond High School & the Career and Technology Center constitute an integral part of the educational program. It is believed that the function of these services is to assist young people in moving from dependence to independence and in obtaining maximum benefit from the high school experience. Thus, the guidance department of Strom Thurmond High School has established the following objectives:

- To provide an awareness of guidance services regarding educational planning, career development, and social personal development,
- To make students and parents aware of orientation services provided by the guidance department and encourage full utilization.
- To assist in identifying the curriculum or needs of students.
- To provide students with the best possible placement (educational and vocational).
- To provide students with an awareness of career opportunities, requirements, and training and also to provide an awareness of their abilities, aptitudes and interests in order to develop a more rewarding and satisfying life.
- To provide individual and group counseling services.

Strom Thurmond High School and the Career Center counselors can help you with the majority of your problems. Most of their time is spent in the area of personal, vocational, and educational counseling. Help may be given by your counselor regarding school subjects, grades and study habits, college selections, vocational schools, scholarships, and financial aid. Information concerning College Entrance Examinations, National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test, Preliminary Scholastic Aptitude Test, etc. may be obtained in the counselor's office. Students must have their regular classroom teacher's permission, in writing, before going to a counselor during class time.

Please remember that it is the student's responsibility to see the counselors concerning the taking of the PSAT and SAT/ACT. You may take the SAT or ACT several times during your junior or senior year. Your highest score is the only score used for college entrance or in competition for awards. It is the student's responsibility to have SAT or ACT scores mailed to the school or college of your choice.

Counselors

See your counselor when you: a) feel you are not doing well in some classes, b) need help in planning or adjusting your program, c) would like to discuss your vocational interests, d) want information about PSAT, SAT, or ACT test or interpretation of various tests you have been given, e) would like to talk to someone about a problem, f) need employment, g) want information about future educational opportunities.

For specific requirements to various schools or colleges, catalogues are available in the guidance office and should be consulted. Information from many universities is also available on the internet. Counselors at the high school are trained to assist in the planning of a high school, college, or technical program to meet any academic or vocational need.

Last Name A-G: Kathrin McKenzie
Last Name H-O: Alisa Church
Last Name P-Z: Landon Booker
Vocational Services: Connie Shannon

The information listed above is to help guide you to the counselor responsible in a certain area of the high school program. However, all counselors are prepared to assist all students with their high school experience.

Diploma Requirements

Strom Thurmond High School grants only a South Carolina High School diploma. A student must earn 24 diploma units, distributed as required by the State Department of Education in order to receive a high school diploma.

Graduation and Promotion Requirement Guidelines			
Graduation Requirements 24 Credits		Promotion Requirements for Each Grade Level	
Subject	Unit Required	Grade Level Required	Credits Required
English Language Arts	4	To Tenth Grade English 1 (1 Unit) Math (1 Unit) 4 Additional Credits	6 Credits
Mathematics	4	To Eleventh Grade English 1 & 2 Math (2 Units) Science (1 Unit) Social Studies (1 Unit) 6 Additional Credits	12 Credits
Science (Biology Required)	3	To Twelfth Grade English 1,2, & 3 Math (3 Units) Science (2 Units, 1 in Biology) Social Studies (1 Unit) Additional Credits (9 Units)	18 Credits
U.S. History and Constitution	1	<p>Students must demonstrate proficiency in computer literacy before graduation.</p> <p>Four year colleges/universities require at least two and some more than two units of the same foreign language.</p>	
Economics	.5		
U.S. Government	.5		
Other Social Studies	1		
Physical Education or NJROTC	1		
Computer Science	1		
Foreign Language or Career and Technical Education	1		
Electives	7		
Total	24		

*The student must demonstrate proficiency in computer literacy before graduation.

*Four-year colleges/universities require at least two, and some more than two, units of the same foreign language.

*For students in a college preparatory program, one unit must be earned in a foreign language; and for students in a technology preparation program, four occupational units must be earned.

**COLLEGE PREPARATORY COURSE
PREREQUISITE REQUIREMENTS FROM S.C. COMMISSION
ON HIGHER EDUCATION**

FOUR UNITS OF ENGLISH: At least two units must have strong grammar and composition components, at least one must be in British Literature, and at least one must be in American Literature. Completion of College Preparatory English 1, 2, 3 and 4 will meet this criterion.

FOUR UNITS OF MATHEMATICS: These include Algebra 1, Geometry, Algebra 2, and one additional math course above the level of Algebra 2.

THREE UNITS OF LABORATORY SCIENCE: Two units must be taken in two different fields and selected from among biology, chemistry, or physics. The third unit may be from the same field as one of the first two units (biology, chemistry, or physics) or from advanced environmental science and laboratory or marine biology with laboratory for which biology and/or chemistry is a prerequisite. Courses in earth science and a general science for which biology and/or chemistry is not a prerequisite will not meet this requirement.

TWO UNITS OF THE SAME FOREIGN LANGUAGE

THREE UNITS OF SOCIAL SCIENCE: One unit of U.S. History, one half unit of Economics and one half unit of Government are required.

