WELCOME TO UNIVERSITY SCHOOL

Foreword

This handbook is designed to help students and parents understand the policies and procedures of University School. We encourage you to read it carefully and call the school if you have any questions.

While we hope this handbook is informative and useful it is important to note that it is not meant to be a contract between the University School and the student or parent. Please note that the student handbook is considered a living document and may be revised as needed throughout the year; when updated, a new version will be posted on the school website with current revision date.

The University School is defined by statute as a teacher training school under the direct supervision of the President of the University. It is not answerable to nor bound by the provisions of any School District, although we do maintain contractual relations with a local school district. As a teacher training institution University School is a school of choice and the student’s primary school of assignment is the school to which the student is assigned. Students are expected to maintain appropriate attendance, academic, and behavioral standards to remain at University School.

Director’s Welcome Letter

Dear Parents/Guardians and Students,

Welcome to University School! We are excited to begin a new school year and are very pleased to have you as a part of the University School family. As you may know, we offer a unique setting for a public school in that we house grades K-12 at one site on the campus of a major university in northeast Tennessee. Our goal is to teach the students we serve with a dynamic curriculum that prepares them for entry into post-secondary education. The University School faculty, in collaboration with the faculty of the Clemmer College of Education at ETSU, is constantly seeking effective new strategies and methods to accomplish this goal. We also pride ourselves on the strong support we receive from our parents/guardians and East Tennessee State University. Our doors are always open to further these relationships.

Again, welcome to our campus and feel free to contact me or any member of our faculty and staff if we can be of service.

Sincerely,

Dr. Brian Partin, Director
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UNIVERSITY SCHOOL
An Innovative Laboratory College Prep School and Teacher Preparation School at ETSU

Mission Statement

"Every child valued. Every child challenged. Every child successful...whatever it takes"

Philosophy and Purpose

University School of East Tennessee State University serves a dual function.

1. The primary function is to provide a rich college preparatory curriculum that promotes the continuous academic, social, and emotional growth of each child in grades K-12.

2. The secondary function of the school is to help Clemmer College at East Tennessee State University achieve its mission of preparing professional educators by:
   • Providing university students with opportunities to observe innovative instructional practices;
   • Providing university students opportunities to work with and teach K-12 pupils under the direction of skilled mentor teachers;
   • Serving as a research laboratory for the advancement of programs and new ideas in the field of education;
   • Serving in a leadership role for the educational community.

University School and the Clemmer College faculty and administration believe that the two broad functions described above are complementary. When teachers, professors, administrators, and students work collaboratively in the interests of educational excellence, all stakeholders benefit.

History

The present University School has been a part of ETSU since it began in 1911 as a two-year normal school. The program and scope of University School has expanded significantly since those early days when the school was a department of the college and held classes in a section of the administration building.

Originally, the school provided for the first seven grades under the direction of four teachers. By 1914, the 8th grade had been added, and a few years later the terminal year was changed to the 10th grade.

The first move occurred in 1915 when classes were transferred to a building known as the "Model School". In 1929 this building was replaced by the present structure (Alexander Hall) and the name was changed to "Training School". This name was derived from the fact that the program was designed to provide training for college students who were preparing to enter the teaching profession.

After a program of advanced planning, grade 11 was established in 1947; and a grade 12 curricula was prepared in 1948. In the spring of 1949, the first class was graduated from the Training School, and those students became charter members of an alumni association. The name "Training School" was officially changed to the present "University School" by the General Assembly on the recommendation of the State Board of Education.

The number of University School faculty has grown from four teachers in 1911 to more than forty faculty members. The student enrollment is approximately 600.

By Tennessee statute, T.C.A. 49-8-105 (a), the University School is recognized as fundamentally different from other schools located within the Washington County school district. The statute provides that ETSU as a state university in the state college system:
"It is authorized to maintain a training school for grades one through twelve (1-12) ...for the purpose of providing practice teaching experience for teachers in training, and the students enrolled in the school shall be taught the same course of study as prescribed by the state board of education for the public-school system in grades one through twelve (1-12) or the grades appropriate for the school."

**University School’s Alma Mater**

Revised by Dr. Joe Borden

Through the years we’ll grow together
Standing all as one
Friendships built will last forever,
Memories begun

Blue and Gold will be our guide, bright
Shining as a jewel.
Season change, our dreams beginning:
Hail University School!

*To the tune of “Above Cayuga’s Waters”*
**FACULTY / STAFF DIRECTORY**

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GENERAL INFORMATION

PowerSchool

University School uses the student management software PowerSchool provided by Washington County Schools. Through this software, parents and students have access to attendance records, grades in current classes (grades 2-12), and school announcements. Parents and students in grades 6-12 are expected to use PowerSchool to monitor academic progress and accuracy of attendance records.

Parents and students have separate login/passwords. Parents will create an account (see instructions below) and add their children to their account which allows them to view multiple children with one login. Students have separate login/passwords.

- To access PowerSchool, parents should retrieve their confidential information from the office. Parents can link several children under one account, provided all the children attend University School or Washington County Schools.
- New students in grades 6-12 will receive their confidential login/password at the beginning of the school year.
- A link to the website is available on University School's website (usbucs.com).
- For students and parents who use smartphones and tablets, the PowerSchool app may be downloaded for free. When you do the initial set up, you will be asked for a district code. It is: KPQL. Then you will be prompted for your ID and password. Parents will need to have created their account before login in to the app.

Instructions to create a parent account:
1. Go to our website usbucs.com
2. midway down on the right, click on the PowerSchool link (rainbow colored P)
3. Click on the "create an account" tab
4. Fill in your information at the top
5. fill in your child's name and enter the access ID and access passwords
6. Click enter at the bottom. This will redirect you to the login page. Login with the account you created.

If you need any help with PowerSchool, please contact Dr. Day (daya@etsu.edu). If you need the access ID and access password information to add students to a parent account, please contact Ms. Penley (penleye@etsu.edu) or Ms. Carter (carterdp@etsu.edu). Access ID and access password must be picked up in person from Ms. Rea’s office.

Arrival

University School does not provide transportation to and from school. Therefore, by enrolling your child at University School, you agree to arrange transportation to and from school for your child so that your child is in class by 8:00 a.m. and picked up at 3:00 p.m. for grades K-12.

Students not in the classroom by 8:00 a.m. are considered tardy and must sign in in the main office prior to going to class.

Students may be dropped off at the school starting at 7:30 a.m. for school issued breakfast. There is no supervision available before 7:30 a.m. Parents may drop students off using the fire lane in the front of the school or the parking lot to the side of the school and may report to their classrooms at 7:50 a.m.
As a safety precaution, University School exterior doors will be locked during school hours. If entry is required, we ask that you please enter the building through the electronic security system at the main entrance and report directly to the main office. **All visitors will be expected to scan their government issued ID when entering the building. Anyone without an appropriate pass, will be escorted back to the office or out of the building by school administration or an ETSU Public Safety Officer.** In the spirit of cooperation, we appreciate your support in our efforts to provide a safe school environment for our students, faculty, and staff.

**Dismissal**

Students are to be picked up 3:00 p.m. unless they are staying with the after school childcare program or they are participating in a supervised school sponsored activity. After 3:15 p.m. there is no supervision available for students left on campus. Please make sure that arrangements are made for daily pick up of your child. The main office closes at 4:00 p.m. **For their safety, University School students CANNOT be left unsupervised on ETSU's campus. Parents may arrange for alternate supervision (afterschool care is available for K-8 children until 5:30pm – applications are available in the office or on the school website).** **Frequent instances of children who are picked up late or loitering past 3:15 may result in a loss of enrollment status.**

- K-4 students should be picked up by parents/guardians driving through the pick-up line on the parking lot adjacent to the school. Numbered hanging tags are distributed to parents/guardians at the beginning of the year and should be visible to teachers when you pick up your child.
- 5-8 students can be picked up from the side parking lot or from Martha Culp Drive.
- 9-12 students should be picked up from Martha Culp Drive. Students who drive themselves should go directly to their cars at dismissal.

**Early Dismissals, Delayed Opening and Closures due to Weather**

University School will follow Johnson City Schools and ETSU weather delays, early dismissals and closures for weather related issues. We will not make an announcement over the media, but the closure will be posted on our website and social media sites. On inclement weather days when Johnson City Schools are not regularly scheduled, announcements will be made through our website and Blackboard Connect.

Some students live in areas where the weather may be worse than it is in town. If University School is open, but road conditions between your home and the school are dangerous, please do not put yourself at risk by attempting to drive to school. Call the office and inform us of your circumstances.

**Emergency Dismissal**

All parents/guardians will be notified of any alternate pickup location via Blackboard Connect notification system if for some reason there is an emergency that causes us to evacuate University School. All communications should be through University Relations, (423) 439-4317.

**Driving on the ETSU campus**

Drivers on the campus are subject to all traffic laws of the State of Tennessee and ETSU. Pedestrians have the right of way at all crosswalks. All accidents involving a vehicle must be reported to Public Safety. The vehicles are not to be moved until the investigating officer instructs the drivers to do so. ETSU will not be liable for damage to any vehicle driven or parked on university property.
Parking on the ETSU campus

ETSU has strict and enforced parking regulations. More information can be found on the ETSU website.

- Do not leave your vehicle unattended in the fire lane in front of University School. Your vehicle may be ticketed or even towed.
- Parents/guardians who need to come in the school for no more than 10 minutes between 8:00 a.m. and 2:15 p.m. may leave their vehicle stationed on the yellow lines in the parking lot on the west side of University School. After 2:15 p.m. the yellow lines area must be cleared to prepare for the 3:00 p.m. dismissal.
- Parents/guardians who need to come in for longer than 10 minutes will need to come into the office to get a temporary parking permit to be displayed on the vehicle's dashboard. This permit will allow parking in student or faculty spaces.
- Signs at the entrances to parking lots indicate whether parking is for faculty/staff or students. Painted curbs or upright signs also designate reserved parking. Improper parking will result in parking fines.

Students who park on campus

Student drivers who will be parking on the ETSU campus must purchase a parking permit from Officer Hudson.

- Parking permits are valid from the date of purchase until September 30th. It is the student's responsibility to purchase a new parking permit when theirs expires.
- The cost for a full year is $70. For new students or new drivers purchasing a permit after September, there will be a prorated price. If you have any questions, ask Officer Hudson.
- Students are to park only in student lots.

Having a car on campus is a privilege not a right. Students who continuously disrespect ETSU parking policies may lose that privilege.

Facilities

University School is housed in Alexander Hall, a three-story structure that was completed in 1929 on the campus of ETSU. The building consists of classrooms, offices, computer labs, and smaller rooms for other uses. The basement level houses the art, instrumental music, choral and theatre classrooms. The first floor includes offices for the director, assistant director, secretaries, and classrooms for grades K through three and fifth grade, cafeteria, our after-school program and gymnasium. The second floor consists of the Media Center, faculty lounge, Intervention room, resource room, counseling office, classrooms for grades four and six through eight, speech, and testing lab. The third floor contains science labs, computer lab, and classrooms for the ninth through twelfth grades. Additionally, there are two learning cottages in the back of Alexander Hall that house high school classes.

Although most of the University School programs are contained within Alexander Hall, other facilities on the campus of ETSU are sometimes utilized, such as, Sherrod Library, Brooks Gym, Gilbreath, Warf-Pickel, Brown, Dossett, CPA, and the Culp Center.

Library Policy and Use

Check-out policy

- Grades K-2 may check out one book a week.
- Grades 3-5 may check out 2 books a week. Items may be renewed for up to one month.
• Grades 6-12 may check out 2 books at a time. Additional books may be checked out for research.

Students may keep the books for 2 weeks and renew up to a month.
While there are no fines for overdue books, a student may not checkout a new book until the overdue item is returned.

