

2026-2027



MARTINS FERRY HIGH SCHOOL

Student Name

Martins Ferry High School
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Martins Ferry, OH 43935
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ACT/CEEB Code: 363-260
www.mfcsd.k12.oh.us



988lifeline.org
Sean Zeakes
Principal



The mission of Martins Ferry High School is to develop responsible and respectful young adults who are critical thinkers with 21st century knowledge and skills that will make them self-sufficient, productive members of society in a safe learning environment.

Why are you here today?

Alma Mater

*On the shores of old Ohio
Where the coal and iron meet,
Stands our dear old Ferry High School
Full of joys and memories sweet.
And the spirit that we find there
growing up so strong and true,
Brings us back to friendships made there,
Ferry High, we stand for you.*

*Ferry High School, Ferry High School,
We'll always think of you.
And no matter what befalls us,
Ferry High, we'll e'er be true.*

BELL SCHEDULE

REGULAR SCHEDULE		TWO-HOUR DELAY *NO OPEN LUNCH*	
HR/Int..	7:20-7:40	No Intervention	
1 ST	7:45 - 8:26	1 ST	9:15 - 9:45
2 ND	8:31 - 9:12	2 ND	9:48 -10:18
3 RD	9:17 - 9:58	4 th A/B	A 10:21–10:46/ B 10:46-11:11
4 TH A/B	A 9:58-10:23/ B 10:23-10:48	3 RD	11:16 - 11:46
5 TH	10:53 - 11:35	5 TH	11:49 - 12:19
6 TH	11:40 -12:22	6 TH	12:22 - 12:52
7 TH	12:27 - 1:09	7 TH	12:55 - 1:25
8 TH	1:14 - 1:56	8 TH	1:25 - 2:00
TWO-HOUR EARLY DISMISSAL			PEP ASSEMBLY SCHEDULE
No Intervention		HR/Int	7:20-7:40
1 ST	7:20-7:50	1 ST – 4 TH	Regular Schedule
2 ND	7:53-8:23	5 th	10:53-11:24
3 RD	8:27-8:57	6 th	11:27-11:58
5 TH	9:00-9:30	7 th	12:01-12:32
6 TH 4 TH 7 TH	9:33-10:03 10:05-10:45 10:50-11:20	8 th PEP	12:35-1:06 1:10-2:00

8TH 11:23-11:55

Dear Students,

The administration and faculty of Martins Ferry High School
are looking forward to getting to know each of you personally

and sharing with you this exciting period of your life. The educational programs offered at Martins Ferry High School provide you the opportunity to be involved in planning your future and becoming a positive, contributing member of our school community.

Education comes in many forms. In addition to your academic education, you have the opportunity to become involved in many organizations as well as our athletic programs. Your experience will be only what you choose to make of it. We encourage you to become an involved member of the student body and make your high school years enjoyable and rewarding.

This student handbook has been prepared to assist you in pursuit of a meaningful, positive educational experience whether you are new to our high school or a returning student. It is published so that all Martins Ferry High School students have a ready reference to information that is necessary for an understanding of the daily operations of our school. It is essential that all students read the information contained in this handbook so there may be as few misunderstandings as possible. An important section is the Code of Conduct, which outlines the rules that are necessary to provide a secure, safe and orderly learning environment. It is also strongly suggested that students share the information in this handbook with their parents. If you have any questions that are not addressed in this handbook, you should contact your principal, assistant principal, counselor or teacher for help.

The entire Martins Ferry High School staff is looking forward to working with you to assure that a quality education is reality for every student. Best wishes for a successful school year full of challenges and successes.

Sean Zeakes
Principal

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August 17	Teacher In-Service Day
August 18	Teacher In-Service Day
August 19	First Day for Students
September 7	Labor Day – No School
September 26	Homecoming Dance (7:00-10:00 p.m.)
October 6	School Photos – Briggs Photography
October 12	Columbus Day – No School
October 23	End of 1 st 9 Weeks
October 26	Start of 2 nd 9 Weeks
October 30	MFHS Career Day & College Fair
November 2	2 HR Early Dismissal/ Parent-Teacher Conf. 12-5
November 3	Election Day – No School
November 25-30	Thanksgiving Break

December 17	Christmas Concert (7:00 p.m.) High School Café
December 21	Christmas Break Begins
January 4	School Resumes
January 15	End 2 nd 9 Weeks and 1 st Semester
January 18	Martin Luther King Day – No School
January 19	Start 3 rd 9 Weeks and 2 nd Semester
February 14	Winter Formal 7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. High School
February 15	President's Day – No School
February 17	Queen of Queens – 7:00 p.m. Cafe
February 23	ACT Test Administration – Juniors Only (7:30 a.m.)
February 26	MFHS Music Dept. Small Ensemble Recital 6:00
March 23	End 3 rd 9 Weeks/No School
March 23	2 HR Early Dismissal / Parent -Teacher Conf 12-5
March 24	No School / Teacher In-Service
March 25-29	Easter Vacation
March 29	Test Window for ELA OST Opens
March 30	Start 4 th 9 Weeks
April 5	Test Window for Math, Science, Social Studies OST Opens
April 16-17	Spring Concert (Friday 7 PM / Saturday 1 PM/7 PM)
April 23	MFHS Prom – Carnes Center 6:00 p.m. – 10:00 p.m./ Grand March 4:30 p.m. HS
May 4	Election Day – No School
May 6	MF Music Department Spring Concert (7:00 p.m.)
May 7	Academic Awards Assembly (8:00 a.m.) High School
May 10-14	Senior Exam Week
May 14	Senior Class Day – Breakfast (7:00 a.m.)/Balloon Launch (7:30 a.m.)/Slide Show (8:00 a.m.)/Last Lap (9:30 a.m.)*Seniors last scheduled day of school.
May 17-21	Underclass Exam Week
May 17	Senior Graduation Practice – Mandatory (8:00 a.m.) Stadium
May 19	Senior Graduation Practice – Mandatory (8:00 a.m.) Stadium
May 24	Last day for students
May 30	Commencement (2:00 p.m.) Stadium/HS

Academics

ACADEMIC LETTER

Students in grades 9-12 may earn an academic letter by having a 3.75 G.P.A. at the end of the 3rd nine-weeks of the current school year. The letter award will be an "M" with the lamp of learning in the center. The letter size will be identical to the athletic letter awards. Academic letters will be presented at our annual academic awards assembly in May.