FOUR UNITS OF ELECTIVES: Four college preparatory units must be taken from three different fields selected from among Computer Science, English, Fine Arts, Foreign Languages, Humanities, Laboratory Science (excluding earth science, general physical science, general environmental science or other introductory science courses for which biology and/or chemistry is not a prerequisite), Mathematics above the level of Algebra 2, and Social Sciences. It is suggested that one unit be in Computer Science, which includes programming (i.e., not just keyboarding), and one unit in Fine Arts (appreciation of, history, or performance.).

ONE UNIT OF PHYSICAL EDUCATION OR ROTC:

Note: Each institution may make exceptions in admitting 1) students who do not meet all of the prerequisites, limited to those individuals cases which the failure to meet one or more prerequisites is due to circumstances beyond the reasonable control of the student or 2) students who have taken the Tech Prep (Allied Academics) courses rather than the required college preparatory curriculum described above and who meet all other institutional admission criteria.

*For any student who entered 9th grade after school year 1999-2000, pre-algebra is an elective credit only.

*Students planning to go to college are encouraged to take honors courses. Advanced composition, Math, Science, and Social Studies should be taken. Additional courses that should be taken include 2 years of a foreign language and computer science.

* If you plan to attend a 4-year college you should also refer to the heading Four Units of Electives. It is important to choose appropriate courses for college electives so contact your counselor if you have questions. Always check with your counselor if you need to know whether a certain course is required for a particular college major.

*Students in special programs should consult their counselor as to units earned in some classes.

* Students may carry over Carnegie units from 8th grade (i.e., English I, Algebra I, Keyboarding or Band).

* Students must demonstrate proficiency in computer literacy to meet South Carolina requirements for graduation.

Class Ranking

Class rank will be determined by arriving at each student's GPA (Total Quality Points – sum of units attempted) and then placing them in rank order so that the highest GPA is number one and the lowest GPA is the lowest ranked student. Should two students have the same GPA, those students will share the same rank. Every student is ranked by this system.

Class rank will be computed at the end of each semester. All courses are used to calculate the GPA (Grade Point Average). Semester grades are used in the calculation of the GPA at the end of first semester for the current year and final grades for preceding years. Final grades are used for all end of year ranking.

When counselors/administration give out class rank information, the class rank is given to students and parents in percentiles (top 5%, top 10%, etc.). **No class rank or honor graduate information will be provided until the Awards Night Program in May of each school year.**

*High School GPAs are most often converted from any weighing system by colleges, universities, and the NCAA Clearinghouse for student athletes. The conversion follows the numeric system A=4.0, B=3.0, C=2.0, D=1.0, F=0. Therefore, all converted GPAs will be lower than any high school GPA computed on a weighted system. If you need additional information, please contact your counselor.

Commencement Participation

Students can participate in one graduation exercise only. Only students who have fulfilled all requirements for a state diploma, state certificate, or students who are eligible for a certificate of attendance or occupational diploma through the district's special services program will be eligible to participate in commencement.

All students must pay all debts to Strom Thurmond High School before they will be allowed to take part in graduation exercises.

Students who do not graduate with a South Carolina State diploma at the spring graduation forfeit any facsimile of the diploma ordered as a plaque or miniature diploma as part of their graduation order. According the Edgefield

County School Board Policy IKF, students who are in Adult Education or are assigned to the alternative program are not eligible to participate in on-campus activities to include commencement. _

District Occupational Certificate

All students with specific learning disabilities that are not on diploma track will be awarded a certificate provided the student has met all the goals on the student's individualized education plan.

Dual Credit

Strom Thurmond High School offers a number of Dual Credit Courses. Students who take these courses may simultaneously earn high school Carnegie units and college credit. A semester course (1/2 Carnegie unit) translates to 3 semester hours of college credit. Tuition and other college course fees shall be at the expense of the individual student unless otherwise specified in the school district policy.

Early Graduation

Those who are candidates for graduation who have attended high school (grades nine through 12) for less than four academic years will not be considered for any senior honor relating to graduation with the exception of honor graduate, if applicable. This noted honor will not take the place of a four-year senior who is in line to receive it.

Early Graduation Requirements and Procedures

Any student wishing to graduate at the end of the third year of high school must make a formal written request to the principal for early graduation by the first day of February of his/her junior year. A student who chooses to graduate early will be notified by his/her counselor no later than the beginning of March of his/her junior year if his/her request is granted.

Early Graduation Eligibility

To graduate early, a student must have enough units in all identified subject areas to be a candidate for receiving a South Carolina diploma no later than the end of summer session of the graduation academic year. Medical exceptions will be reviewed on an individual basis by the administration.

Valedictorian and Salutatorian

The valedictorian and salutatorian must have attended Strom Thurmond High School at least two complete years immediately prior to graduation (junior and senior years).

Senior Privileges Forfeited

Students who choose early graduation and do not have enough units to be placed in a senior homeroom forfeit all senior privileges. They may still qualify for honor graduate status.

- placement in the senior section of the yearbook
- exemption of second semester final exams
- attendance at senior luncheon
- ranking with senior class (per Edgefield County school board policy IHC)
- school-based scholarship considerations
- speaker or platform participant at graduation exercises
- Beta Club graduation recognition

Students can participate in one graduation exercise only and they must be a candidate for a high school diploma or district occupational credential.