Once a student checks out a book, it is his/her responsibility to return the book in a timely manner and in good condition. Book replacement fees will be charged for lost or damaged material. There is one set fee for replacing lost or damaged books from the University School Library. These fees cover the cost of the book, reordering and re-cataloging the material.

• Elementary Section: Paperback books: $10.00 Hardback books: $20.00
• Middle/High School Section: All books $20.00.

Middle and High School Library Guidelines

Middle and high school students may use the library during the day with the permission of their classroom teacher. Students are expected to exhibit proper behavior in the library. There is no food or drink allowed in the library. Low voices and productivity are expected of students visiting the library.
Students may use the computers in the library lab for work and research only with Ms. Knight’s permission. The lab is reserved for classes and testing. For additional information on computer use, please see the Internet/Technology Policy.

Sherrod Library Use

Students in the 10th, 11th and 12th grades may check out books from the ETSU Sherrod Library with their student ID. Students checking out books must comply with all use and checkout policies from Sherrod Library. This includes fines, due dates, and paying for lost materials.

Lost / Stolen Items

Lost items are often turned in to the main office. Officer Hudson collects the lost items in the office and places them on the clothing racks outside of the cafeteria. If the items remain unclaimed, they will be donated to charity. Parents/guardians are encouraged to label their children's belonging with their child's name.

In order to limit the traffic and congestion in our hallways this year, locker assignments will be limited for coat and lunch boxes only. Students should not congregate around lockers at any point of the day. If coats or items can be stored in their backpacks, then students are encouraged to do so in order to avoid crowding, congestion and delays in the halls.

Calculator Engraving

The required calculators for middle and high school math classes are expensive. Students are encouraged to proper label their calculators or see if Officer Hudson can engrave them. He does this quickly and free of charge, which has allowed us to quickly return missing or misplaced calculators.
**Unpaid Bills**

It’s important that all outstanding bills be paid in full in a timely manner. University School will not be able to release school records if there are unpaid bills. Ultimately unpaid bills could affect the enrollment status of your child at University School, or it could delay college applications.

**Visitors**

Due to continued safety precautions, parents/guardians should limit visits to their child’s classroom during the school day. If a conference is needed with your child’s teacher(s), please contact your child’s teachers in advance (at least 24 hours). If an in-person visit is needed and approved, please sign in and out in the main office and display your visitor’s pass prominently while in the building.

**Volunteers**

Family members interested in volunteering are encouraged to work the teachers and our foundation on ways that you can volunteer throughout the year. All volunteers will need to complete a volunteer agreement form for this school year and follow all school policies and procedures, (i.e. confidentiality, etc.) As always, we know that our success is dependent on the help and support of our school families, so please know that we are extremely thankful for your time and service to the school!

**University School Website/ Publishing Content**

University School is a Laboratory School. Pictures and videos of students, student work, presentations, projects, activities, athletic events, etc. may be displayed on the University School Website, brochure, and additional media or publications, which represent the school. Industry Standard software may be utilized for publishing.

The University School staff has a strong commitment to provide quality education materials for all students. We are also committed to enabling all to access needed resources for student success, and strive to ensure all website and other digital media meet current document accessibility standards. Students and parents/guardians are encouraged to contact the faculty/staff of University School if they believe a document posted on our website cannot be accessed as needed. Thank you for your help in ensuring the success of all our students.

**Armed Forces Recruitment**

As required by law, student information will be released to the armed forces recruiters upon request unless a student’s parent/guardian specifically requests in writing to the School Counselor’s office that the child’s records not be released to the recruiters.

**Cafeteria and Lunch Procedures**

Cafeteria services are provided by Washington County. Connie Taylor is the manager. If you have any questions regarding free and reduced lunch, fees and bills, please contact Connie Taylor at (423) 439-4001 or e-mail her at taylorc@wcde.org.
Lunches will be provided at the following times:

- 10:00-10:28: K-1st grade
- 10:30-10:58: 2nd - 4th grade
- 11:00-11:28: 5th - 6th grade
- 11:30-11:58: 7th - 8th grade
- 12:00-12:30: 10th and 11th grade
- 12:30-1:00: 9th and 12th grade

Students in grades 6th through 12th may eat outside depending on the weather; students in grades 6th-8th are expected to stay in the back of the building. Ninth and Tenth grade students may eat in the back or front of the building. Eleventh and Twelfth grade students may also eat in the front or back of the building or at one of the ETSU dining facilities.

Students may not go eat at or get food from Pal’s, Cook Out, McDonald’s, the BP gas station or any other location that would require them to leave the main campus of ETSU. Students who drive and park on campus may not go to their cars during lunch. Lunch and driving privileges might be revoked and/or other disciplinary measures might be appropriate if students chose to not respect these expectations.

**After School Child Care**

The daily cost of the program is $15 per day or $60 per week for students who use the program full time. Payment is only expected for the days you actually use afterschool care. Late fees for children who are picked up after normal operating hours (5:30 p.m.) will be $1.00 per minute.

Payment notification will be sent out weekly. Fees will be paid to University School. Checks should be written to University School and may be dropped off in the school office. Please place your child’s name and “Afterschool” on the memo line of the check. Online payments can be made at:


Please contact April Sims at simsa@etsu.edu or 423-429-4271 with any questions about payments.

**Civil Rights Grievance Procedure**

East Tennessee State University is an AA/EEO institution and does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, ethnicity, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, religion, age, disability, veteran's status, genetic information, or any other protected class. If you feel that your rights have been violated under federal law, state law, Title VI, or Title IX, please contact the ETSU Office of University Compliance located in Room 309 of Burgin Dosset Hall, compliance@etsu.edu, (423) 439-8545.
Annual Asbestos Notification letter

This notice is to inform you that Terracon has completed an asbestos inspection and management plan as required by the Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act (AHERA). This plan is available for your review in the office of University School during normal operating hours. The management plan contains information regarding the locations of asbestos containing materials (ACM), the condition and a plan for dealing with ACM. The following activities are currently planned or in progress for University School:

- Re-Inspection: This is required by law every three years after re-inspection. Our re-inspection was completed in March of 2020. The next re-inspection is scheduled for 2023.
- Periodic Surveillance: This will be performed by ETSU personnel once every six months for visual changes and conditions.
- Response Action: These are activities designed to reduce or eliminate the potential for ACM in the building.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding this letter, please contact Mark Jee, Director of Environmental Health and Safety at ETSU, at (423) 439-7785.
STUDENT SERVICES

Nursing Services

Administering Medicine to Students

If under exceptional circumstances a student is required to take oral medication during school hours and the parent/guardian cannot be at school to administer the medicine, only the director or designee will administer the medication with doctor’s written directions.

Written doctor’s orders are required for any prescription medications brought to school. Authorizations to administer medication forms are available at the front office. Please see Ms. Rea, the executive aide, for these forms.

Nonprescription medication, such as aspirin, will not be administered without written permission from the parent/guardian. The parent/guardian will be expected to furnish the medication. Students should not carry or have any medication in their possession at any times unless properly documented with the school nurse and school administration. Failure to adhere to the appropriate protocols could result in disciplinary consequences, so we encourage all families and students to contact the school nurse regarding any medication needs when on campus.

Counseling Office

The Counseling Office of University School operates under the following provisions of the Tennessee Code Annotated (T.C.A. 49-6-303). The University School counseling office is staffed with two full-time counselors, one assistant, a graduate assistant, and executive aide. The office provides a variety of services including individual and small group counseling, classroom counseling, and college and career counseling services.

Staff of the University School Counseling Office adheres to the ethical codes of the American Counseling Association and the American School Counselor Association. Student confidentiality is given every priority, and students are informed of limits to confidentiality. Limits include situations in which the student is in imminent danger of death from themselves or others, when another person is in imminent danger of death, or in situations of child abuse. University School counselors consult with the faculty of the ETSU Department of Counseling and Human Services when in doubt as to the validity of an exception.

APPLICATION AND LOTTERY PROCEDURES

Admission Policy

University School has one section each for grades K-4. The kindergarten and grades 1, 2, and 3 enrolls 20 students. Grade 4 has 24 students and grade 5 enrolls 48 students. Grades 6, 7 and 8 have 52 students each. Grades 9-12 has no more than 90 students per grade level.

Applications to University School are accepted beginning January 1st and ending the last business day of February by 4 p.m. for the school year beginning in July. All applications received after the cutoff date and time will not be included in the lottery pool. During early March a random drawing is conducted. In April students are then invited to interview for enrollment in University School for the next school year based on space availability and order of priority. That priority order is as follows:
1. First priority is given to children whose parent/guardian is a full-time University School faculty or staff member.
2. Next in order are siblings of students already enrolled at University School.
3. The third priority group is residents of Washington County.
4. The final priority group is students residing outside of Washington County.

The initial pool of applicants will be notified by the end of March to attend an interview for grades 6-12 and teacher meetings for students entering in grades K-5. Once students have been notified that they have been accepted for an interview to University School, the following forms must be completed, appropriately signed and returned prior to the interview. Applicants who are eligible for services under 504, IDEA, or ELL must have their prior school’s service plan included. Any false representation(s) on required documents may result in admission refusal/dismissal from University School.

- Application form
- Special Education Records (if applicable)
- 504 Records (if applicable)
- Immunization record
- Birth certificate
- Final Report card from previous school
- Copy of legal documentation certifying physical custody if applicable (does not require entire divorce/separation document)
- Standardized tests records

As part of the admission process, University School reserves the right to screen applicants for past attendance, academic, and discipline problems. A letter or email of acceptance or non-admittance will be mailed in a timely manner following the interview.

Application received after the cutoff date in February will be dated when they were submitted and will be added to the waiting list in the order they are received. As openings become available, students will be called for the interview process in the order of their placement on the waiting list.

Applicants who are not admitted will have to reapply January 1 through the end of February to be considered for the next school year.

**Continued enrollment**

In early January parents/guardians of currently enrolled students will receive a re-enrollment form for their child. This form must be returned by the last business day in February to maintain your child’s place at University School.

**Reapplications**

Students who have previously withdrawn must reenter the lottery for admission or be placed on the waiting list for the first available opening.

Following dismissal, an applicant who chooses to reapply should present documentation of a minimum of one semester of acceptable behavior, attendance and academic progress prior to the readmission interview. A probationary contract between the student, the parents/guardians, and University School might be signed as a condition to readmission if deemed necessary by the administration.
STUDENT ATTENDANCE

To comply with state law, and for students to receive maximum benefits from their University School education, prompt daily attendance is essential. While there are circumstances that make it impossible for students to attend school, University School encourages parents/guardians to ensure that their children make every effort to attend school regularly. The University School Attendance Panel will address attendance issues. It will be the job of the panel to decide if there is an attendance problem, whether or not action needs to be taken to remedy the situation or if the child should return to their home school.

Parent Request Days

Parents/guardians may request a maximum of 5 days to be excused at parent discretion. However, University School is required to follow all state attendance guidelines and procedures, so we do not recommend missing school for non-illness days. The student is responsible for all instruction and work missed and encourage to communicate with teachers in advance if possible. Any missing work will receive a 0% until made up.

- For 9th through 12th grade students, parent requests will not be approved during midterm exams (last week in December) and final exams (last week in May).
- Please make requests in advance if possible. Send all requests to Dianna Rea at readg1@etsu.edu.

Excusable Absences

Absences will be excused with a doctor's note or a parent/guardian note depending on the circumstances. Currently we are still required to monitor any students rate that is below 90%, so please try to use these days as necessary. Parents initially have a limit of five notes (in addition to the parent request days). Please turn notes in to the main office or send them by e-mail to Ms. Dianna Rea (readg1@etsu.edu). Excusable absences are:

- Child's personal illness (see "communicable illnesses, ailments and lice" below). If a student is absent four or more consecutive days, a doctor's note should be provided.
- Special circumstances including, but not limited to, death in the immediate family, family emergency requiring the student's assistance, etc. The administration will make the determination on whether the circumstance warrants excusing the absence.
- Special and recognized religious holidays regularly observed by persons of that particular faith.
- Medical or dental appointments that cannot be arranged during non-school hours. Please note, because University School is a year-round school, parents/guardians are encouraged to schedule medical and dental appointments that may interfere with school during the 3-week breaks (fall, winter and spring).
- Circumstances, which in the judgment of the director create an emergency over which the student has no control.