ACADEMIC BANQUET (Martins Ferry Chamber of Commerce) In the spring the Martins Ferry Chamber of Commerce hosts the Academic Banquet. In order to receive an invitation a student in grades 9-11 must have achieved an accumulative G.P.A. of 3.75 at the end of the 3rd 9-weeks for the current school year. Seniors who have a 3.75 accumulative G.P.A. at the end of the 3rd 9-weeks or a 3.5 G.P.A. at the end of the 3rd 9-weeks if they have an accumulative overall G.P.A. of 3.75 are eligible to attend the banquet. Physical Education is not counted in GPA.

ACADEMIC REPORTING TO PARENTS

Report cards will be issued every 9 weeks. Report cards will be given out in the homerooms, usually on Thursday following the 9-week period. If you have not received your child's report card, please contact the office. Report cards may be held if any financial obligations have not been met.

If your child is having problems in school, you will be notified of this on an interim report. Interim reports are given to students at the midpoint of each grading period. Parents have the ability to monitor their child's classroom progress daily on Progress Book Parent.

Chromebooks/Textbooks are issued on a loan basis. These

Chromebooks/textbooks must be used with good care. You will be charged for any Chromebook/textbook that is lost or damaged.

BELMONT CAREER CENTER

Students have an opportunity to obtain technical training at Belmont Career Center. You will have an opportunity to visit the campus and the programs during your sophomore year. BCC (JVS) has many diversified programs and if you are a technical student you should consider this career route. See the guidance office for more information.

CLASS RANK

Class rank to determine Valedictorian and Salutatorian is determined at the end of the 7th semester or after the 1st semester of the student's senior year. If any

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member of the senior class is participating in a Post-Secondary Options program, the final ranking will not be announced until grades from the fall semester are averaged in.

CHY-PHY

Membership to this academic fraternity is based on the student's G.P.A. in the science curriculum. Following is the by-laws for the program. Students are elected during their Junior Year.

Article I - Selection criteria for membership

Section 1 - any junior or senior with an overall G.P.A. of 3.25 and an overall G.P.A. in science of 3.25 and have and have at least 3 years of science are eligible to be placed on the candidate list for membership.

Section 2 - students must fill out the appropriate application within the given time frame and return it to the advisor. Failure to do so will result in a rejection of the application.

Section 3 - students must be in good academic and behavioral (conduct) standing within the school and community.

Article II - Obligations

Section 1 - members are obligated to attend meetings, maintain high academic standings and maintain a high standard of conduct in school and community.

Section 2 - members are required to participate in Chy-Phy activities and responsible for providing assistance when requested.

Section 3 - members must attend all meetings, that they have been requested too.

Article III - Officers

Section 1 - any Chy-Phy member may run for an office in their appropriate

grade level. Offices will be held for 2 years. They include: President, Vice-Principal, Secretary, Treasurer and Program Committee Chairperson. In the event a person cannot fulfill the office then the runner-up will take their place.

Article 4 - Committees

Section 1 - there shall be a standing committee for the Sadie Hawkins Dance, Service, and Powder Puff Game.

Section 2 - Other committees shall be formed as needed.

Article 5 - Faculty Council

Section 1 - a faculty council consisting of the three (3) science teachers and two other faculty members chosen by the advisor. Decisions made by the council are final.

Article 6 - Dismissal

Section 1 - any member who falls below standard which were the basis of selection, or who violates school rules/policies or civic laws, can be dismissed from the organization. A member will be promptly warned by letter of any deficiency, except in the case of a flagrant violation, which does not necessarily warrant a warning.

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Section 2 – Individuals will be given demerits for violations for breaking school/club rules. The number of demerits will be determined by the faculty council for Chy-Phy. The decision of the faculty council will be final. Any member that receives 5 demerits will be dismissed and forfeit their membership in Chy-Phy.

Section 3 - a member has the right to hearing, if they so choose, before the faculty council and will also be governed by the due process of the school district.

Section 4 - any member who misses more than three (3) meetings without an excuse will be dismissed

COURSE LOAD

A normal course load for a high school student is six classes and one study hall per semester. A student must have permission from the principal and guidance counselor to carry less than the normal course load. **OHSAA & MFHS guidelines state that a student-athlete must carry, and pass, a minimum of 5 academic credits per nine-week period to maintain eligibility. Physical Education classes and Library Science classes are not considered academic subjects and will not be counted towards the 5 required credits per 9 weeks.*

Any student who is strictly enrolled in the College Credit Plus (CCP) program must be enrolled, and passing, a minimum of three classes.

CREDIT FLEXIBILITY

In accordance with S.B. 311, the Martins Ferry City School District has developed a credit flexibility policy which will allow students to earn units of high school credit based on demonstration of subject competency, instead of or in combination with completing hours of classroom instruction. In accordance with state law, MFCSD has implemented a credit flexibility plan that enables students to earn high school credit by:

- 1) Completing coursework
- 2) Testing out or showing mastery of course content
- 3) Pursuing an educational option and/or an individually approved option and/or
- 4) Any combination of the above

Any student choosing to use the credit flexibility option must meet with the school counselor to develop an individual credit flexibility plan.