Enrollment/ Withdrawal Procedures

Enrollment Procedure

1. Bring a parent or guardian to school for registration. The new student must validate district residence.
2. Have birth certificate, immunization record, report card and/or a withdrawal form from former school.
3. Take student and necessary information sheet to the respective Guidance Counselor for scheduling of classes.
 1. Go to the bookkeeper's office to pay for all registration fees.

A student's grades and courses transferring in will be calculated according to the South Carolina Uniform Grading Scale. GPA and rank in class will fall in order among students in the same graduating class.

Student Withdrawal Procedure

1. Go to the Guidance office to pick up a withdrawal form.
2. Turn in textbooks at this time.
3. Go to the bookkeeper's office to clear all bills.
4. Clear all bills with the cafeteria and library.
5. Return all NJROTC uniforms and equipment if applicable.
6. Take form to the principal or assistant principal for signature.
7. Bring form to respective Guidance Counselor for signature.
8. The counselor will make a copy of student's schedule and report card to go in the permanent record.
9. Counselor will drop student from classes.
10. Counselor will make copies of the withdrawal form for the student, and the attendance secretary. The original copy is placed in the permanent record folder.

Financial Aid and Scholarships

Information regarding scholarships and financial aid is provided to students and parents through a senior newsletter. Students begin the merit-based application process when they apply for admission to college. Each college has its own merit programs which have specific criteria for awards. Some require separate scholarship applications; others do not.

The need-based financial aid application process begins in December with the completion of the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). These forms cannot be completed and submitted until January 1 of a student's senior year. A financial aid night program will be held in early February, and parents/students will receive assistance in completing this form.

Examples of need-based aid are:

- *South Carolina State Tuition Grant - available only at private institutions.
 - *Pell Grant - SEOG - based on family's financial situation as reported on FAFSA
 - **South Carolina Need Based Grant - A student may receive up to \$2,500 annually.
- Eligibility Requirements: Be a needy student as defined by Title IV Federal Student Aid

Mr. Landon Booker coordinates scholarship applications. Students should pick up applications in his office and return completed applications to him for mailing. It is the students' responsibility to keep up with scholarship deadlines. In the spring, announcements regarding local scholarships will be included on the senior newsletter. Each local scholarship has specific requirements. If the high school has the responsibility for selecting the scholarship recipient, the selection is made by a committee composed of teachers and administrators.

Local Scholarships

- * *Strom Thurmond Foundation Scholarship* - economic need
- * *Stamey Scholarship* - NJROTC student, academic performance, economic need
- * *R.O. Derrick Scholarship* - (bi-annually) – economic need, diplomacy, personality, character

- * *Alpha Award* - students with top three SAT scores in one sitting
- * *L. J. Carson Scholarship* - 2 awards to students who plan to become teachers
- * *Johnston Women's Club Scholarship* - one award recognizing outstanding senior

South Carolina Achievement-based Scholarships:

The most current information on these programs is available at www.che400.state.sc.us

- *Palmetto Fellows*--up to \$6,700 per year for 4 years for students scoring 1200 on SAT or 27 on the ACT. SAT scores may be the best combined scores, and all tests scores must be submitted to the Commission on Higher Education by no later than the scholarship application deadline (January 15th). Students qualify for this award by meeting the test score requirement (1200/27), earning a 3.5 GPA on a 4.0 scale of the Uniform Grading Scale at the end of the junior year, and ranking in the top 5 percentile of the class at the end of the sophomore or the junior year. The student must certify that he or she has not been convicted of any felonies and has not been convicted of any alcohol or drug-related misdemeanor offenses within the past academic year, by submitting a signed affidavit to the Financial Aid Office of the *institution* at which the student *is* enrolled.
- *Life Scholarship*-Up to the cost of tuition, not to exceed \$4,700 plus a \$300 book allowance-Four year public; Up to \$4,700 plus a \$300 book allowance - Four Year Independent; Up to \$3,080 plus a \$300 book allowance for a two-year Public and Independent; and Up to the cost-of-tuition plus a \$300 book allowance for Technical. The eligibility requirements are: Students must meet two of three: 1. Earn a 3.0 cumulative grade point average on a 4.0 scale or the uniform grading scale; 2. Score an 1100 on the SAT or an equivalent 24 on the ACT and 3. Graduate in the top 30% of the graduating class.
- *S.C Hope Scholarship-Eligible* students attending a State four year public or private institution will receive up to \$2,650* (including a \$150 book allowance) during the first year of attendance only. Eligibility requirements: Earn a 3.0 cumulative grade point average on a 4.0 scale or the uniform grading scale. The UGS must be used exclusively for students graduating in 2004 and thereafter. Certify that he or she has not been convicted of any felonies and has not been convicted of any alcohol or other drug-related misdemeanor convictions within the past academic year.
- *Lottery Tuition Assistance Two-year Public & Independent Institutions*-- Up to the cost of tuition. General eligibility requirements: File the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) form and complete the process to determine eligibility for federal student aid each academic year.