Communicable illnesses, ailments and lice

The following may require your child to stay home or be dismissed early from school. This list in not inclusive.

- Covid-19 symptoms.
- Strep Throat - May return to school 24 hours after antibiotic treatment begins.
- Vomiting and/or Diarrhea - Dismissal after episode if accompanied with general malaise or other symptoms of illness.
• **Conjunctivitis (Pink eye)** - May return after 24 hours of antibiotic drops or medical permit.
• **Head Lice** – The student will be sent home for treatment. Prior to readmission, satisfactory evidence must be submitted to the school nurse.
• **Fever** - 100 degrees or higher will warrant checkout. Staying home 24 hours after all fever is gone is strongly recommended.
• **Chicken Pox** - Permitted back to classroom six days after initial onset and all lesions are crusted.
• **Impetigo** - May return after treatment and all lesions are crusted over.

**On the day that a student is absent**

Please notify the office as soon as possible of your child's absence. You may call the office (439-4271 or 439-4333 and leave a message if nobody answers) or send an e-mail to Dianna Rea (readg1@etsu.edu). A written notice is necessary to excuse the absence. If no parent/guardian contact is made, the school may call the parents/guardians.

**Checking Out During the School Day**

Please sign students out in the main office before leaving or our attendance records will be incorrect.

For prearranged appointments and other reasons to check a student out:

- If the students are leaving on their own (students who drive) they should bring a check-out note to the office between 7:30 and 7:50. The note should include the following information: student name, date, time leaving, reason for leaving, parent's/guardian's signature, and a phone number where the parent/guardian can be reached for verification. Teachers will not release students from class without office approval.
- If parents/guardians are picking up their child, please come check them out in the main office. The office staff will call your child's classroom teacher and have your child sent to the office.

For ailment/illnesses that are unforeseen, students should come see the nurse and call their parent/guardian from the main office if necessary.

**On the day a student returns to school after an absence**

Students are expected to come by the office to get an admit slip that they will present to their teacher(s). The admit slip will list whether the student's absence is excused or unexcused.

**Make-up Work**

The student is excused for the day or days of absences, not the material covered in their classes. It is the responsibility of the student to request all make-up work.

- All students are asked to keep up with work on Canvas during absences.
- Students with excused absences will have a minimum of one day for each day they were absent to turn in missed assignment(s). Work is expected to be made up in a timely manner. Students should talk with their teachers the day they return to determine deadlines for missed work.
- If a test, quiz, or project was assigned before the student's absence, the student should plan on taking the assessment or turning in the project the day he/she returns. If that is not possible, the arrangements need to be made with the teacher to set an appropriate make-up deadline.
- Students participating in activities that take them out of class, (field trips, athletic events, retreats, etc.), should hand in any work due or to take tests and quizzes on the day they return or discuss appropriate make-up deadlines with the teacher.
**Tardy Policy**

It is essential that students arrive to 1st Period class before the late bell rings at 8:00 a.m. (K-12) and be on time to each class throughout the day. This will prevent interrupting valuable class time and loss of instruction.

If excessive tardies and absences occur for any student, a meeting with administration will be scheduled. If attendance does not improve, the student’s zoning exception may be denied and they will be required to return to their residence school of zone.

**Truancy**

Truancy is defined as an absence for an entire school day, a major portion of the school day, or the major portion of any class, or activity during the school day for which the student is scheduled.

Truancy will be handled as a disciplinary problem through one or more of the following: conferences, notification to parents/guardians, ISS, special assignments, contracts, Attendance Panel referral, and/or petition to the courts. Excessive absenteeism can result in withdrawal of zoning exception or loss of the student’s driver’s license (TCA 49-6-3007).

**Cutting Class**

Cutting class is either not reporting to class or leaving in the middle of class without permission. If a student is found to have cut a class, the student will be called to a meeting with the administration. Depending on the circumstances leading the student to cut class, appropriate consequences will be decided which may include: disciplinary action, parent meeting, behavioral plan, making up time missed, or withdrawal of zoning exception.

**Leaving Campus Without Permission**

Leaving campus includes being in any buildings or on any grounds not directly considered University School. The school grounds include the block on which the school building is located. Off campus means being in another building, parking lot, or grounds where the student has no academic business. Students who park on campus may not go to their car without prior permission from the administration and an appointed escort. Those students who have University School classes in other ETSU buildings are permitted in those buildings ONLY during that class period. Students taking college classes are permitted to leave University School for those class periods only. Juniors and Seniors ONLY are allowed to go to the Culp Center for lunch unless special occasions are allowed by the administration. Students found off campus during University School hours will meet with the administration. Depending on the circumstances leading the student to leave campus, appropriate consequences will be decided which could include: disciplinary action, parent meeting, behavioral plan, making up time missed, or possible withdrawal.
**Attendance verification for driver’s license**

Please request attendance verification forms for driver’s license from Ms. Erin Penley (penleye@etsu.edu, (423) 439-4333) in advance to allow for processing time. If the student has attendance or tardy issues, verification will not be issued until the Attendance Officer has investigated the issues. (TCA 49-6-3017)

**Attendance at school-related activities**

In order to participate in school-related activities that involve missing classes (field trips, academic competitions, etc.), students must maintain regular attendance and have passing grades.

In order to participate in after-school activities (sports, dances, academic competitions, etc.), students must be present for a minimum of 3 ½ hours on the day of the event or have a valid excuse approved by the school administration. More information is available in the Athletics section.

Students assigned to ISS or OSS are excluded from all school related activities on the days of the assigned suspension.
ACADEMIC EXPECTATIONS

University School is academically oriented and college preparatory focused. Students at any grade level and their parents/guardians should understand what is expected of the student and be committed to academic excellence.

University School uses the Uniform Grading Policy as defined by the Tennessee Department of Education for grades 2 through 12. The scale has been set by the Tennessee Department of Education and is as follows:

- A: 90-100
- B: 80-89
- C: 70-79
- D: 60-69
- F: 0-59

**Elementary: Kindergarten through 5th grade**

Kindergarten through 4th grade students will have one classroom teacher for English Language Arts (ELA), Math, Science and Social Studies. Fifth grade students will have two different teachers: one for Math and Science and one who teaches ELA and Social Studies. The students will also have Physical Education, Music, Counseling, Art and Library time.

Kindergarten and First Grade students will receive an end of the quarter progress report. The purpose of this report is for parents to understand what their children have mastered and how they compare with where they are expected to be developmentally.

**Middle School: 6th, 7th and 8th Grade**

Sixth grade students will have two different teachers: one for Math and Science and one who teaches ELA and Social Studies. Students will learn to transition from one classroom to another in between classes. Students will also have Physical Education, Music, Counseling, Art and Library time. Students may also begin studying a particular instrument if they sign up for Beginner Band.

Seventh and Eighth grade students will have four teachers for their core classes: Science, ELA, Social Studies, and Math. Middle School Students will have specials which include Physical Education, Counseling, Art and Library time. Students may choose for focus their specials by taking Chorus, Band, and Theater.

Math acceleration: 7th graders will take Algebra readiness assessments during the 4th quarter to help determine placement into either Math 8 or Algebra I. Students who qualify for Algebra I will have the option to take Algebra I during their 8th grade year. Algebra I is a high school level course with strict requirements and an end of course state test. The grade earned in Algebra I will be reported on the students’ high school transcript and will affect the students’ Grade Point Average (GPA). Moreover, students in high school at University School are required to take a math course every year. Students taking Algebra I early will still need to take a math course every year in high school, resulting in five math credits.
**Academic Progress Reports for Middle School Students**

Report cards will be issued electronically through PowerSchool. If you would like a printed report card, please contact Dianna Rea (readg1@etsu.edu) to request one be mailed to you.

A paper interim report will be sent home at the midpoint of the nine weeks for any subject in which a student has a letter grade of D or below. Students and parents should discuss the report and list strategies they will implement to improve in the classes listed on the report. Parents and students should sign the report and return it to the main office.

Students who are failing two or more classes at the interim will meet with the middle school team. Parents will be invited to the meeting. The purpose of the meeting is to discuss the factors that contributed in the students’ lack of progress and to help students and parents come up with strategies to help students improve.

**Locker and Hallway Behavior**

Students are expected to report directly to class once all materials and gathered or placed in lockers. Running and horse-playing are not appropriate in the hallways before, during and after school. There should be no students in the hallways after 3:15 p.m. unless they are here for a scheduled and supervised activity or event.

**Middle School Fees:**

Middle school fees will only be required if there is a need to off-set the purchase of consumable materials for our students or for special programming. If needed, approved correspondence will be sent to parents/guardians and payment may be submitted via our electronic payment kiosk in the office or submitted directly to Mr. Dustin Honeycutt. Again, no payment is needed unless approved correspondence is sent to families with the requested amount needed. The approved middle school fees for the 2020-2021 year include:

- Science: $10 for consumable lab materials
- Art: $5 per student
- ELA: up to $10 for consumable materials (novels, etc.)
- Band: $30 materials/maintenance fee
- STEM Related Activities Outside of Science Classes: up to $10 for consumable materials
- Class Trips: the amount may vary depending on the trip.

**Special Clubs and Sports Teams:** All approved purchases/expenses for these groups will be handled by the foundation or club sponsor. These items may include personal swag items, food, clothing, etc.

**High School: 9th through 12th Grade**

University School’s high school has a college preparatory focus with a high percentage of graduates entering college. See Appendix A for a full list of high school course offerings.

**High School Class Sponsors**

Each high school grade level has teacher sponsors. If students would like to organize anything specific to their grade level, they should contact one of those teachers.
### Graduation Requirements specific to University School:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Subject</th>
<th>Credits Required</th>
<th>Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>English</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>Must include English I, II, III, IV or equivalent Dual Enrollment substitution</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Math</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>Must enroll in a math course each year of high school. Must include Algebra I, Geometry, Algebra II and another math above Algebra II. Dual Enrollment must be beyond the Algebra II level.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Science</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>Must enroll in a science course each year of high school. Must include Biology, Chemistry or Physics and an additional lab science.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social Studies</td>
<td>3.5</td>
<td>Must include World History or AP Human Geography (1 credit), Government (0.5 cr.), Economics (0.5 cr.), U.S. History (1 cr.) and Personal Finance (0.5 cr.).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wellness and PE</td>
<td>1.5</td>
<td>Lifetime Wellness (1 cr.) and 0.5 credit in Physical Education which can be earned through documented equivalent time in athletics.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Foreign Language</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Must be two years of the same language.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fine Art</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Technology</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elective Focus</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Three related elective courses which may be in science and math, humanities, fine arts, AP, DE or another series approved by the school.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Credits Required for Graduation</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>Must also have a school approved documented senior project, work-based learning experience, or community service (minimum of 40 hours required).</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

High School students are required to enroll in a minimum of 6 classes each semester even if they have more than enough credits to graduate.

Students who have passed all the required courses and cleared encumbrances will receive their diploma at graduation. Encumbrances may include ID cards, parking fines, library fines, lost or damaged book fines, and damaged school property.

Seniors who are failing one required course for graduation may participate in the graduation ceremony but will not receive a diploma until they earn the required credit. If the student earns the required credit by August 1st of the same year, they will receive a University School diploma.
Students failing two or more required courses will not have the privilege of participating in the graduation ceremony but may still earn a diploma from University School provided they earn the missing credits by August 1st of the same year.