*Edmentum Online – Edmentum is an online platform used for **CREDIT RECOVERY**. Students who need to make up credits through the Edmentum program need to meet with Mr. Mamone and Mr. Bennett to discuss options. Not all students qualify to use this program and the final decision will be made by the building principal.*

There are some general requirements for those students who enroll in the Edmentum program:

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- 1) *Edmentum students must accumulate the same amount of “seat hours” as a traditional high school student (5 hours a week per class).*

- 2) Progress will be monitored on a 9-weeks basis.
- 3) The deadline to enroll in the Edmentum program for the school year is the end of the 3rd week in the 4th 9 weeks grading period.
- 4) **The deadline for completion of all Edmentum classes for a school year is 1 week before the seniors' last scheduled day of school (listed on the calendar in this handbook). To earn credits for your Edmentum classes for the current school year, you must have work completed by this deadline. This rule also applies to seniors who are working on credits for graduation.**
- 5) Once a student is enrolled in the Edmentum program they will work with their Edmentum advisor, not MFHS, to remedy any issue within the Edmentum interface.

DIPLOMA WITH HONORS

Upon graduation, a diploma with honors will be given by the State of Ohio to any student in the graduating Class of 2024 and 2025 who meets 7 of the following 8 criteria:

- 1) English - 4 Credits
 - 2) Social Studies - 4 Credits
 - 3) Science – 4 Credits including physics and chemistry
 - 4) **Math - 4 units, including Algebra I, Geometry, Algebra II or equivalent and another higher level course or a four-year sequence of courses that contain equivalent content**
 - 5) Foreign Language - 3 Credits of one or 2 Credits of two
 - 6) Fine Arts - 1 Credit
 - 7) G.P.A. - 3.5 on a 4.0 scale
 - 8) Obtain an ACT score of 27 or a SAT score of 1210.
- *You must meet 7 of the above criteria*
**Beginning with the class of 2022 students who take credit recovery classes through an online platform will not qualify for a diploma with honors.*

HONORS DIPLOMAS

CLASS OF 2026 & BEYOND

Students must meet **all but one** of the following criteria. Each of these criteria go beyond the [standard requirements for a diploma for the classes of 2023 and beyond](#). Students must meet general graduation requirements and complete the requirements outlined below to qualify for honors diplomas. Students may replace one requirement of either 4, 5 or 6 with a “Student Strength Demonstration.”

ACADEMIC HONORS DIPLOMA

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1 Math	Fourth math must be > Algebra 2
2 Science	One additional unit Advanced Science
3 Social Studies	One additional unit Social Studies
4 World Languages	Three sequential units of one world language, or no less than 2 sequential units of two world languages studied
5 GPA	3.5 on a 4.0 scale
6 ACT/SAT	ACT: Score of 27 or higher, SAT: Score of 1280 or higher
7 Seal Requirement	Earn two additional diploma seals, not including Honors Diploma Seal
8 Experiential Learning	Field Experience & Portfolio, OhioMeansJobs Readiness Seal*, or Work-Based Learning

*Students can use OMJ Readiness Seal in 2 additional seals requirement if it is not used in Experiential Learning

INTERNATIONAL BACCALAUREATE HONORS DIPLOMA

1 Math	Fourth math must be > Algebra 2
2 Science	One additional unit Advanced Science
3 Social Studies	One additional unit Social Studies
4 World Languages	Three sequential units of one world language, or no less than 2 sequential units of two world languages studied

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5 GPA	3.5 on a 4.0 scale
6 ACT/SAT	ACT: Score of 27 or higher, SAT: Score of 1280 or higher
7 Biliteracy Seal	Meet requirements to earn the Biliteracy Seal
8 Experiential Learning	Field Experience & Portfolio, OhioMeansJobs Readiness Seal*, or Work-Based Learning

CAREER TECH HONORS DIPLOMA

1 Math	Fourth math must be > Algebra 2
2 Career-Tech Coursework	Four units of Career-Tech Courses
3 Career-Tech Proficiency	Earned a cumulative score of proficient or higher on the technical assessments aligned to their program
4 World Languages	Two units of one world language
5 GPA	3.5 on a 4.0 scale
6 ACT/SAT/Workkeys	ACT: Score of 27 or higher, SAT: Score of 1280 or higher Workkeys: Earn a score of six or higher on all three sections of the WorkKeys assessment.
7 Industry-Recognized Seal or Technology	Meet requirements to earn the

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Seal	Industry Recognized Credential Seal or Technology Seal
8 Experiential Learning	Field Experience & Portfolio, OhioMeansJobs Readiness Seal, or Work-Based Learning

STEM HONORS DIPLOMA

1 Math	Fourth math must be > Algebra 2
2 Science	One additional unit Advanced Science
3 Electives	Two units of additional STEM Courses as electives
4 World Languages	Three sequential units of one world language, or no less than 2 sequential units of two world languages studied
5 GPA	3.5 on a 4.0 scale
6 ACT/SAT	ACT: Score of 27 or higher, SAT: Score of 1280 or higher
7 Industry-Recognized Credential Seal or Technology Seal	Meet requirements to earn the Industry-Recognized Credential Seal or Technology Seal
8 Experiential Learning	Field Experience,

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	OhioMeansJobs Readiness Seal, Portfolio or Work-Based Learning
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ARTS HONORS DIPLOMA