Grading System for South Carolina

The State of South Carolina has adopted a uniform grading system. All public high schools in the state offer three types of courses: 1) College Preparatory or Tech Prep, 2) Honors or Dual (College) Credit, and 3) Advanced Placement (AP) or International Baccalaureate (IB). Each of the three types of courses is given a different weighting when computing grade point average (GPA) and class rank. All report cards and transcripts will use numerical grades for courses carrying Carnegie units. Student transcripts from high schools in other states or South Carolina private schools will be converted to the same system Numerical breaks for letter grades, weightings for specified courses, and a conversion chart are shown in the following chart:

South Carolina Uniform Grading Scale Conversions				
Numerical Average	Letter Grade	College Prep	Honors	AP/IB/Dual Credit
100	A	5.000	5.500	6.000
99	A	4.900	5.400	5.900
98	A	4.800	5.300	5.800
97	A	4.700	5.200	5.700
96	A	4.600	5.100	5.600
95	A	4.500	5.000	5.500
94	A	4.400	4.900	5.400
93	A	4.300	4.800	5.300
92	A	4.200	4.700	5.200
91	A	4.100	4.600	5.100
90	A	4.000	4.500	5.000
89	B	3.900	4.400	4.900
88	B	3.800	4.300	4.800
87	B	3.700	4.200	4.700
86	B	3.600	4.100	4.600
85	B	3.500	4.000	4.500
84	B	3.400	3.900	4.400
83	B	3.300	3.800	4.300
82	B	3.200	3.700	4.200
81	B	3.100	3.600	4.100
80	B	3.000	3.500	4.000
79	C	2.900	3.400	3.900
78	C	2.800	3.300	3.800
77	C	2.700	3.200	3.700
76	C	2.600	3.100	3.600
75	C	2.500	3.000	3.500
74	C	2.400	2.900	3.400
73	C	2.300	2.800	3.300
72	C	2.200	2.700	3.200
71	C	2.100	2.600	3.100
70	C	2.000	2.500	3.000
69	D	1.900	2.400	2.900
68	D	1.800	2.300	2.800
67	D	1.700	2.200	2.700
66	D	1.600	2.100	2.600
65	D	1.500	2.000	2.500
64	D	1.400	1.900	2.400
63	D	1.300	1.800	2.300
62	D	1.200	1.700	2.200
61	D	1.100	1.600	2.100
60	D	1.000	1.500	2.000
59	F	0.900	1.400	1.900
58	F	0.800	1.300	1.800
57	F	0.700	1.200	1.700
56	F	0.600	1.100	1.600
55	F	0.500	1.000	1.500
54	F	0.400	0.900	1.400
53	F	0.300	0.800	1.300
52	F	0.200	0.700	1.200
51	F	0.100	0.600	1.100
0-50	F	0.000	0.000	0.000
WF	F	0.000	0.000	0.000
WP	-	0.000	0.000	0.000

Honor Graduates

Those students ranked in the top 10% of the graduating class at the end of the first semester of their senior year will be designated Honor Graduates.

Honors Program

The Honors Program is designed to provide students who have excelled academically with learning experiences equal to their abilities. Students recommended by teachers and counselors for these courses must be willing and able to extend themselves beyond regular classroom work. These courses are designed to be challenging and, compared

to other high school courses, may take more time, require more work, go into greater depth and give greater opportunity for individual progress and accomplishment.

Certain courses are designed to better prepare a student for successful academic achievement in college. These courses tend to have a more difficult curriculum and require more individual work on the part of the student for successful completion. For these reasons, the following courses are called Honors Courses and carry additional weight in calculating GPA (as designated by the South Carolina Uniform Grading Scale). Successful completion of any of the below courses will directly affect class rank because of the additional weighting.

English Department

English I Honors
English II Honors
English III Honors
English IV Honors
Advanced Composition (Dual Credit)
AP English Literature

Foreign Language Department

Spanish III

Mathematics Department

Advanced Algebra/Trigonometry Honors
Algebra 2 Honors
Algebra I Honors
Calculus AP
Calculus Honors
Geometry Honors
Math Analysis Lab Honors
Pre-Calculus Honors
AP Probability and Statistics

Social Studies Department

World History
Government Honors
Economics Honors
U.S. History Honors
U.S. History
Western Civilization before 1689 (Dual Credit)
Western Civilization after 1689 (Dual Credit)
Political Science (Dual Credit)
State and Local Government (Dual Credit)
Psychology/Sociology Honors
AP Geography
AP Macroeconomics

Science Department

Anatomy Honors
AP Biology
Biology I Honors
AP Chemistry
Chemistry I Honors
Physical Science Honors
Physics Honors

Junior Scholars Programs

Juniors may be recommended for various collegiate scholars programs. Stipulations usually require that the student ranks high in his/her class and has a high score on the PSAT or ACT/SAT. There is no monetary value as a junior, but the student usually receives a certificate in recognition of his/her achievement. Many colleges also waive application fees.