Any student who does not complete the graduation requirements by August 1st following their senior year, will be considered a drop out and will not receive a high school diploma from University School.

Students must have successfully completed the required number of credits to be considered 10th, 11th, or 12th grade students. Student grade placement will be determined by the number of credits they have successfully completed as follows:

10th grade – 5 credits
11th grade – 11 credits
12th grade – 17 credits

Graduation Requirements for High School Transfer Students

For students entering University School after the beginning of the 9th grade year, the number of credits needed for graduation will be 1 (one) less than the number that could have been earned during the 4-year high school experience.

For example: A student enrolls at the beginning of the 12th grade. He/she comes from a school where 4 credits could have been earned for each semester resulting in 8 credits per year. The graduation requirements would be determined as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Credits</th>
<th>total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9th grade</td>
<td>8 possible</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10th grade</td>
<td>8 possible</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11th grade</td>
<td>8 possible</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12th grade at University School</td>
<td>6 possible</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total required to graduate from University School</td>
<td>29 (30-1)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

High School Course Fees

The following fees are collected to help offset the cost of materials. Please pay these fees online or by check made out to University School. Checks may be submitted to either Dustin Honeycutt (room 109) or Deidre Carter (counseling office) before August 1st.

- $20 science fee for each science class to cover consumable lab materials.
- $20 art fee to cover materials cost.
- The cost of the AP English test prep workbook – information will be provided by the teacher.
- $30 music fee (High School and Middle School Band and Chorus, Theatre Arts)
- $20 High School class fee for grades 9, 10, 11, 12 (defrays other costs specific to a particular class and the prom)
- $5 School ID fee for 9th graders and all new students in grades 10, 11, 12 who do not have an ID.

State Testing

End of Course (EOC) assessments will be given in English I, English II, Algebra I, Geometry, Algebra II, U.S. History, and Biology I. Further, the results of these examinations will be factored into the student’s grade at a percentage determined by the State Board of Education in accordance with Tennessee Code Annotated 49-1-302.
The ACT test will be administered to all students during their junior year, usually in early spring. All students must also complete a Civics exam prior to graduating, which is usually given when they take Government.

**Course Grades**

The calculation or a course grade varies depending on the course. Students will receive a syllabus in each course they take at the beginning of the school year. The syllabus will have valuable information including the way grades are averaged in each particular course, late work policies, teacher contact information, and student responsibilities. Please take the time to review the syllabi and contact the teacher if you have any questions. In courses where a state test is mandated, a percentage of the students’ final grade (10% for grades 3-8 and 15% for all EOC tested courses) as mandated by the state.

**Grade Point Average (GPA) computation**

The GPA will be calculated on a 4.0 scale and will be calculated when credits are earned (at the end of the year for year-long courses, and at the end of the semester for semester courses). During the senior year, senior GPAs will be calculated to determine honors. Yearlong courses that are not yet completed at the end of the first semester will be calculated like semester courses.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>GPA points for 1 credit courses:</th>
<th>GPA points for 0.5 credit courses:</th>
<th>GPA points for AP and DE Courses</th>
<th>GPA points for AP courses when calculated at the semester - 7th semester senior GPA and honors only.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>90-100: A</td>
<td>4 points</td>
<td>2 points</td>
<td>5 points</td>
<td>2.5 points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>80-89: B</td>
<td>3 points</td>
<td>1.5 points</td>
<td>4 points</td>
<td>2 points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>70-79: C</td>
<td>2 points</td>
<td>1 point</td>
<td>3 points</td>
<td>1.5 points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>60-69: D</td>
<td>1 point</td>
<td>0.5 points</td>
<td>2 points</td>
<td>1 point</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0-59: F</td>
<td>0 points</td>
<td>0 points</td>
<td>0 points</td>
<td>0 points</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

To calculate your GPA, add together how many GPA points you have and divide that number by the total number of credits you have attempted. For example, a student has completed the following courses with the following grades:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Credits Earned</th>
<th>Credits Attempted</th>
<th>GPA points Earned</th>
<th>Weighted GPA points earned</th>
<th>Calculation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>English 9</td>
<td>97 A</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>4</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Geometry</td>
<td>70 C</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spanish I</td>
<td>58 F</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Biology</td>
<td>88 B</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AP Human Geography</td>
<td>98 A</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>5</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Personal Finance</td>
<td>61 D</td>
<td>0.5</td>
<td>0.5</td>
<td>0.5</td>
<td>0.5</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Creative Writing</td>
<td>95 A</td>
<td>0.5</td>
<td>0.5</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Totals</strong></td>
<td><strong>6</strong></td>
<td><strong>15.5</strong></td>
<td><strong>16.5</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Take the total of GPA Points and divide it by the total of the attempted credits. (Failed classes do count for GPA calculation.)

15.5/6 = 2.58333
The GPA is rounded to the nearest 100th. In this case it is 2.58 for the unweighted GPA.

15.5/6=2.75 is the weighted GPA.
Senior Academic Honors: Valedictorian, Salutatorians and Top-10

All seniors graduating from University School are eligible for Senior Academic Honors: Valedictorian, Salutatorian and Top-10. Students who transferred into University School during their Junior and Senior year will be recognized for such awards if they meet the criteria alongside students who have completed at least 5 of the semesters used to calculate the cumulative GPA at University School. Transfer students who came to University School during their junior or senior year, if they qualify, may earn the title of Co-Valedictorian, Co-Salutatorian, and earn a top-10 rank alongside students who have completed at least 5 of the semesters used to calculate the cumulative GPA at University School.

Academic honors will be determined based on the grade point average after the 7th semester. For year-long courses where the credit has not been earned after the 7th semester, the semester grade will be factored into the GPA as a semester course would.

Transfer Grades

High school students enrolling at University School during their 10th, 11th or 12th grade will have credits earned from another school. Dual-enrolled students will receive grades from other institutions than University School. Credits and grades will be transferred into the student’s University School transcript, keeping the original course name and grade as closely as possible. Number grades from other schools are transferable as is. Letter grades are converted in the following manner:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Number</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>95</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A-</td>
<td>90</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B+</td>
<td>89</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>85</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B-</td>
<td>80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C+</td>
<td>79</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C-</td>
<td>70</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D+</td>
<td>69</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>65</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D-</td>
<td>60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Academic Progress Reports for High School Students

Report cards are accessible for the current school year electronically through PowerSchool (see PowerSchool section). If you would like a printed report card, please contact Dianna Rea to request one to be mailed to you.

A paper interim report will be sent home at the midpoint of the nine weeks for any subject in which a student has a letter grade of D or below (see Appendix C). Students and parents should discuss the report and list strategies they will implement to improve in the classes for which they received a report. Parents and students are expected to sign the report and return it to the main office.

Students who are failing two or more classes at the interim will meet with the Assistant Director. Parents are welcome to attend the meeting. The purpose of the meeting is to discuss the factors that contributed in the students’ lack of progress and to help students come up with strategies to help them improve.

Drop / Add policy

At the beginning of each school year, all students in grades 9 through 12 have the opportunity to drop or add a class(s) during the first three school days. Semester courses have a three-day drop/add opportunity at the beginning of the second semester. Class changes will not be granted to change the class periods or to change teachers. Class changes will also depend on available options. After the three days, students will need to make a written request to the Assistant Director to drop a class. If the request is granted, students will be responsible to make up the work that was missed in the new class they added to replace the dropped class.
**Dual-Enrollment**

Dual-enrollment courses are university or college courses taken through a university or college. The courses will be reported on the university/college transcript as well as on the University School transcript, hence the name. **University School has to approve any dual-enrollment placement.**

Dual-Enrollment is an option, not a requirement, for students in 11th and 12th grade. Any exception for younger students must receive administrative approval and meet all university admission requirements. All dual enrollment courses, even if they are not needed to meet graduation requirements, will be reported on students’ transcripts, and will be calculated in students’ high school GPAs. Students may dual-enroll at ETSU, Northeast State Community College, Milligan and Tusculum. Contact the counseling office for current general eligibility and funding information. Please make sure you understand the financial burden you will be responsible for before signing up for dual-enrollment classes. The college or university where you are dual-enrolling will have the most up-to-date financial information.

Students are expected to be enrolled in 6 courses each semester or an equivalent approved load; any exception must be approved by school administration. Dual-enrollment courses will be counted as such:

- 1-3 credit hours = 2 classes at University School
- 4-6 credit hours = 3 classes at University School
- 7-9 credit hours = 4 classes at University School
- 10-11 credit hours = 5 classes at University School
- 12+ credit hours = 6 classes at University School

University School does not have access to student college accounts and records.

- Registering and dropping courses are the responsibility of the student and/or parents.
- Fees for dual-enrollment classes vary depending on the college, the classes taken and the financial aid available. Students are responsible for all fees associated with taking dual-enrollment classes. Students may also need to refund lottery and scholarship money if a course is dropped.
- For students who qualified for the dual-enrollment grant, a college GPA of 2.75 is required to continue receiving the grant. Students will lose the grant if they have a B- average or below. Once the grant has been lost, it cannot be regained. Grant rules are subject to change at any time. Please contact the scholarship office of the institution where the dual-enrollment courses are taken for updated information.
- Colleges will not release students’ grades if fees have not been paid. If University School does not receive a grade for a dual-enrollment course, an F will be applied to the student’s high school transcript.

Students who drop a dual enrollment course must replace the dropped course by either another dual-enrollment course or a University School course.

- Students will receive an F on their high school transcript for any dropped dual-enrollment courses unless the course was replaced by another course.
- Students may drop a dual enrollment class and add a University School class during the three day drop/add window of the University School class.
- Students may not drop at University School course after the three day drop/add window to replace it by a dual-enrollment course unless they have received permission from the administration.
- Students may only withdraw from a dual-enrollment course during the college drop/add period if they replace that course with another dual-enrollment course.
Behavior Expectations During the Dual-Enrollment Period

University School does not provide supervision for dual-enrollment students during the dual-enrollment time. Students are expected to leave University School during the dual-enrollment time, and be back at University School on time for their next class. Students may quietly study in the library during their dual-enrollment time only with permission from the administration. Because of the lack of supervision for dual-enrollment students, excellent behavior is expected. Should there be behavior issues arising during a student’s dual-enrollment time, the privilege of dual-enrollment can be revoked.

Application for Dual-Enrollment

Applying for dual-enrollment takes several steps:
- E-mail Dr. Shaw that you intend to dual-enroll and which college you are considering.
- Apply for the Dual Enrollment Grant online at the following address. This step must be repeated every semester. https://clipslink.guarantorsolutions.com/StudentSignon/
- Complete an application for the college you will attend and pay the application fee. For ETSU, reapply every semester using “readmission” to avoid a charge.
- Complete the Dual-Enrollment Packet (available in Dr. Shaw’s office) and return it to Dr. Shaw.

Application Deadlines:
- Students who will dual-enroll need to be registered in the college classes
  - Before mid-July for Fall classes.
  - Before mid-January for Spring classes.
  - Winter session and summer sessions are not part of the regular schedule and should only be taken when no other option is available.

Once registered for classes, students need give or e-mail a copy of their college schedule (concise student schedule) to Dr. Shaw (shawa@etsu.edu)

Dual-Enrollment Grades:

The section "Transfer Grades" has information on how grades received for a dual-enrollment course will be applied to the student’s University School transcript. The name of the course will be reported on the University School transcript according to the State of Tennessee guidelines for dual-enrollment courses. Students will need to submit their University School transcript along with the transcript from the institution(s) where the dual-enrollment credit was earned to any post-secondary school where the student is applying.

Special Education Services

Special Education services are provided through Washington County. The program at University School is an inclusion model with resource and SLP services. Students who have been determined eligible by their local school system to receive services through 504, Public Law 94-142 (the Education for all Handicapped Children Act of 1975), and/or IDEA (Individuals with Disabilities Education Act), and who have been randomly selected for admission, may be admitted to University School, provided the school can meet the educational program (Least Restrictive Environment) for which the student is eligible. University School is not a school system but rather a single individual school formed for the primary purpose of training teachers. If a University School student is qualified for special education services under IDEA, those services are provided by University School only if it is an appropriate placement for the student.