1 Math	Fourth math must be > Algebra 2
2 Fine Arts	Four units

3 Electives	Two units of Fine Arts (may overlap with general four units)
4 World Languages	Three sequential units of one world language, or no less than 2 sequential units of two world languages studied
5 GPA	3.5 on a 4.0 scale
6 ACT/SAT	ACT: Score of 27 or higher, SAT: Score of 1280 or higher
7 Fine Arts Seal	Meet local district requirements to earn the Fine Arts Seal
8 Experiential Learning	Field Experience & Portfolio, OhioMeansJobs Readiness Seal, or Work-Based Learning

**includes dance, drama/theatre, music and visual art.*

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SOCIAL SCIENCE AND CIVIC ENGAGEMENT HONORS DIPLOMA

1 Math	Fourth math must be > Algebra 2
2 Social Studies	Two additional units of Social Studies
3 World Languages	Three sequential units of one world language, or no less than 2 sequential units of two world languages studied
4 GPA	3.5 on a 4.0 scale
5 ACT/SAT	ACT: Score of 27 or higher, SAT: Score of 1280 or higher
6 Community Service Seal	Meet local district requirements to earn the Community Service Seal
7 Citizenship Seal	Meet the requirements to earn the Citizenship Seal
8 Experiential Learning	Field Experience & Portfolio, OhioMeansJobs Readiness Seal, or Work-Based Learning

Student Strength Demonstration Replacement

Students can use the Student Strength Demonstration to replace one of either the **ACT/SAT, GPA or World Language** requirement for any Honors Diploma. The Student Strength Demonstration options are listed below. The same options exist for each of the six honors diplomas* but, where relevant, should reflect coursework or experiences relevant to the theme of the Diploma. For example, a student earning the Academic Honors Diploma and using the College Credit Plus option to replace another requirement for the diploma should have College Credit Plus courses relevant to the Academic Honors diploma.

OPTIONS:

- **College Credit Plus:** 12 total College Credit Plus credit hours
- **Advanced Placement:** three courses with score of 3 or higher on AP tests
- **Career-Technical Assurance Guide (CTAG):** 12 total credits
- **Apprenticeship/Pre-Apprenticeship:** Completion or Evidence of Acceptance if required to be older than 18
- **WorkKeys:** Score of 6 or higher on all tests (*void for Career-Tech Honors Diploma)
- **Armed Services Vocational Battery:** Score of 50 or above on the ASVAB
- **Work-Based Learning:** 250 total hours of work-based learning

GRADE POINT AVERAGES (G.P.A.)

Grade point averages for senior class placing are computed at the end of the first semester and once again at the end of the year. Class ranking for graduation is determined at the end of the first semester of your senior year or after winter grades are received from students participating in Post-Secondary Options.

Students are required to have ½ credit of PE to graduate. Physical Education and Physical Training are not calculated in G.P.A.

Regular Course	AP/Honors Course
A = 4.000 pts.	A = 5.000 pts.
A- = 3.667 pts.	A- = 4.667 pts.
B+ = 3.333 pts.	B+ = 4.333 pts.
B = 3.000 pts.	B = 4.000 pts.
B- = 2.667 pts.	B- = 3.667 pts.
C+ = 2.333 pts.	C+ = 3.333 pts.
C = 2.000 pts.	C = 3.000 pts.
C- = 1.667 pts.	C- = 2.667 pts.
D+ = 1.333 pts.	D+ = 2.333 pts.
D = 1.000 pts.	D = 2.000 pts.
D- = 0.667 pts.	D- = 1.667 pts.
F = 0.000 pts.	F = 0.000 pts.

GRADES AND GRADING

The following grading scale is to be used for consistency in evaluating student progress. This is the daily work, tests, etc.

D+ = 68-69
D = 63-67
D- = 60-62
F = below 60

The following procedures are to be used for reporting grades to parents of students in grades 9-12.

Student grades will be recorded as letter grades on report cards (A-, B+, B, B-, C+, C, C-, D+, D, D-, F)

Student grades will be kept as percentages by teachers. These percentages will be made available to parents upon request.

In order to pass a course, the student must achieve a .667 G.P.A. to receive a D-.

A student's final grade is calculated at the end of the year.

A course not giving a final exam will use the grade of the last nine (9) weeks of the semester as the exam grade.

A student cannot pass a class if he/she receives an F during the fourth nine week grading period and an F on their final exam.

Class	1 st 9 wks	2 nd 9 wks	Exam	Final Grade
P.E.	A	F	F	F

Students not completing required course work will receive an F for the grading period.

When determining a yearly average, the 9-weeks grade will double in value with the exam grade carrying regular weight.

A = 4 pts	B = 3 pts	C = 2 pts	D = 1 pt	F = 0 pts
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1 st 9	2 nd 9	Exam	3 rd 9	4 th 9	Exam	Final
A	C	C	B	F	D	C
8 pts	4 pts	2 pts	6 pts	0 pts	1 pt	=21/10 =2.1

5463 - CREDITS FROM STATE-CHARTERED, SPECIAL, AND NONCHARTERED SCHOOLS

In recognizing its responsibility to uphold the minimum educational standards of the State of Ohio, the Board of Education establishes the following policy and criteria regarding the acceptance of credits from nonpublic schools whether they be State-chartered, special, or nonchartered schools.

For credit or course-work to be accepted for courses taken in such schools, either a copy of the charter or other assurance of compliance with minimum requirements established by the State must be provided.

Recognition of credits or course-work shall be granted when the proper assurance and the student's transcript has been received. The District reserves the right to assess such transfer students in order to determine proper placement and to be assured the student can demonstrate the learnings which are prerequisite to a placement.

Although credits from nonpublic schools may be granted and placed on a student's transcript, no grades will be entered on the transcript or considered for

class ranking. Only grades awarded for courses taken at the District or at a school approved by a State education agency shall be considered in class ranking and for entering on the transcript.