Retaking Courses

Students may retake the same course at the same difficulty level under the following conditions:

- Only courses in which a grade of a D or F was earned may be retaken.
- The course in which a D or F was earned may only be retaken during the current academic year or no later than the next academic school year.
- The student's record will reflect all courses taken and the grade earned, with the following exception:

Students taking courses for a Carnegie unit prior to their 9th grade year may retake any such course during their 9th grade year. In this case, only the 9th grade retake grade will be used in figuring the student's GPA and only the 9th grade attempt will show on the transcript, regardless of the grade earned in 8th grade.

College Entrance Exams

There are four widely-used college entrance exams: the Compass, Asset, ACT, and SAT. If you are attending a technical college, you should plan to take the Compass test or Asset test. If you plan to go to a 4-year college, you should plan to take the ACT or SAT. They may be taken more than once, and it is recommended that students take either test in the spring of their junior year and again in the fall of their senior year.

COMPASS/ASSET:

The Compass test is a computerized test that is used as a skills assessment to determine which math, English, and reading courses a student will be placed in, depending on his/her score. The ASSET is a written test that has three tests of basic skills in writing, reading, and numerical reasoning, plus more advanced tests in algebra and geometry. The ASSET helps your college use your scores to guide you toward classes that strengthen and build logically upon your current knowledge and skills.

ACT:

Unlike the SAT that measures student aptitude, the ACT measures student achievement. The ACT measures what the students have already learned in their high school courses and serves as another predictor of how well a student is likely to do in college. Unlike the SAT, the ACT contains a science component. Many students who do not score well on the SAT score better on the ACT, and vice-versa. The school-day ACT will be February 20, 2020.

PSAT:

The PSAT is offered on October 16, 2019. It serves as a good indicator of how well a student will likely do on their college entrance examination (SAT). Strom Thurmond High School recommends that students take the PSAT in October of the sophomore year and again in the junior year. Semi-finalists for the National Merit Scholarships are selected on the basis of the PSAT taken in the junior year of high school. PSAT scores are not reported to colleges.

The Scholastic Aptitude Test (SAT):

The SAT is a multiple-choice test made up of separately timed verbal and mathematical sections. It assumes that a student has completed one year of algebra and geometry, and is enrolled in Algebra II. Changes in the format began in March, 2016. Each time the SAT is taken, the scores are reported to the student's high school and any colleges that the student lists. If the student takes the SAT more than once, all scores are reported, including those from earlier testing dates. It will be the responsibility of each student to have all scores sent to our guidance department. Strom Thurmond High School will mail three student transcripts at no cost for a current senior. Each additional transcript will cost \$5.00.

Performance on the SAT depends on many factors including general aptitude, ability to take tests, educational background, and selection of appropriate courses. Students should take rigorous courses such as Chemistry I, Physics, Pre-Calculus, Calculus, Foreign Languages, and our Dual Credit and AP classes.

Strom Thurmond High School offers an SAT Prep class as part of our regular college-bound curriculum as well as free evening preparation sessions to familiarize students with test-taking strategies that may be helpful for a timed objective tests such as the SAT. Dates for these sessions will be assigned and announced by the Guidance Office. All students are urged to talk with teachers, parents, and guidance counselors before applying to take the test. The SAT school-day test will be on March 4, 2020.

Schedule Changes

During the first week of school, efforts will be made to accomplish legitimate changes required by the following circumstances:

- When there is a computer or scheduled error.
- When a student who previously failed a course is scheduled to repeat the course under the same teacher.
- When a student is scheduled for a class for which credit has been previously granted, i.e., summer school.
- When a student is scheduled for a course for which required prerequisites have not been met, i.e., Spanish II when a student failed Spanish I.

These changes may be initiated by the student, parent, teacher, or counselor and will not require a parent/teacher conference, although the parent will be notified of such changes initiated by school personnel.

Students requesting a change to their published schedule must complete a schedule change request form, available in guidance, stating what changes are requested and reasons for the changes. If the student originally requested the course, no change will be made; neither will changes be made based on teacher selection. If the student requests to drop a course, a parent/teacher/counselor conference will be required. Written permission notes or telephone calls will not take the place of the conference.

No class change is official until the proper student course change notice has been completed and distributed by the guidance department and signed by the affected teachers. Parents who wish to confer with a counselor or teacher should contact the guidance department (275-1768) and arrange for an appointment. It is the parents' responsibility to bring to the attention of the school any serious physical handicap their child may have that may be the need for the class change.

As mandated by the state legislature, with the first day of enrollment as the baseline, students who withdraw from a course after 3 days in a 45-day (semester) course, 5 days in a 90-day (full year) course shall be assigned a WF and the F will be calculated (the F translates to a 61 on the transcript) in the student's overall grade point average. Failing grades or excessive absences in a class are not considered justification for withdrawing from a course.

All students must be scheduled for 8 classes.

Student Classification/Promotion Policy

Secondary students will be classified by grade only at the beginning of each school year or when enrolling in the district for the first time. However, ninth graders may be reclassified in the middle of the school year for testing purposes only.