"20 U.S.C. 1412 (54)(B), 34 C.F.R. 300.551 and Tenn. Bd. Educ. Reg. 0520.1.3-09(4)(c)(7) require school systems to provide a continuum of educational opportunities to meet the
individual needs of its special education students. The student's local educational agency whether it is the local county school system or the local city school system, must provide a continuum of educational opportunities to meet the individual need of its special education students. The University School is only one resource on that continuum. Parents may not choose a particular teacher, classroom or school.” Matter of Student A v/ ETSU. Et al., Dept. of Education Opinion No. 97-18 (1997)

**Family Life Curriculum (T.C.A. 49-6-1301-1307)**

University School is mandated by state law to implement the complete plan for family life instruction according to state standards. One meeting per year, at the beginning of the school year, is conducted for parents/guardians to speak and express their opinions and concerns. At this time, all family life instructors, materials, and course content will be explained.

A parent/guardian who wishes to excuse a student from all or portions of the family life instruction shall submit such request in writing to the Director of Schools and preview all materials to be used for instruction (T.C.A.49-6-1303).

**Student Work**

Classroom teachers in grades K-12 will often display students' work in the classrooms, in University School’s hallways on designated bulletin boards, and occasionally in various buildings on the ETSU campus or even in art galleries off campus or other appropriate venues. If you have any concerns with students’ work being displayed as described above, please contact the teachers.

**STUDENT EDUCATIONAL RECORD—NOTIFICATION OF PARENTAL RIGHTS of PRIVACY and PROTECTION OF PUPIL RIGHTS (PPRA)**

Each student enrolled in University School has a cumulative school record that contains academic, medical, and various school-related information. The custodial parent, the legal guardian, as well as the non-custodial parent* of a student under the age of eighteen has the right to examine, review, or request an amendment to their child's educational records. Only authorized school personnel have access to student educational records. A school official typically includes a person employed by the school or school district as an administrator, supervisor, instructor, or support staff member (including health or medical staff and law enforcement unit personnel) or a person serving on the school board. A school official also may include a volunteer, contractor, or consultant who, while not employed by the school, performs an institutional service or function for which the school would otherwise use its own employees and who is under the direct control of the school with respect to the use and maintenance of PII from education records, such as an attorney, auditor, medical consultant, or therapist; a parent or student volunteering to serve on an official committee, such as a disciplinary or grievance committee; or a parent, student, or other volunteer assisting another school official in performing his or her tasks. A school official typically has a legitimate educational interest if the official needs to review an education record in order to fulfill his or her professional responsibility.

Disclosure of student educational records will be limited to persons with legitimate educational interest. When a school record, such as a discipline form, contains information about students other than the parent’s child, the parent(s) may not inspect or review this information. However, if a student transfers to another school, all educational records, including discipline records, will be transferred to the new school.

Throughout the school year, school personnel will develop various types of school-related publications such as yearbooks or programs for athletics, musicals, theatrical, or other events. Personal information
related to a student such as, but not limited to, a student’s name, address, phone number, or photograph can be withheld from any school publication or organization if the parent or legal guardian contacts the school principal within the first two weeks of a student’s enrollment to request exclusion. The form to request that a student’s information not be released to the public is located in the back of this handbook (See Appendix, Form 1). Additionally, parents have certain rights regarding surveys, collection and use of information for marketing purposes, and certain physical examinations. Information regarding these rights can be found in the back of this handbook (See Appendix, Page 48).

Complaints about University School’s compliance with the requirements of FERPA can be filed with the U.S. Department of Education at: Student Privacy Policy Office, U.S. Department of Education, 400 Maryland Avenue, SW, Washington, DC 20202.

*Unless there are specific court-imposed written restrictions that have been provided to school personnel, a non-custodial parent shall be given access to all of the student’s educational records.
CODE OF CONDUCT

Students

Students at University School accept primary responsibility for maintaining appropriate student conduct. A student will comply with the directions of teachers, student teachers, substitute teachers, teacher assistants, lunchroom and playground monitors, administration, or other authorized personnel. Teachers will establish guidelines for their classroom which students are expected to follow. These guidelines will be communicated to students orally and in writing. When students repeatedly behave in ways that compromise the dignity and worth of others or that interfere with other students’ learning, teachers have the right to expect administrative support in responding to the misbehaving students. That is, when students persistently fail to accept responsibility for their behavior, are disrespectful or insubordinate they will be referred by teachers or staff to the administration. The director/assistant director may contact the parents/guardians when a student is referred to the office. The intent of these contacts will be to enlist parents'/guardians' cooperation in helping students conduct themselves appropriately. Discipline consequences may include any of the following: conference, referral, parent/guardian contact, behavior contract, ISS, OSS, expulsion or withdrawal.

A student will not use violence, force, noise, coercion, threat, intimidation, fear, passive resistance, or any other conduct that will cause the disruption, interference, or obstruction of any school activity. Neither will the student engage in or urge other students to engage in conduct that causes or can reasonably be foreseen to cause disruption, interference, or obstruction of any University School or ETSU activity during, before, or after school hours, on school grounds, or off school grounds at a school activity. Because University is a school of choice, if a student chooses to engage in any of the above activities, they may be asked to withdraw from University School and return to their home school. If a student is expelled or suspended, University School does not have an Alternative School.

Parent/Guardian:

Parents are encouraged to contact teachers with any questions or concerns. Parents may call the main office (439-4271) and leave a message for a teacher to call them back, or may contact the teacher directly by e-mail. Teacher e-mail addresses are listed on p. 7-8 of this handbook, on the University School website or on PowerSchool. Parents are encouraged to contact the teacher first before contacting the administration about an issue.

University School is not the primary school of assignment, but rather a school of mutual choice. University School has the option, with appropriate consultation, to withdraw any child or children from the school if the parents/guardians consistently conduct themselves in a manner which interferes with the operation, safety, academic or extracurricular activities of the school. The determination to withdraw children from school on such grounds shall be made by the Dean of the College of Education after a hearing at which the parent or guardian shall have the opportunity to present evidence or testimony. The parents or guardians shall receive written notice of the charges prior to the hearing. The decision of the Dean is reviewable by the Provost as the President’s designee and the decision of the Provost shall be final.

Dress Code

Dressing appropriately for the school environment promotes a learning-centered K-12 atmosphere, it teaches students to distinguish between appropriate dress for school and dress for informal activities and it prepares students for workplace environments.
It is expected that adherence to the dress code be a family commitment that should not require extensive monitoring from school personnel. Parents/Guardians and students are requested to monitor attire, using the guidelines below.

**K-12 guidelines:**

University School is committed to providing a safe and nurturing environment for all student learners, grades K-12. The administration, faculty and staff strive to create a community where students are valued as individuals and free of judgement based on their dress or fashion. At the same time, students are expected to display good taste in matters of dress and grooming throughout the scheduled school day and at all University School activities. As a result, it will be at the administration’s discretion to determine appropriate dress and grooming, which should not disturb or distract from classroom instruction or exhibit disrespect in any way.

The list of unacceptable attire includes, but is not limited to:

- Pants and skirts shall be worn at the waist.
- Shorts must have a minimum of a 3’ inseam.
- Dresses/skirts shall be no shorter than fingertip length of the wearer.
- Clothing that advertises drug, alcohol, violence, sexual messages or messages with double meaning; revealing clothing (e.g., spaghetti straps, crop and tank tops), and house shoes and slippers.
- Industrial chains, sunglasses, spiked bracelets/neckwear, or chains attached to wallets or clothing that pose a threat to the safety of students and others.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Offense 1-2</th>
<th>Warning and student will be asked to address issue.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Offense 3+</td>
<td>Addressed as insubordination</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**K-5 Additional Guidelines:**

- It is recommended that elementary students (K-5) wear shorts or leggings under skirts and dresses.
- It is required that elementary students (K-5) wear shoes that are safe for gym class and recess activities. Shoes with rubber soles and buckles/ties are most appropriate. Flip flops, sandals, and shoes with open toes are not safe for running, climbing and other physical activities and should not be worn to school. There is not enough time to allow for changing shoes while at school.

**Special Occasions Exceptions (Dances, etc.) :**

- Sleeveless dresses, dresses with spaghetti straps or strapless dresses are acceptable for formal occasions as long as the chest is covered. The back must be no lower than midway down the back of the wearer.

**Sports Practice:**

- Shirts must be worn at all times.

**Special Accommodations:**

Accommodations to these guidelines may be made, on an individual basis, for students with religious requirements, with disabilities, or special conditions. All individual accommodations must be requested and approved in writing through consultation with the administration.

**Violations and consequences:**

K-5: teachers/administrators will contact parents to remind them of the dress code.
6-12: faculty/staff will make a dress code referral to the Assistant Director’s office. The Assistant Director will discuss the infraction with the student.

For first time offence, the student will be reminded of the dress code and might be asked to modify their attire for the remainder of the day. Repeat offenders will receive further disciplinary consequences. The administration reserves the right to determine whether a student’s attire is appropriate for school and school sponsored activities (sports practices, dances, etc.).

Beverage and food

Students should not consume food or beverages other than water in the classrooms or hallways unless an exception has been made by school administration. Only clear plastic water bottles are allowed in the classrooms.

Students who bring their lunches will be allowed to store beverages for lunch in their lockers provided they are sealed and have not been opened prior to being brought to school. These beverages should be consumed during lunch only.

Bullying/Harassment and/or Intimidation

Bullying is unwanted behavior among youth and/or adults that involves a real or perceived power imbalance. The behavior is repeated, or has the potential to be repeated, over time. Bullying and intimidation in any form are prohibited and will not be tolerated. They are defined as any act that substantially interferes with a student’s educational benefits, opportunities, or performance, taking place on school grounds, at any school-sponsored activity, on school-provided equipment or transportation that has the effect of:

- Physically harming a student or damaging a student’s property.
- Knowingly placing a student or students in reasonable fear of physical harm to the student or damage to the student’s property.
- Causing emotional distress to a student or students
- Creating a hostile educational environment

If the act of bullying or intimidation, including cyber-bullying, takes place off school property or outside of a school-sponsored activity, it is directed specifically at a student or students and has the effect of creating a hostile educational environment or otherwise creating a substantial disruption to the education environment or learning process, it may be addressed by school personnel.

Cyberbullying

A form of bullying undertaken through the use of electronic devices. Electronic devices include, but are not limited to, telephones, cellular phones or other wireless telecommunication devices, text messaging, emails, social networking sites, instant messaging, videos, website or fake profiles.

Reporting Discrimination

Alleged victims of discrimination, harassment, bullying, cyberbullying or intimidation shall report these incidents immediately to a teacher, counselor or building administrator. If the offending person is an employee, the victim shall report the behavior and/or conditions to the immediate supervisor of the offending person. If the offending person is a student or any person not employed by the system, the behavior may be reported to any teacher, counselor or administrator. Confidentiality shall be maintained and no reprisals or retaliation shall occur as a result of good-faith reporting of an accusation.
The director or designee shall be responsible for promptly investigating all complaints. If satisfactory resolution of any complaint is not reached, the student may appeal the matter to the Superintendent of Schools and, ultimately, to the Board of Education. After a complete investigation, if the allegations are substantiated, immediate and appropriate corrective or disciplinary action shall be initiated.

The complaint and identity of the complainant shall not be disclosed except (1) as required by law or school policy, (2) as necessary to fully investigate the complaint or (3) as authorized by the complainant. Reports may be made anonymously but formal disciplinary action may not be solely based on an anonymous report.