GRADUATION AND GENERAL REQUIREMENTS

1) Take required classes – Class of 2024 & beyond

ENGLISH - 4 Credits MATH - 4 Credits (Alg 2 or equivalent SOC. STUDIES - 3 Credits* HEALTH – ½ Credit SCIENCE – 3 Credits PHYS. ED. - ½ Credit** FINANCIAL LITERACY ½ Credit FINE ARTS – 1 Credit

Starting with the Class of 2028, ½ credit of Computer Science and Technology will be required.

* Social Studies must include: American History, World History and American Government.

**Student may obtain P.E. requirement by participating in 2 seasons of sports, band, or cheerleading. Students are required to obtain a P.E. waiver form from

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the guidance office and have it filled out and signed by their head coach at the end of each sport. Do not wait until May of your senior year to take care of this.

2) Total credits: 21 – Class of 2024 and beyond

3) Class of 2023 and beyond. (Must show competency and readiness)

Show competency – Earn a passing score (684 and higher) on Ohio’s high school Algebra I and English II tests. Students who do not pass the test will be offered additional support and must retake the test at least once. If you do not receive a passing score after retaking the test, there are three additional options to show competency.

Option 1: Demonstrate **TWO** career-focused activities:

o Foundational

- Proficient on WebXams
- A 12-point industry credential
- A pre-apprenticeship or acceptance into an approved apprenticeship program

o Supporting

- Work-based learning
- Earn the required score on WorkKeys
- Earn the OhioMeansJobs Readiness Seal

**At least one of the two must be a foundational skill.*

Option 2: **Enlist in the Military.** Show evidence that you have signed a contract to enter a branch of the U.S. armed services upon graduation.

Option 3: **Complete CCP Coursework** – Earn credit for a non-remedial math or English course in the subject area not passed through Ohio’s free College Credit Plus program.

-AND

Show Readiness- Earn two of the following diploma seals, choosing those that line up with your goals and interests. At least one of the two must be Ohio-designed:

- | | |
|--|---|
| ● OhioMeansJobs Readiness Seal (Ohio) ● | ● Seal of Biliteracy (Ohio) |
| Industry-Recognized Credential Seal (Ohio) ● | ● Technology Seal (Ohio) |
| ● College-Ready Seal (Ohio) (Local) | ● Community Service Seal |
| ● Military Enlistment Seal (Ohio) | ● Fine and Performing Arts Seal (Local) |
| ● Citizenship Seal (Ohio) | |
| ● Science Seal (Ohio) | |
| ● Honors Diploma Seal (Ohio) | |
| ● Student Engagement Seal (Local) | |

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**All graduation requirements can be viewed at education.ohio.gov/graduation*

HOME TUTOR

Home tutoring is arranged for those students who, under the advisement of a medical doctor, cannot attend school. You must obtain a medical authorization form from the guidance counselor. Work completed under the guidance of a tutor is calculated at 100% and averaged in with the rest of your grades for the year.

HOME WORK

Home work is necessary both for practice of skills and for teaching work responsibility. Assignments should be clear to each student and should be items which have been reviewed previously in class. A student's schedule will dictate the amount of study that is needed at home. Students normally will have homework that can be completed in 1- 2 hours. Students not completing work, and turning it in by the established deadline, will be subject to disciplinary action. This may include, but not be limited to: lunch detention, after school detention, loss of full credit, etc.

HONOR ROLL/PRINCIPAL'S LIST

Principal's List – 4.00 to 5.00 G.P.A. per quarter

Honor Roll – 3.25- 3.99 G.P.A. per quarter

HONORS/WEIGHTED COURSES

Placement in honors classes will be determined by the building administrators. Prerequisites, prior subject grades, state and local assessments, as well as teacher recommendations will be reviewed to make the determination. Here is a list of the weighted courses that are offered.

Honors English 9, 10, 11, 12

Honors Algebra II

Honors Geometry

Honors Math

AP Calculus

AP Statistics

Honors Physical Science 9

Honors Biology I, II

Honors Chemistry

AP Chemistry

Honors Physics

AP Biology

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Honors Spanish III, IV

Honors American History

AP American History

Honors American Government

Honors World History

Creating & Editing Digital Images (CTAG) **must pass WebXam*

Design Techniques (CTAG) **must pass WebXam*

Vido & Sound Production (CTAG) ** must pass WebXam*

The course content for all weighted/honors courses will be advanced. Students are expected to give excellent oral presentations, written assignments and lab assignments.

Courses will meet the following criteria:

- Advanced Course Content
- Pulling of prerequisite knowledge
- Use of critical and analytical thinking
- Special project and paper assignments.
- Extended studies beyond the school day.
- Outside reading, note taking and class reporting
- Overall expected excellence of materials and presentations.

MAKEUP WORK

When a student is absent, the work that the student missed (homework, daily work, handouts, work sheets, tests, etc.) must be made up. The assignments to be made up are the responsibility of the student. The teacher will provide the materials and instruction on new material. Upon returning to school, the student must turn in an excuse to explain the reason for the absence (parental, doctor, office visit, court, etc.) before any missed work can be made up. The teacher

will give the student the due date. If a student is absent on the day a make-up assignment is due, they must make arrangements to get their makeup work to school. No excuse (parental/doctor) will extend the deadline on makeup work. Students/parents are advised to use Progress Book Parent to track assignments and grades. Any incompletes at the end of the 9 weeks will be transferred to an "F".

SUSPENDED STUDENTS CAN MAKEUP CLASS WORK AND TESTS BUT CANNOT PARTICIPATE IN SCHOOL ACTIVITIES.