- To be classified as a sophomore (10th grade), a student must have earned a minimum of six units. Those units must include at least one unit in language arts and mathematics; the student must be enrolled in a science and social studies course.
- To be classified as a junior (11th grade), a student must have earned a minimum of 12 units. Those units must include two units of language arts, two units of mathematics, one unit of science, and one unit of social studies.
- To be classified as a senior (12th grade), a student must have earned a minimum of 18 units and be a candidate for graduation by enrolling in courses to meet all requirements for the state high school diploma, and be in his/her fourth year of high school. Those units must include three units of language arts, three units of mathematics, one unit of Biology, and one unit of social studies.

Student Records

The School District of Edgefield County is required by the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act to provide annual notice concerning privacy rights in regards to the maintenance and or release of student records. The District

has a formal policy concerning this activity which is available to you for inspection upon request. The following is a summary of your rights under this act

1.

A. A student's "education records" are those records directly related to a student and which the school district or a party acting for the school district maintains.

B. "Parent" refers to a parent, a guardian, a person acting as a parent, a surrogate appointed in accordance with policies under Programs for the Handicapped or a student who is 18 years of age or over, or a student who is attending an institution of postsecondary education on a full time basis.

C. Whenever a student is eighteen years of age or is attending an institution of post-secondary education, the rights accorded to and the consent required of the parent of the student shall thereafter only be accorded to and required of the eligible student unless the school district has received notice that a court has awarded legal guardianship beyond the age of majority. The school will document such notice.

D. In maintaining student records, the schools will follow applicable state and federal regulations.

2. Parents of students currently in attendance and eligible students currently in attendance in The School District of Edgefield County have a right to.

A. Inspect and review student's education records;

B. Request the amendment of the student's education records to ensure that they are not inaccurate, misleading, or otherwise in violation of the student's privacy or other rights.;

C. Consent to disclosures of personally identifiable information contained in the student's education records, except to the extent that federal law and regulations authorize disclosure without consent;

D. File written complaints concerning alleged violations of the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act. Written complaints should be sent to: The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act Office, Department of Education, 330 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, DC 20201. The office has the responsibility for investigating, processing and reviewing alleged violations. The office will refer appropriate cases to a review board for adjudication.

E. Obtain a copy of the District's policy adopted under 99.6. (This policy may be requested from The Office of the Superintendent, Edgefield County Schools, P.O. Box 608, Edgefield, SC 29824, (803) 275-4601.)

3.

A. Schools will treat each student's education records as confidential and primarily for local school use. The exception to this rule is for directory information, which includes: the student's name, address, telephone number, date and place of birth, participation in officially recognized activities and sports, weight and height of members of athletic teams, dates of attendance, diploma or certificate and awards received, the most recent previous educational agency or institution attended by the student, and other similar information.

B. The district will not release directory information to any person or agency for commercial use. The district expects its employees to use good judgment in releasing directory information so it serves the best interests of the student.

C. Within 15 days after receipt of the annual notice of privacy rights, the parent of the student, or the eligible and currently enrolled student, has the right to refuse to permit the designation of any or all the categories of personally identifiable information as directory information. The parents/eligible student's notification must be in writing. The written notification will become part of the student's education record. The principal of the school the student is attending is responsible for notifying appropriate personnel of the request, filing the request in the student's cumulative folder, and marking the folder as specified by the superintendent or his designee.

If you object to the disclosure of directory information concerning your records or those of your child, please notify the principal of your school or your child's school as soon as possible.

ATHLETICS

Strom Thurmond High School offers a comprehensive athletic program for male and female student-athletes. Sports include football, cheer, cross-country, volleyball, baseball, softball, basketball, boys' soccer, girls' soccer, golf, track, and swimming.

Athletic Mission

Our mission is to support and enrich our athletes in their athletic experiences, while also helping them achieve success on and off the field.

- We will provide a meaningful athletic experience for our athletes that challenge them athletically and academically while supporting the mission of Strom Thurmond High School.
- We will work to create a positive image of our school district, the individual school, and the athletic program.
- We will have Pride, Class, Courage, and the Will to Win, which creates a standard of excellence necessary to produce winning teams comprised of reliable and responsible individuals.
- Strom Thurmond athletes will be on the hardest working team and exhibit the most class of any school in the state. By doing this consistently, our young people will be successful on their playing fields and in life.

The athletic experience is an essential part of many students' educational journey. Athletics can play a vital role in helping our students learn how to work as a team, be mentally and physically tough, deal with adversity, and overcome challenges. We will also encourage the development of responsibility, commitment, self-discipline, self-motivation, goal setting, decision making under pressure, and dealing with failures and success. It is also very important that our sports help students learn about the value of fair play and sportsmanship. Participation in athletics is a privilege, and we aim to instill our Pride, Class, Courage, and Will to Win attitude in all our student athletes. The students who are fortunate enough to participate in athletics will be provided an opportunity to learn from their mistakes. They will also learn to appreciate teamwork and how to deal with coaches, referees, opponents, peers, and themselves. Unethical behavior may carry school sanctions as well as athletic department sanctions. Athletes are expected to uphold standards of honesty, integrity, and teamwork at all times. All school rules as stated in the handbook will be adhered to at all meetings, practices, and games. The following regulations apply to all athletes, managers, and trainers at Strom Thurmond High School.

Eligibility Requirements

Listed below is a brief summary of eligibility rules for the South Carolina High School League and Strom Thurmond High School. More detailed information is located at this website www.schsl.org.