**Vandalism/Damage of Property**

Students are encouraged to take care of and have pride in school property. Students or parents/guardians of students who destroy, vandalize, damage, or lose school property will be held responsible for the cost of repair or replacement. Offenses may result in disciplinary action including: conference, referral, disciplinary contract, ISS, OSS, withdrawal, expulsion, and/or petition to courts.

**Electronic Devices**

Students will not use personal electronic devices on the school grounds during the school day, (from 8:00 am – 3:00 pm). This rule is not intended to preclude the use of electronic devices for educational purposes. All prohibited electronic devices will be confiscated by University School employees. The device will be turned in to the office. The device will be kept in the office and returned to the parent/guardian at the end of the day before 4:00 pm. A second offense will result in the device being kept for three days. Additional offenses will result in additional disciplinary action at the discretion of the administration.

**Internet/Technology Policy**

Internet/technology users are expected to not violate the generally accepted rules of network etiquette. This includes, but is not limited to the following:

- Do not write or send abusive messages,
- Do not use inappropriate language
- Do not reveal personal addresses or phone numbers of students or colleagues
- Do not play unapproved games
- Do not access unapproved sites
- Do not use chats from public social sites

Please note e-mail is not private and may be monitored.

In addition to our school Internet policy, we ask that parents/guardians voluntarily monitor their student’s usage of the Internet and telephone at home. Gossiping, bullying, and harassment done via email, instant messaging, text messaging, 3 way calling and social media sites are often done outside school hours, but the problems created in these situations typically follow the student to school.

**ISS – In-school suspension**

University School utilizes In-School Suspension (ISS) as one consequence for a disciplinary infraction or infractions. A staff person coordinates and supervises ISS and the Director/Assistant Director provides administrative oversight. Students that are placed in ISS remain in a separate location within the school building for the assigned days. The student’s teachers will provide classroom assignments for the student. The student must comply with the directions of the ISS monitor to fulfill their ISS obligations. Lunch will be eaten in the ISS room.
Public display of affection (PDA)

Intimate displays of affection are considered inappropriate and disruptive while students are on campus or at school events. While short hugs are acceptable, kissing and other forms of PDA are inappropriate during school or at school events.

Zero Tolerance (T.C.A. 49-6-4216)

The State of Tennessee has developed a Zero Tolerance policy to ensure safe and secure learning environments free of drugs, drug paraphernalia, violence and dangerous weapons. If a student is found guilty of a Zero Tolerance Offense, he or she may be expelled from the school for up to 180 school days (or 1 calendar year) and not be allowed to enroll in any school, in the state, until the completion of this expulsion. This will include withdrawal from University School.

This law addresses:
- Any student who brings drugs, drug paraphernalia or a dangerous weapon onto school property or to any school event
- Any student who while on school property or while attending any school event or activity is under the influence of a drug; or possesses a drug, drug paraphernalia or dangerous weapon; or
- Any student who assaults or threatens a teacher, student or other person.

In any case of suspension, parents/guardians will be notified immediately by phone.

Juvenile Offender Act TCA 49-6-451: Title 55, Chapter 10, Part 7

When a student between the ages of 13-18 engages in and is convicted of such prohibited conduct as possession, use, sale, consumption of any alcoholic beverage, wine or beer or any controlled substance or involved in the possession or carrying of a weapon on school property, the student/offender can be issued a denial or suspension of driving privileges until age 18 by the Tennessee Department of Safety, Driver Control Division.

Physical Abuse of faculty, staff, school personnel, volunteers, or students

Assault is defined as a physical or verbal threat or violence to a person or persons. A student will not assault nor cause or attempt to cause physical injury to a teacher, administrator, or employee on school grounds during, before, or after school hours; on school grounds at any other time when school is being used by a school group; off school grounds at a school activity, function, or event; or off school grounds as a result of a school activity, function, or event.

A student will not engage in any physical assault which will do bodily harm to any person on University School or ETSU grounds during, before, or after school hours; on school grounds at any other time when the school is being used by a school group; or off school grounds at a school activity, function, or event. A student will not, through threat or use of physical force, attempt to take any possession, including money, which belongs to a University School employee or another student. Such acts are considered to be extortion, blackmail, or coercion and are defined as obtaining money or property by violence or threat of violence or forcing someone to do something against their will by force or threat of force.

Physical fights may result in up to 10 days Out-of-School Suspension and could lead to long-term suspension or expulsion under Zero-Tolerance.
**Sexual assault or abuse**

A student will not sexually abuse or assault any person on University School or ETSU grounds at any time on school grounds during, before, or after school hours; on school grounds at any other time when school is being used by a school group; off school grounds at a school activity, function, or event; or off school grounds as a result of a school activity, function, or event.

Sexual assault is defined as any violent act or threat of violence or forcing someone to do something sexual against his/her will by force or threat of force.

**Sexual Harassment**

Sexual harassment activity toward any student will not be tolerated. Sexual harassment is defined as conduct, advances and/or gestures of a sexual nature that:

- Unreasonably interfere with a student's work or educational opportunities
- Create an intimidating, hostile, or offensive environment
- Imply that submission to such conduct is made an explicit or implicit term of receiving grades or credit
- Imply that submission to or rejection of such conduct will be used as a basis for determining the student's grades and/or participation in a student activity.

Any student or parent/guardian of a student attending University School shall report any incident of harassment to the child's teacher, school administrator or counselor. If the offending person is an employee, the victim shall report the behavior and/or conditions to the immediate supervisor of the offending person. If the offending person is a student or a person not employed by the system, the behavior may be reported to any teacher, counselor or administrator. Confidentiality shall be maintained and no reprisals or retaliation shall occur as a result of good faith reporting of charges of sexual harassment.

Sexual harassment of one student by another student will be addressed in the school Code of Conduct (see below), is classified as a Category II or III offense, and carries with it the possibility of suspension and/or referral to an outside agency for further action.

Sexual harassment will constitute cause for disciplinary action. In determining whether alleged conduct constitutes sexual harassment, all of the circumstances, including the nature of the conduct and the context in which the alleged conduct occurred, will be investigated. The range of behaviors that may constitute sexual harassment include, but are not limited to:

- Leering
- Pinching
- Grabbing
- Suggestive verbal comments
- Pressure for dates or sexual activity
- Other verbal, physical, or visual actions

Any student who retaliates against any person who reports alleged sexual harassment or violence or any student who retaliates against any person who testifies, assists in or participates in an investigation, proceeding or hearing will also be subject to disciplinary action, including suspension. Retaliation includes, but is not limited to, any form of intimidation, reprisal or harassment.
Weapons

Students making threats of violence to the school or any person associated with University School will be removed from school immediately and may face long-term suspension or expulsion or withdrawal from University School. These threats will be taken seriously and dealt with accordingly.

A student will not possess, handle, transmit, use, or attempt to use laser pointers, firearms, explosives, fireworks, lighters, knives, or any object that can be considered dangerous and/or a weapon on school grounds during, before, or after school hours; on ETSU or University School grounds at any other time when the school is being used by a school group or off school grounds at a school activity, function, or event. This rule applies to normal school supplies such as pencils, scissors, razors, or compasses when they are possessed, handled, transmitted, used, or attempted to be used in a dangerous manner.

State law prescribes a maximum penalty of six (6) years imprisonment and a fine not to exceed three thousand dollars ($3,000) for carrying weapons on school property. There is zero tolerance for weapons at University School on School property, ETSU campus, and at school functions.

Narcotics, alcoholic beverages, stimulant drugs

A student will not possess, use, transmit, or show evidence of having consumed any narcotic drug, hallucinogenic drug, amphetamine, barbiturate, marijuana, alcoholic beverage or intoxicant of any kind on school or ETSU campus grounds during, before, or immediately following school hours; on school grounds at any other time when the University School is being used by a school group; off school grounds at a school activity, function or event.

A student will not AT ANY TIME possess, use, or be under the influence of any controlled or regulated drug unless he/she has a prescription written for him/her by anyone authorized by the State of Tennessee to write medical prescriptions. There is zero tolerance for alcohol, drugs and/or any drug paraphernalia at University School on school property, ETSU campus, and at school functions.

The school official in charge will immediately remove from contact with other students anyone showing evidence of having consumed alcohol or drugs and thereupon shall contact the parent/guardian. A student suspected of being under the influence of drugs or alcohol may be required at parent/guardian expense to have a drug or alcohol test. Use of a recommended dosage of a drug authorized by a medical prescription for a student from anyone authorized by the State of Tennessee to write medical prescriptions and by written permission of the parent/guardian will not be considered a violation of this rule. Such medication, if administered at school, must be under strict supervision and in accordance with University School's Procedures Manual.

The Director, Assistant Director or campus security may remove a student who has been charged with the selling of narcotics or other serious violations of criminal law from the school when it is necessary to protect other students and/or teachers or avoid disruption to school operations. Neither the foregoing conditions of the Code of Conduct nor any penalty prescribed therein will constitute a waiver to the Tennessee Code Annotated to invoke a more severe penalty than herein prescribed, as prescribed by the General Acts of the State of Tennessee, including but not limited to section (T.C.A. 49-2-203(a), and as the same may be supplemented or amended.

A student will not possess drug paraphernalia on ETSU or University School grounds during, before, or immediately following school hours; on school grounds at any other time when the school is being used by a school group; or off school grounds at a school activity, function, or event. Electronic pagers are considered to be drug paraphernalia in accordance with Tennessee law and under the terms of this rule.
A student will not possess for resale or use any type drug including prescription or over-the-counter drugs on school grounds. This is a zero-tolerance offense, which provides for a 180-day out-of-school suspension and withdrawal. When the zero-tolerance policy is implemented, the student is prohibited from enrolling in any Tennessee School.

**Tobacco/Tobacco Substitutes**

Possession and/or use of tobacco by students on school property or at school-related activities is not permitted. At no time are students allowed to smoke or use smokeless tobacco at University School or on ETSU property. University School students (even if age 18 or older) who are found to be in possession of tobacco products will be held to the following consequences:

- For the first infraction student will receive a written reprimand in the form of a disciplinary referral which will also serve as notification to the parents/guardians. Students will be suspended for 1 school day for a first offense (ISS or OSS).
- The second infraction will result in the student receiving three (3) days out-of-school suspension (OSS) and referral to juvenile court as per state laws.
- A third offense will result in 5 days out-of-school suspension.
- A fourth offense will result in 10 days out-of-school suspension and withdrawal. There is no tolerance for tobacco and/or any tobacco products at University School.

Lighters found in a student’s possession will result in questions concerning smoking and possible possession and can also result in a disciplinary referral for possession of drug paraphernalia. Possession of a lighter can be grounds for a search of the student’s belongings, locker, backpack and/or vehicle if on school grounds. This includes the entire ETSU campus and during any school-sponsored activity (i.e., prom).

**Burglary, larceny, robbery**

A student will not commit burglary, larceny, or robbery. Burglary is defined as breaking into school or personal property. Larceny is defined as theft. Robbery is defined as stealing from an individual by force or threat of force. Offenders will be prosecuted and withdrawn from University School.

**Disciplinary Referral**

Any student who receives a disciplinary referral will have the information from the disciplinary referral logged into their electronic record. This information will stay there until they graduate. This information will follow the students should they move to another school before graduating.

**Behavior Contracts**

Upon recommendation by the Director, alternatives to the mandatory penalty may be offered by way of a contract between the school and the student. The parent/guardian must be aware of the terms of the contract and will attend a conference with the student, teacher, and administrator(s) to plan for its implementation, and will be asked to accept some responsibility, along with the student, for seeing that its conditions are met. If conditions of the contract are not met, withdrawal from University School may be a consideration. All alternatives to mandatory penalty must be approved by the Director of Schools.

University School is not the primary school of assignment, but rather a school of mutual choice. Please note that University School has the choice at any time to convene a committee to discuss options, which may include withdrawal, when conditions of a contract are not met. Contracts may address behavior, academic performance, or attendance.
The application of consequences is by administrative choice based on the severity of the offense.