Makeup work is calculated as follows:

- Out of school suspension – work submitted will be counted at 60%.
- Makeup work submitted 1 day beyond due date is counted at 80%
- Makeup work submitted 2 days beyond due date is counted at 65%
- Makeup work submitted 3 days or more beyond due date

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will be recorded at 40%

- Residential Treatment - 100% of grade is averaged in
- Home Tutor - 100% of grade is averaged in

MINIMUM NUMBER OF COURSES PER SEMESTER A normal course load for a high school student is six classes and one study hall per semester. A student must have permission from the principal and guidance counselor to carry less than the normal course load. **OHSAA & MFHS guidelines state that a student-athlete must carry, and pass, a minimum of 5 academic credits per nine-week period to maintain eligibility. Physical Education classes and Library Science classes are not considered academic subjects and will not be counted towards the 5 required credits per 9 weeks.* Students may not have more than 1 study hall per semester. Students may not have a study hall and work as an office/teacher's aide during the same semester.

Credits of students entering Martins Ferry High School from other accredited high schools will be accepted at face value. Any student may enroll in any class without regard to race, sex, religion, or handicap as long as prerequisites have been met. Students may take a maximum of 2 semesters of P.E. and Physical Training during their 4 years.

NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY

This policy for NHS eligibility and selection has been taken from the National Honor Society, Martins Ferry Chapter Bylaws.

CONSTITUTION:

All chapters are governed by the national constitution. The Martins Ferry Chapter of the National Honor Society addresses its needs and conditions through the chapter bylaws.

ARTICLE I - Statement of the name of the Organization

"Martins Ferry Chapter of the National Honor Society".

ARTICLE II - Purpose of the Group

The purpose of the National Honor Society is to create enthusiasm for scholarship, to stimulate desire to render service, to promote leadership, and to develop character in the students Martins Ferry High School.

ARTICLE III - Selection Criteria for Membership

Section 1 - G.P.A.

Any junior with a 3.75 grade point average at the end of five (5) semesters, or a senior with a 3.75 grade point average at the end of six (6) semesters is eligible to be placed on the candidate list for membership.

Section 2 -Qualifications for membership

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The four qualifications for membership are: scholarship, leadership, character, and service. A minimum of 70 points must be earned in addition to the 3.75 GPA (at total of 90 points) to be considered for membership. The maximum

number of points that can be earned in each of the four areas are as follows:

Scholarship 52 Points (*17 higher level course points plus 5 ACT points plus 30 GPA points*)

Leadership 20 Points

Character 20 Points

Service 20 Points

No more than 15% of the junior class will be accepted into the National Honor Society.

Any disciplinary actions will be considered by the faculty council when making membership decisions.

Section 3 – Scholarship

In order to be considered for membership, students must have an ACT score on file by the end of the fall semester of their junior year. ACT scores that demonstrate college-readiness are strongly suggested. (English 18, Math and Reading 22, Science 23). The state-funded ACT that is given to all juniors will not be administered in time for applicants to use for consideration.

Students applying for the NHS must also follow a rigorous course schedule. Juniors should take at least ten (10) honors courses by the end of the first semester of their junior year and thirteen (13) by the beginning of their senior year (if not more). There are at least seventeen (17) honors and AP courses a student can take by the 5th semester. They will receive one scholarship point per honors/AP course.

If a student scores over 21 on the ACT, they will be given one bonus point above 21. This will count up to 5 points.

GPA Scholarship Points

5.0 or above 30 points

4.90 29 points

4.80 28 points

Each tenth of a point lower on the GPA will be 1 point less.

Section 4 -Leadership points

Students will receive one points for each leadership office held. These will be indicated on the 'Activities and Offices Checklist'. Each activity reported must

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be accompanied by an authorized signature.

Section 5 -Service points

Service points will be given for each activity in which a student has been involved while in high school. Activities will be reported on the 'Activities and Offices Checklist'. Any false statements can declare a student ineligible for membership.

Section 6 - Character points

Character points will be tallied from a questionnaire sent to five (5) people. The student must send one to their most recent English teacher, one to their most recent Science teacher, and one to their most recent Math teacher. They must send one to a fourth teacher of their choice. The last can be sent to anyone they choose who is not related to them (i.e. boss, coach, minister).

Senior applications will be distributed in September of the academic school year. Junior applications will be distributed in February of the academic school year. Both seniors and juniors are inducted during the spring program.

OHIO STATE TESTS (END-OF-COURSE EXAMS)

Class of 2023 and beyond

End-of-course tests in English Language Arts II, Algebra I, Geometry (or integrated math I and II) Biology, American History and American Government. **Students must demonstrate competency on the state's ELA II and Algebra I tests.*

Students will take the End-of-Course Exam during the year in which they have scheduled that class. End-of-Course Exams are administered from the end of March through the beginning of May. Retakes for the End of Course Exams are given in the fall of each school year. ***Students who have not accumulated the state-required points will NOT be permitted to participate in the graduation ceremonies. Students are required to take all End-of-Course Exams.***

If students are having difficulty passing any of the tests, remedial classes and tutoring are available. See your counselor or ask in the main office.

POST SECONDARY ENROLLMENT/COLLEGE CREDIT PLUS (CCP)
Students enrolled in Ohio public schools have an opportunity to receive both high school and college credits through any post-secondary institution.