- A contestant must have his/her birth certificate on file with the school.
- A contestant must not turn nineteen years of age before July 1st of the upcoming school year.
- A contestant must not participate under an assumed name.
- A contestant must be a full time student at Strom Thurmond High School and reside in the attendance area of Strom Thurmond High School with his/her parents or legally appointed guardian.
- A contestant must not have received a high school diploma or its equivalent.
- A contestant must be academically eligible as mandated by state law. An overall passing average is required For Fall and Winter sports, a contestant must have passed a minimum of five Carnegie units (two of which were earned in the spring semester or summer school). For spring sports, a contestant must be passing four subjects from the first semester of the current school year. If the contestant was not eligible the first semester, the contestant must be passing five subjects.
- A contestant may use a maximum of two credit recovery or summer school units that are applicable as credit toward a high school diploma.
- A contestant who attempts to recover credits must have completed the course(s) by time line provided by the SCHSL or that individual will be ineligible for that respective season(s).
- A contestant will be ineligible at the end of the fourth school year from the time that he/she first entered ninth grade.
- A contestant may not play on a team in outside competition if more than seventy-five percent of the allowable starters appeared on the eligibility list of his/her school during the previous sports season.
- A contestant who transfers from another school is eligible if:
 - The student was eligible to represent the school from which he/she transferred.

- The student and his/her parents have a bona fide change of residence into the attendance area of Edgefield County School District. *See the athletic director for appropriate paperwork.*
- A contestant must not violate his/her amateur status.
- An athlete may try out for the next season's sport after he/she has finished the current sport season. An athlete who quits a team is not eligible to practice or play the next sport season until the current season has been completed including playoffs. If the player quit on JV, then he is not eligible to participate until the JV season ends. **An athlete may not quit a sport and begin another during the same sport season.**
- All contestants must have a completed physical form on file with the Head Coach and Athletic Director before participating in any practice or competition. A physical examination is valid from April 1 of the current school year through the following school year.
- An athlete must attend a minimum of ½ of classes he or she is registered for in order to be eligible to compete in a game that day unless the absence is excused by a doctor, clerk of court, and/or death in the family.

Region Affiliation

Strom Thurmond High School is classified by the South Carolina High School League as a AAA school. Assigned to Region V are the following high schools:

- Edisto
- Gilbert
- Pelion
- Strom Thurmond
- Swansea

Athletic Programs offered at STHS (V-Varsity, JV-Junior Varsity)

Fall Sports

1. Football: V, JV
2. Volleyball: Girls-V, JV
3. Cheerleading (non-competitive): V, JV
4. Swimming: Boys/Girls
5. Cross Country: Boys/Girls

Winter Sports:

1. Basketball: Boys and Girls- V, JV

Spring Sports

1. Baseball: Boys- V, JV , C Team
2. Track: Boys/Girls- V
3. Softball: Girls- V, JV
4. Golf : Boys/Girls- V
5. Soccer: Boys/Girls- V, JV

Reports of Injury

Each athlete is covered by athletic insurance. If an athlete sustains an injury during a school-sponsored athletic event, the supervising adult will maintain an insurance claim form from either the nurse or Athletic Director. Once it has been completed, submission of the form to a doctor or personal insurance company is the responsibility of the parent. **Parents are reminded that athletic insurance does not always cover all medical expenses for an injury. It is the responsibility of the parents or guardian to pay the balance.**

Extra-Curricular Activities

American Welding Society

The American Welding Society knows that students are our industry's future and provides every aspiring welding professional with a variety of unparalleled resources and opportunities. The annual membership fee is \$15.

Band

Jazz Band

Stage Band (jazz ensemble) is offered to those students who are enrolled in regular band class (Concert Band) but who are selected through audition based on their musicianship and skills in the field of jazz, rock, disco and contemporary music. Rehearsals are held after school and sometimes during Rebel Recon. The group performs at various school and community events during the year.

Marching Band

The "Marching Rebel Regiment" contributes much to the spirit of the school as well as represents Strom Thurmond High across the state. Membership is open to all students who have some degree of skill or experience in band. However, the line-up is based on those students who are chosen on the basis of marching and playing ability. Marching band students do not have to belong to Concert Band class, although it is highly recommended. The band plays at football games, pep rallies, parades, contests, and usually takes a trip in the spring. Drum Majors and Color Guard members are selected through individual audition. The band usually practices after school each day during football season.

Beta Club

The purpose of this organization is the promotion of scholarship, leadership, and good citizenship at Strom Thurmond High School. The Beta Club is also a service organization and seeks to assist and serve the administration, faculty, and the student body of Strom Thurmond High School. Dues: New member dues are \$25 and are \$10 every year afterward.

Beta Club Membership Qualifications:

- Students must have completed one (1) entire semester at the high school. Freshmen are eligible to apply after the first semester.
- Students must have a GPA of 3.80 prior to applying for Beta Club membership.
- Students cannot have any discipline infractions. (a tardy will not be considered as an infraction.)