T.C.A. 49-8-105(b) provides, in relevant part, that “the control of the training school shall be wholly under the direction of the state university and community college system through the president of the college.”

Misbehavior Categories:

In addition to what is detailed below, each teacher may have additional expectations for their individual classrooms. To provide an exemplary educational experience at University School we expect students to refrain from the following behaviors:

**Category I:** This level includes minor misbehavior or first-time offenses on the part of the student which impedes orderly classroom guidelines or interferes with the orderly operation of the school, but which can usually be handled by an individual staff member. Examples (not an exclusive listing)

- Classroom disturbances
- Classroom tardiness
- Minor cheating and lying
- Abusive language
- Failure to do assignments or carry out directions
- Skipping Class
- Dress code violation

**Disciplinary Options**
- Verbal reprimand
- Parent contact
- Student/Parent conference
- Restricting activities
- Behavior contract
- Withdrawal of privileges
- Strict supervised study
- Detention
- In-school suspension

**Category II:** This level includes misbehavior whose frequency or seriousness tends to disrupt the learning climate of the school. These misbehaviors do not represent a direct threat to the health and safety of others but have educational consequences serious enough to require corrective action on the part of administrative personnel. Examples (not an exclusive listing)
• Continuation of unmodified Level I misbehaviors
• Using forged notes or excuses
• Disruptive classroom or school behavior
• Leaving campus or assigned/allowable areas
• Victimization of any student (harassment (sexual, racial, ethnic, religious), bullying, cyber-bullying, and/or hazing)

Disciplinary Procedures
• The student is referred to the director/designee for appropriate disciplinary action.
• The director/designee meets with the student and the staff member.
• The director/designee hears the accusation made by the staff member and allows the student an opportunity to explain his/her conduct
• The director/designee takes appropriate disciplinary action and notifies the staff member of the action.
• The record of offense and disciplinary action shall be maintained by the director.

Disciplinary Options
• Teacher/schedule change
• Parent contact
• Parent/student conference
• Behavior contract
• Referral to outside agency
• In-school suspension
• Detention
• Suspension from school-sponsored activities or from riding school bus to school activities
• Out-of-school suspension
• The student is withdrawn from University School and their home school system is notified of the offense.

Category III:
This level includes acts directly against persons or property but whose consequences do not seriously endanger the health or safety of others in the school. Law enforcement may be involved in any acts that could be construed as criminal behavior.
Examples (not an exclusive listing)
• Continuation of unmodified Level I and II misbehaviors
• Fighting
• Vandalism (minor)
• Use, possession, sale, distribution, and/or being under the influence of tobacco or alcohol
• Use, possession, sale, or distribution of drug paraphernalia
• Being under the influence of drugs
• Stealing
• Threats to others
• Victimization of any student (harassment (sexual, racial, ethnic, religious), bullying, cyber-bullying, and/or hazing)

Disciplinary Procedures
• The student is referred to the director/designee for appropriate disciplinary action.
• The director/designee meets with the student and the staff member.
• The director/designee hears the accusation and allows the student the opportunity to explain his/her conduct.
• The director/designee takes appropriate disciplinary action.
• The director may report the incident to the Dean of Clemmer College and University Administration.
• The record of offense and disciplinary action shall be maintained by the director.

Disciplinary Options
• In-school suspension
• Detention
• Restitution from loss, damage, or stolen property
• Out-of-school suspension
• The student is withdrawn from University School and their home school system is notified of the offense.

Category IV:
This level of misbehavior includes acts which result in violence to another’s person or property, or which pose a threat to the safety of others in the school. These acts are so serious that they usually require administrative actions which result in the immediate removal of the student from the school, and the intervention of law enforcement authorities. If a student’s action poses a threat to the safety of others in the school, a teacher, administrator, school employee, or school bus driver may use reasonable force when necessary to prevent bodily harm or death to another person.
Examples (not an exclusive listing)
• Continuation of unmodified Level I, II, and III misbehaviors
• Death threat
• Extortion
• Bomb threat
• Possession, use, and/or transfer of dangerous weapons
• Assault that results in bodily injury upon any teacher, director, administrator, any other employee of the school, or a school resource officer
• Aggravated assault
• Vandalism
• Theft, possession, and/or sale of stolen property
• Arson
• Possession of unauthorized substances (e.g., any controlled substance, controlled substance analogue, or legend drug)
• Use or transfer of unauthorized substances
• Victimization of any student (harassment (sexual, racial, ethnic, religious), bullying, cyber-bullying, and/or hazing)
• Electronic threat to cause bodily injury or death to another student or school employee

Disciplinary Procedures
• The director confers with appropriate staff members and with the student.
• The director hears the accusations and allows the student the opportunity to explain
• The student receives all appropriate appeals and due process.
• The parent(s)/guardian(s) are notified.
• Law enforcement officials are contacted.
• The incident is reported to the Dean of Clemmer College and University Administration.
• The student is withdrawn from University School and their home school system is notified of the offense.
ATHLETICS

Being a University School Student Athlete is a great privilege. All players are expected to be a positive role model, behaviorally and academically. The following sports are available at University School:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sport</th>
<th>Grade levels</th>
<th>season</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cross Country</td>
<td>middle school/high school</td>
<td>Q1/Q2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Golf</td>
<td>High school</td>
<td>Q1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Basketball</td>
<td>Middle school/high school</td>
<td>Q2/Q3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Soccer</td>
<td>Middle school/High school</td>
<td>Girls Q1/Q2, Boys Q3/Q4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Baseball, Tennis and Softball</td>
<td>Middle school / high school</td>
<td>Q3/Q4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Track</td>
<td>8th grade and High school</td>
<td>Q3/Q4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cheer</td>
<td>Middle school/high school</td>
<td>Q2/Q3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Athletic Guidelines:

No student can begin a clinic, or tryouts without a current physical, a completed concussion form and a Sudden Cardiac Arrest form. These forms must be completed and turned in to the Athletic Director, Dustin Honeycutt (room 109), before practice may begin.

There is a $20 athletic fee for each sport participated in. Athletic fees are due to the coach or the Athletic Director prior to first practice for each specific sport. A student cannot play in a scheduled scrimmage or game until fees are paid. Athletic fees will be capped at a $100 maximum per family.

TSSAA:

All Athletes must meet all TSSAA eligibility rules (www.tssaa.org). According to the TSSAA, “all credits must be earned by the first day of the beginning of the school year. To be eligible in a school that requires less than 24 credits to graduate, a student must earn 5 credits the previous year. Students who are ineligible first semester may gain eligibility second semester by passing five subjects...”

University School Academic Eligibility:

Athletes must have a minimum of a 2.0 GPA (C average) to be eligible and grades will be monitored throughout the season. Class grades will be checked on the day the season starts to determine initial eligibility and grades will be checked at the interim and end of quarter after the initial eligibility to check continued eligibility.

At a grade check, if an athlete is failing one or more classes, he/she will be placed on probation.

- If at the next grade check, the athlete is passing all classes, he/she will be off probation.
- If at the next grade check, the athlete is still failing one class (same or different class), he/she will continue to be on probation until the next grade check.
- If at the next grade check, the athlete is failing two or more classes, he/she will be ineligible until the next grade check. If at the next grade check, he/she is either passing all classes or failing just one class, the athlete will be on probation.
For second semester sports: if an athlete is doing poorly in a class at the end of the first semester, the grade needed to pass the class will factor into the athlete’s eligibility. For example, if an athlete failed English at the semester with a grade of 50%. The athlete will need a minimum of a 70% for the second semester to be able to pass the class for the year. When it is time to determine eligibility, if the athlete has below a 70% (which is the needed grade to pass the class for the year), his/her progress will be considered insufficient.

Behavior Eligibility:

- If an athlete has been suspended, in-school or out-of-school, he/she cannot travel or participate in practices or games for the duration of his/her suspension.
- If the student is convicted in court of unlawful or unethical offenses, on or off school grounds, the student will be dismissed from the team.
- Inappropriate behavior, while traveling to and/or from a game or during the game, may result in dismissal from the team. Such actions include but are not limited to: inappropriate language, displays of affection, unsportsmanlike conduct, and not showing respect for coaches, team mates, referees, opponents or toward anyone in the crowd.

Attendance Eligibility:

Athletes may not practice or compete on a day they were absent from school for more than half the day. Students must be at school at least 3 ½ hours to attend athletic practices/events on that day. Student athletes who have a history of excessive unexcused tardies and unexcused absences might not be eligible to participate in athletics.
APPENDICES

Appendix A: UNIVERSITY SCHOOL COURSE OFFERING DESCRIPTIONS

ENGLISH SELECTIONS: (4 CREDITS REQUIRED)

English 9, 10, 11, and 12 (1 credit each): Skill mastery in literature, grammar, vocabulary, and composition will be the focus of our grade-level English classes. English 9, 10, 11 students will take an end-of-course state exam.  
Prerequisite: Students must pass the year of English to proceed to the next level. Required for graduation.

Advanced Placement English 11 – Language & Composition (1 credit): Designed for students demonstrating exceptional ability in English, focuses on both language and composition. It is recommended that students have a B or higher in the prior English course to enroll in an Advanced English course. Advanced Placement English 11 students will take an end-of-course state exam.

Advanced Placement English 12 – Literature & Composition (1 credit): Serving students with exceptional English abilities with an overview of English literature and significant world literature pieces. A senior research project is required as well as AP preparatory materials. Writing college-level essays is emphasized. It is recommended that students have a B or higher in 11th grade English to enroll in AP English. Students taking this course are required to take the AP exam.

Media Literacy (0.5 or 1 credit): An exploration of a variety of media formats, including television, film, magazines, newspapers, and literature and their impact on the values and ideas of popular culture.

Creative Writing (0.5 credit): Open for any student who wants to discover and explore his/her unique writing voice with a concentration on poetry and drama. This is an academically rigorous course. (Grades 11-12)

Literature of World Religions (0.5 credit): An in-depth examination of the sacred texts and traditions of Buddhism and Taoism, Confucianism, Hinduism and Islam. This is an academically rigorous course. A college-level text is used. (Grades 11-12)

Journalism/Yearbook (1 credit): Students will focus on the design, layout, and timelines of professional publishing. Prerequisite: Application and selection committee interview.

MATH SELECTIONS: (4 CREDITS REQUIRED)

Algebra I (1 credit): This is the first course in algebraic concepts. Students will be given two assessments to determine readiness for Algebra I. Algebra I students will take an end-of-course state exam. Required for graduation.

Geometry (1 credit): Students will investigate properties of plane and solid figures as well as aspects of coordinate geometry. Geometry students will take an end-of-course state exam. Prerequisite: Algebra I. Required for graduation.

Algebra II (1 credit): An advanced study of algebraic concepts. Prerequisite: Algebra I and Geometry. Algebra II students will take an end-of-course state exam. Required for graduation.

Revised: 7/16/2022
**Advanced Algebra and Trigonometry (1 credit):** Advanced Algebra and Trigonometry is an advanced mathematics course that extends algebraic concepts and applications and also develops trigonometric functions and applications. Students earning less than 90% in Algebra II will be recommended to take this course before Pre-Calculus. Pre-requisite: Algebra II

**Pre-Calculus (1 credit):** Investigates higher order algebraic functions, their solution, and graphs of these functions. Additionally, the course will cover circular trigonometric relationships. Prerequisite: Algebra II.

**AP Calculus (1 credit):** An introduction to the concept of the limit, leading to differentiation and integration. This course also investigates techniques of differentiation and integration. Prerequisite: Pre-calculus. Students enrolling in this course must take the AP exam.

**SCIENCE SELECTIONS: (4 CREDITS REQUIRED)**

One credit must be a life science and one a physical science

**Biology I (1 credit):** A study of the characteristics of life, the interrelationships of different organisms, the diversity of life and the genetic basis of life. This course is required to graduate. Biology I students will take an end-of-course state exam. Required for graduation.