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Locally, this means Ohio University Eastern and Belmont College. Students may enroll for full or part time course work. You must meet certain guidelines to be eligible for this program and the sign-up for this program is held during the month of March. Ask the guidance counselor for more information. ****ANY STUDENT WHO CHOSE TO ENROLL IN CCP COURSES WILL STILL BE REQUIRED TO CHECK THEIR SCHOOL EMAIL ACCOUNT WEEKLY. ALL UPDATES ON SCHOOL EVENTS/REQUIREMENTS WILL BE EMAILED TO THEM. IT IS THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE CCP STUDENT TO TURN IN ALL GRADE REPORTS, PROMPTLY, TO THE HIGH SCHOOL GUIDANCE COUNSELOR. THESE GRADES WILL BE NEEDED TO DETERMINE PROGRAM ELIGIBILITY, ACADEMIC ELIGIBILITY AND QUALIFICATION FOR THE CHAMBER ACADEMIC AWARDS BANQUET. IT IS THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE CCP STUDENT TO STAY IN CONTACT WITH THE HIGH SCHOOL GUIDANCE COUNSELOR FOR ALL GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS AND SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITIES. IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS CONTACT THE SCHOOL OFFICE.***

****Colleges/Universities to not provide academic progress updates to the high school. If a student is in jeopardy of not passing a CCP course, they need to make an appointment with the guidance counselor to make adjustments to their schedule.***

****Weighting of CCP courses – If the high school offers a weighted subject, equivalent CCP courses will be weighted. All courses will be recorded in the subject area that the college/university lists them in in their curriculum guide.***

College Credit Plus

Book Requisition Procedure

The following procedure is to be followed by all faculty and students when requesting a book for a College Credit Plus (CCP) course:

1. The student who is enrolled in the active semester CCP course will bring a written request to the guidance counselor for all books required in the syllabus.
2. The guidance counselor will fill the order with all books that we have on-hand in our CCP library.
3. For any book that is not in our CCP library, the guidance counselor will fill out a requisition for the purchase of said book.
4. The guidance counselor will then take the book requisition to the building principal for approval. If the building principal is unavailable, the assistant principal will approve the request.

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5. Once the book requisition is approved at the building level, the principal (or his designee) will forward the requisition along to the superintendent of schools for approval.

6. After approval from the superintendent, the requisition will be forwarded to the treasurer's office so that the order may be placed.
7. On the day the book order is received at the school, the student will be notified.
8. The book will be held in the high school main office until picked up by the student or the parent/guardian of the student.

Book Return Procedure

1. Students are required to return books to the high school main office within one week of the semester's end date.
2. Students who do not return books to the school will not be scheduled for new CCP classes.
3. If a student does not return a CCP book to the school, they will be required to reimburse the school for the current list price of said book.
4. If a book is damaged while in the student's possession, they will be required to reimburse the school at the current list price of said book.

RENAISSANCE PROGRAM

Renaissance provides recognition, incentives and rewards to students who achieve academic excellence. The four goals of Renaissance are: to increase student attendance, to improve overall academic performance, to increase graduation rates, and to create a positive, safe school environment. At Martins Ferry High School, we have developed a four-tiered system. Students can receive a Platinum Card, Gold Card, Silver Card, or Bronze Card. Renaissance Cards are individual ID cards, which will automatically expire at the end of each quarter, and must be re-earned by the student to keep receiving the awards and benefits. There are specific incentives tied to each card level and will increase with value according to the color level. Because of the tiered system, **any student at Martins Ferry High School can earn a card.**

Program Guidelines

- * Students must maintain the required GPA and CANNOT receive a conduct referral, detention, ISS (In School Suspension), or OSS (Out of School Suspension).
- * Follow all attendance guidelines.
- * Mr. Mamone and Mr. Matuska reserve the right to revoke cards for failure to follow school rules.
- * To receive discounts from participating businesses, present your Renaissance Card at the time of checkout.

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PURPLE RIDER PLATINUM CARD

REQUIREMENTS:

1. 9-weeks G.P.A. of 4.0 or better.
2. No detentions, conduct referrals, or suspensions.
3. No more than 2 absences. (excused or unexcused)
4. No more than 3 tardies to school.
5. No more than 3 tardies to class.

INCENTIVES:

1. Open Lunch any and/or every day.
2. One Independent Study Day
3. Discounts and coupons from participating businesses.
4. Half price tickets for all game admissions.

PURPLE RIDER GOLD CARD

REQUIREMENTS:

1. 9-weeks G.P.A. of 3.6 or better.
2. No detentions, conduct referrals, or suspensions.
3. No more than 2 absences. (excused or unexcused)
4. No more than 3 tardies to school.
5. No more than 3 tardies to class.

INCENTIVES:

1. Open Lunch on Mondays and Fridays.
2. Discounts and coupons from participating businesses.
4. Half price tickets for all game admissions.

PURPLE RIDER SILVER CARD

REQUIREMENTS:

1. 9-weeks G.P.A. of 3.0 or better.
2. No detentions, conduct referrals, or suspensions.
3. No more than 2 absences. (excused or unexcused)
4. No more than 3 tardies to school.
5. No more than 3 tardies to class.

INCENTIVES:

1. Open Lunch on Friday if you participate in Renaissance Fund Raiser.
2. Discounts and coupons from participating businesses.
3. Half price tickets for all game admissions.

PURPLE RIDER BRONZE CARD

REQUIREMENTS:

1. Perfect attendance.
2. No detentions, conduct referrals, or suspensions.
3. No more than 2 absences. (excused or unexcused)
4. No more than 3 tardies to school.
5. No more than 3 tardies to class.

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INCENTIVES:

1. Open Lunch on Friday if you participate in Renaissance Fund Raiser.
2. Discounts and coupons from participating businesses.