Cosmetology Club

The purpose of the STHS Cosmetology Club is to expose students to the different areas of Cosmetology in hopes that they will elect to enter the Cosmetology program. Strom Thurmond's Cosmetology program allows students to develop highly needed skills for success through group participation, leadership, appropriate work habits, safety and sanitation procedures, customer service and communication.

DECA

This organization prepares emerging leaders and entrepreneurs in marketing, finance, hospitality and management in high schools and colleges around the globe. Students compete on the Region, State and International Levels and earn scholarships while meeting new people, networking, traveling, and most of all having fun!

Drill Team/Rifle Team

The Drill Team offers competition in military basic and exhibition drill. Members must be enrolled in NJROTC. Practice commences in September and competition lasts throughout the year. The Rifle Team offers competition in military basic and exhibition drill. Members must be enrolled in NJROTC. Practice commences in September and competition lasts throughout the year.

Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA)

The Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA) is a national student organization for all students enrolled in a business related course. FBLA is under the guidance of the business education teachers. FBLA provides an opportunity for business education students to prepare for business and office occupations. The members learn to engage in business enterprises, hold offices, work with representatives of other organizations and compete on local, district, state and national levels. Membership fee is approximately \$13.00.

Fellowship of Christian Athletes (FCA)

Fellowship of Christian Athletes (FCA) has as its objective to (a) strengthen the moral and spiritual fiber of the athletes of America and (b) show its members it is possible to be a Christian on and off the athletic field. The membership fee is \$5.00 as a National Member but one may be a school member by attending regular meetings.

Future Farmers of America (FFA)

Future Farmers of America is a National Club for students enrolled in vocational agriculture. At Thurmond, club members do such activities as: show livestock in the fairs, judge livestock and soils, and compete in other chapter and individual contests at the state and national level. To be a member, you must be in or have taken a course in the agriculture department.

Health Occupations Students of America (HOSA)

The primary purpose of this organization is to develop leadership skills which lead to realistic choices of careers and successful employment in the healthcare field. Membership is open to students enrolled in an alumnus of Health Occupations Education programs. The student enrollment fee is approximately \$15.00.

International Club

The purpose of this organization is to increase the student's knowledge and understanding of foreign languages and their cultures. Our activities will include one cultural trip during the year.

Mock Trial Team

The South Carolina Bar sponsors a competition every year, in which high school teams compete in trial settings at regional and state level events. The state winner competes in the national competition held in May. The Mock Trial team is selected on the basis of an audition in October. Practices are conducted three days a week after school and some weekends. Regional competitions are in February; state competition is in March.

Rebeleers

Rebeleers is a group of young vocalists and dancers who auditioned to be a member of this performing group. This group performs for various community functions throughout the year.

Sporting Clavs

The purpose of this organization is to increase among SCSCA members the knowledge of the safe handling and proper care of firearms as well as improved shotgun marksmanship. This organization forwards the development of those characteristics of honesty, fellowship, self-discipline, team play and self-reliance, which are the essentials of good sportsmanship and the foundation of true patriotism.

Statesman Staff

The purpose of this organization is to publish a yearbook that will be a pictorial record of the school year. It is designed to present a wide spectrum of life at Strom Thurmond High. The objectives include the publication of the yearbook, creating interest in publications, and providing training in photography. Admission for the Statesman staff is by application and recommendations and is based on English/Computer grades.

Student Government

The Student Council is the student body's official elected organization. Its purposes are to develop attitudes of and practice in good citizenship, promote harmonious relations throughout the entire school, improve student-teacher relationships, improve school morale, assist in the management of the school, provide orderly direction of school activities, and promote the general welfare of the school. Elections are held in September for Student Council Officers and class officers.

2019 – 2020 Academic Calendar

August 12-14	SDD
August 15-16	Teacher Work Days
August 19	1 st Day for Students – 1 st Nine Weeks
September 2	Labor Day Holiday
September 19	Interim Reports
October 22	End 1 st Nine Weeks-45 th Day
October 23	Begin 2 nd Nine Weeks
October 29	Report Card Night–until 7:00 p.m.; ½ TWD
October 30	Report Card Pick-up until 12pm; ½ TWD
October 30-31	Fall Break for Students (31st- snow day)
November 1	Fall Break for Students
November 27-29	Thanksgiving Holiday
December 2	Interim Reports
December 16-19	First Semester Exams
December 19	1/2 Day for Students
December 20-31	Winter Break for Students
January 1-6	Winter Break for Students
January 6	Teacher Work Day (snow day)
January 7	Students Return
January 17	End 2 nd Nine Weeks / 1 st Semester
January 20	Martin Luther King Holiday
January 21	Begin 3 rd Nine Weeks
January 23	Report Card
February 14	Staff Development Day
February 17	President’s Day Holiday (snow day)
February 24	Interim Reports
March 25	End 3 rd Nine Weeks – 135 th day
March 26	Begin 4 th Nine Weeks
March 30	Report Cards
April 6-10	Spring Break
May 4	Interim Reports
May 25	Memorial Day Holiday (snow day)
May 26 – 29	Senior Final Exams
June 1 – 4	Underclassmen Final Exams
June 3	½ Day
June 4	½ Day / Graduation Practice
June 5	Teacher Work Day
June 5	Graduation