**Physical Science (1 credit):** This course provides a general foundation in the major concepts of physics and chemistry. This course is designed for students who need to strengthen science skills before entering Chemistry.

**Chemistry (1 credit):** An investigation into the major concepts of inorganic chemistry. Atomic structure, chemical reactions and equations, the periodic table, elements, and chemical bonding will be explored. Hands-on laboratory activities and demonstrations are a significant part of the course. Prerequisite: Biology. Chemistry students will take an end-of-course state exam. Required for graduation.

**Physics (1 credit):** Advanced investigation into the relationship between matter and energy and how they interact. The following major areas will be investigated: Mechanics, Thermodynamics, Waves and Sound, Light and Optics, Electricity and Magnetism, Atomic and Nuclear Physics. Hands-on laboratory investigations and observations of demonstrations will be a part of the course. Problem solving skills will be emphasized. Prerequisites: Chemistry, Biology. Physics students will take an end-of-course state exam. This course is offered in alternating years.

**Environmental Science (1 credit):** A challenging high school course that places emphasis on environmental issues. Environmental Science can be taken as an elective following Chemistry and Biology. Prerequisite: Biology, Chemistry

**Anatomy & Physiology (1 credit):** Human Anatomy and Physiology is a college preparatory laboratory science course that consists of an in-depth study of all of the body systems that maintain homeostasis from anatomical, physiological, and histological perspectives. Students explore the body through an inquiry approach. Prerequisites: Biology and Chemistry

**AP Biology: (1 credit))** A course designed for the motivated college-bound student. The course is divided into three areas of study: ecology (populations), molecular/cellular and the adaptations of life forms. Classes start at 7:00 am one day per week. Prerequisite: Biology I and Chemistry I. Up to 8 hours of college credit available based on AP Test performance. Students enrolling in this course are required to take the AP exam.
**AP Chemistry (1 credit):** The AP Chemistry course is designed to be the equivalent of the general chemistry course usually taken during the first college year. Students who receive credit for this during high school will have the opportunity to take more advanced science courses as college freshmen or to take other courses of interest because their lab course requirement will be completed. In addition to covering college-level chemistry topics, students are required to complete a laboratory component that is equivalent to that of a typical college course. Students will be required to come to school at 7:00 a.m. one day each week in order to complete labs. Furthermore, it is assumed that students will spend at least five hours each week completing independent study. Prerequisites: Chemistry and Algebra II. Up to 8 hours of college credit available based on AP Test performance. Students taking this class are required to take the AP exam.


**World History and Geography (1 credit):** The world from Renaissance through the Twenty-first Century will be studied. The global development of man is followed through the major historical eras. Special emphasis will be placed on the unique cultures found throughout the world. World History and Geography is required.

**AP Human Geography (1 credit):** AP Human Geography is an introductory college-level human geography course. Students cultivate their understanding of human geography through data and geographic analyses as they explore topics like patterns and spatial organization, human impacts and interactions with their environment, and spatial processes and societal changes. This course may replace the World History and Geography requirement.

**Economics semester (0.5 credit):** A hands-on experience in economic decision making and a survey of how the business community operates. Required for graduation.

**Government semester (0.5 credit):** The political process of the United States government on the national, state, and local levels will be examined. Required for graduation.

**U.S. History (1 credit):** Surveys the cultural background of the United States from Reconstruction to the Present. Students will take an end-of-course state exam. Required for graduation. Can take AP U.S. History instead.

**AP U.S. History (1 credit):** AP U.S. History is a challenging course that is meant to be the equivalent of a freshman college course and students can earn college credit. It is a two-semester survey of American history for the age of exploration and discovery to the present. Solid reading and writing skills, along with a willingness to devote considerable time to homework and study, are necessary to succeed. Recommended for Juniors. Students taking this course are required to take the AP U.S. History exam.

**Contemporary Issues semester (0.5 credit):** “The rest of the story,” An interactive, hands-on experience class that focuses on current and 20th century issues.
**Personal Finance semester (0.5 credit):** Personal Finance is designed to help students understand the impact of individual choices on occupational goals and future earnings potential. Real world topics covered will include income, money management, spending and credit, as well as saving and investing. Required for graduation.

**PHYSICAL EDUCATION/WELLNESS SELECTIONS (1.5 CREDIT REQUIRED)**

**Lifetime Wellness I (1 credit):** A course covering physical fitness, nutrition, family life, safety, first aid, and AIDS education. Required for graduation.

**Physical Education II: (0.5 or 1 credit):** Designed for students to improve physical fitness.

**FOREIGN LANGUAGE SELECTIONS: (2 CREDITS in the same language REQUIRED)**

**French I (1 credit):** An introduction to the French language and culture. Students will learn basic vocabulary and grammatical structures within the four skill areas: listening, speaking, reading, and writing. Emphasis is on acquisition of listening and speaking skills.

**French II (1 credit):** A continuation of the study of the French language and culture with an introduction to more complex grammatical structures and vocabulary. Greater emphasis is placed on accuracy and reading and writing skills. Prerequisite: French I

**French III & IV (1 credit):** Examines advanced grammatical structures and vocabulary. Emphasis is on accurate self-expression in French, both in written and oral forms. Cultural studies include an introduction to the history and literature of France. Prerequisite: French I and II. May be taken twice.

**Spanish I (1 credit):** An introduction to the Spanish language and culture. Students will learn basic vocabulary and grammatical structures within the four skill areas: listening, speaking, reading, and writing. Emphasis is on acquisition of listening and speaking skills.

**Spanish II (1 credit):** A continuation of the study of the Spanish language and culture with an introduction to more complex grammatical structures and vocabulary. Greater emphasis is placed on accuracy and reading and writing skills. Prerequisite: Spanish I

**Spanish III/IV (1 credit):** Examines advanced grammatical structures and vocabulary. Emphasis is on accurate self-expression in Spanish, both in written and oral forms. Cultural studies include an introduction to the history, the arts and literature of Spanish-speaking cultures. Prerequisite: Spanish I and II. May be taken twice.

**FINE ARTS SELECTIONS (1 CREDIT REQUIRED)**

**Visual Art I (1 credit):** Basic techniques will be explored relating to drawing, painting, sculpture, and printmaking. Basic media will be explored including pencil, pastel, charcoal, ink, watercolor, acrylic paint.
and clay. Design elements and principles relating to composition, color, and perspective, are also introduced.

**Visual Art II (1 credit):** Advanced art and design techniques, concepts, and media will be explored relating to drawing, painting, printmaking, sculpture, art technology, art aesthetics, and art history. Students will work on in-depth portfolio and sketchbook projects.

Prerequisite: Visual Art I

**Visual Art III (1 credit):** This is an in-depth, independent art study course. To assist any art college or art career-bound students, we will work on individual projects and develop a professional art portfolio.

Prerequisites: Visual Art I and II.

**Art IV Design (1 credit):** The course curriculum is concentrated around communication/advertising design and graphic design projects created on the computer. Students use Adobe Photoshop and Adobe Illustrator to create their projects.

Prerequisites: Visual Art I, Technology I

**Theater Arts (0.5 or 1 credit):** Students will work to know more about theater through reading, study, and performance experiences. Students will learn good performance techniques, which will include the effective use of body language, proper voice and diction, and the discipline of focus and concentration. Performance will include pantomime, oral interpretation, duo-interpretation, storytelling and solo acting.

**Instrumental Music (1 credit):** Advanced instruction on a band or orchestral instrument. Ensemble playing and performance will be emphasized. Scheduled performances are a part of the grade for this class.

Prerequisite: An audition is required before acceptance into this class.

**Music Appreciation (1 credit):** Students will study the music and lives of major European and American composers throughout history.

**UH Singers (1 credit):** An advanced vocal ensemble. An audition is required.

**TECHNOLOGY SELECTIONS: (1 CREDIT REQUIRED)**

**Technology I (Personal Computing) (1 credit):** This course is divided into four parts. The first part is a nine-week concepts unit. This unit will teach the usage of Word 2007, Excel 2007, Power Point 2007, and Access 2007, proper usage of E-Mail, Movie Maker, and Internet usage. The other three parts of the course will provide introduction foundations in Web Page Design (the HTML Language), the programming language Visual Basic, and the graphics software Adobe Photoshop. These three parts are designed to provide students with a chance to explore possible technology fields in which they could pursue in college and career.

Prerequisite: An audition is required before acceptance into this class.

**Graphics in Technology (0.5 credit):** This course explores the graphic software tools Photoshop and Flash CS3. The course provides the students with an exciting opportunity to explore many upper-level techniques of Photoshop and an introduction to Macromedia Flash CS3. Students will apply these software tools to various types of business and web page applications.

Prerequisite: Technology I

**Introduction to Computer Programming (0.5 credit):** This course is designed to parallel the first course taught in most college computer science programs. The students will gain a working knowledge of
Visual Basic. They will learn how to utilize the 5 Steps of Problem Solving through the development of challenging yet interesting computer programs. This course gives students that have an interest in a computer science college major a quality foundation in the primary programming language taught in many colleges.
Prerequisite: Technology I

Advanced Placement Computer Science (1 credit): This course will follow the National Advanced Placement Standards and will prepare students for the advanced placement exam. Students taking this course are required to take the AP Computer Science exam.
Prerequisites: Technology I and Introduction to Computer Programming.

OTHER ELECTIVE SELECTIONS

Guitar (0.5 credit or 1 credit): This course is a music performance elective course.
STUDENT DIRECTORY INFORMATION DENIAL (Form 1)

Dear Parent(s):

Certain student information may be presented in school publications such as the yearbook or programs for athletics, music, and theater presentations. Throughout the school year if students are involved in certain activities, student information may need to be released to media, colleges, civic or school-related organizations, and state or governmental agencies. Student directory information may also be made available, upon request, to persons or groups that make students aware of occupational and educational options, including official recruiting representatives of military forces.

Student directory information includes the following kinds of information:

1. Name of student
2. Address
3. Telephone number(s)
4. Major field of study
5. Participation in officially recognized activities or sports
6. Height and weight of members of athletic teams
7. Hair and eye color
8. Dates of attendance (“from and to” dates of enrollment)
9. Degrees and awards received
10. Most recent previous school attended
11. Date of birth
12. Photograph (Example: school yearbook/annual)
13. Email address
14. Video (Example: classroom instruction or music presentation or athletic event)
15. Student work for display at the discretion of the teacher (Example: student artwork ... no grades displayed)

Regarding student directory information, I understand that certain information about my child may be released/published by personnel at the school unless I object to the release of any or all of this information. It is my understanding that by signing and returning this form to the school principal within the first two-weeks of my child’s school enrollment, I object to the release of any or all of this information regarding my child. I do not want any of this information about my child released or used in any publication.

Name of Student (print) _____________________________________________________________

School ___________________________________________________________________________

Signature of Parent __________________________________________________________________

Revised: 7/16/2022
NOTICE OF RECEIPT

Please return this page to the office of each new school year. By signing below, our child/children and we have read over the 2022-2023 Student Handbook. We understand that with every privilege there is a responsibility. We understand that these rules apply to all students and parents/guardians at University School/ETSU and all rules and polices apply to school–related activities and events.


We understand the information and will abide by the guidelines set forth in the handbook.

Parent/Guardian (Signature): _________________________ Date: __________________________

Parent/Guardian (Signature): _________________________ Date: __________________________

Student (Signature): ________________________________ Printed Name: __________________

Student (Signature): ________________________________ Printed Name: __________________

Student (Signature): ________________________________ Printed Name: __________________

Student (Signature): ________________________________ Printed Name: __________________

Student (Signature): ________________________________ Printed Name: __________________

Student (Signature): ________________________________ Printed Name: __________________