**Only students that qualify with a Renaissance card will be permitted to participate in the open lunch. Students can't be called out by parents/guardians for the lunch period.*

SCHEDULE CHANGES/DROPPING CLASSES

All schedule changes must be made in the guidance office with Mr. Bennett or Mr. Ware. A class cannot be dropped without notification/permission of the parent/guardian. A *Dropped Class* form may be obtained in the guidance office. Students will have up to 2 weeks after the start of the semester to change their schedule. Schedules will only be changed if there is a legitimate reason and the final decision will be at the discretion of the guidance department and administration. **Students will not be permitted to drop a full year class after the completion of the first 9 weeks grading period, or after the first interim report in a semester class.*

****Caution to athletes – Under Ohio High School Athletic Association (OHSAA) & MFHS guidelines a student must carry, and be passing, five (5) academic subjects per nine-week period to participate during the next nine-week period. It is strongly suggested that you carry more than five (5) academic subjects per nine-week period. *Physical Education, Physical Training and Library Science classes are considered non-academic subjects.***

STUDENT COUNCIL

The purpose of this organization shall be:

- To represent and express the concerns, opinions and recommendations of the students to the administration and faculty of Martins Ferry High School
- To increase communication among students, faculty, community and the administration of Martins Ferry High School
- To represent the student body concerning their rights and responsibilities
- To provide opportunities for student self-direction
- To organize and conduct various activities that promote school spirit, unity and awareness of community pride and further the goals of the student council
- To provide a forum for discussion of questions of interest to the student body

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- To create and maintain standards of good citizenship among the students
- To develop in the students a greater appreciation of membership in a

democracy by actively participating in such a form of school government

To offer leadership training, to stimulate and guide student leaders and to increase student participation in leadership and educational activities

To assist charitable functions and/or organizations both in and out of school

Members of the Student Council will consist of President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, Class officers and First Period Representatives. The Representatives will be elected from each first period class by the third Tuesday of the new school year and the second nine weeks (for 2nd semester only classes).

Students wishing to run for an office needs to complete a nomination form. The form should include a petition containing 25 student and 4 faculty members' signatures. First Period Representatives just need to inform their first period class that they are interested in representing them.

Copies of the Student Council Constitution and By-Laws are available in the main office.

TRANSCRIPT REQUEST

1. Transcripts will be sent upon request of the student or alumni. 2. Students applying to post-secondary institutions should bring their completed applications, addressed and stamped envelopes and fees to the guidance office. An official transcript will be sent with the application. 3. Transcript request forms may be obtained in the guidance office. All completed transcript request forms must be returned to the guidance counselor.

TUTOR

During the school year, students may find themselves struggling with subject matter in a class. First and foremost, they should contact that teacher and let them know that they do not understand the subject matter. Ask for additional help before, during or after school. We have a peer tutorship program at Martins Ferry High School. Students who are struggling need to contact Mrs. Lewis and receive an application to obtain a peer tutor. Our National Honor Society students participate in this program. She will try to connect you with a student whose schedule can coincide with yours in order to tutor you.

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Martins Ferry High School maintains a quality athletic program for both boys and girls.

❖ **Insurance:** A program selected by the Board shall be available to all athletes. The athlete shall be responsible for the FULL PREMIUM IN ALL SPORTS. Athletes not wishing to participate in the program must submit a statement signed by a parent or guardian relieving the school of all financial responsibility for medical treatment which may result from injuries.

❖ **Physical Cards:** Physical exams are the responsibility of the participant. The school will assist in setting up exams whenever possible. Each student must have on file with the athletic director a physical card signed by the athlete, by the parent or guardian and the examining physician. (A card will be provided).

❖ **Transportation:** All members of an interscholastic squad, coaches and managers shall be transported by school bus whenever possible. Another type of transportation may be used when necessary at the discretion of the head coach and with the approval of the athletic director and principal. If such transportation is by private vehicle, it is recommended that the coach have some teacher, parent, or responsible adult drive the vehicle.

❖ **Awards:** Varsity letter winners shall receive the official varsity letter

the first time they win an award with a metal insert indicating the sport in which he/she earned the award. Subsequent letter winners shall receive a certificate or metal insert indicating the sport.

❖ **Attendance:** Regular school attendance is required to participate in extracurricular activities. Student-athletes are required to average 30 instructional hours per week in order to be eligible to participate in extracurricular activities.

To be eligible to practice or rehearse for a co-curricular activity or to participate in a contest or performance, a student must also do the following on the day of:

1. Attend at least four (4) full academic periods of that school day. Lunch is not considered an academic period.

(or)

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2. Be involved in a field trip.

(or)

3. Be involved in an alternate learning experience approved by the school.

*Both field trips and alternate learning experiences must be approved in advance by the principal.

❖ **Discipline:** Athletes must observe the rules of conduct, dress and grooming established by the Board of Education and must conform to rules established by the Ohio High School Athletic Association. Head coaches may initiate rules of discipline, training and conduct which they deem appropriate to their sports and philosophies. A written statement of these rules and possible penalties shall be posted in the locker room.

❖ **Use of Facilities:** Athletes shall keep the locker room reasonably neat and clean. Equipment and clothing are to be in a locked area when unattended. Students shall not be in the coach's office unless a coach is present.

SOCIAL MEDIA POLICY

Playing and competing for Martins Ferry City Schools is a privilege, not a right. Student-athletes at MFCSD are held in high regard and are seen as role models in the community. As leaders we have the responsibility to portray our team, our School District and ourselves in a positive manner at all times. Sometimes this means doing things that are of an inconvenience to us, but benefit the whole team.

In recent years, Facebook, Instagram, Snapchat, Twitter and other social networking sites have increased in popularity and are used by the majority of student-athletes in the Martins Ferry School District.

Student-athletes may not be aware that third parties including the media, faculty, future employers, parents and others can easily access their profiles and view all personal information. This includes all pictures, videos, comments and posters. Inappropriate material found by third parties affects the perception of the student, the athletic department and the Martins Ferry School District.

Examples of inappropriate and offensive behaviors concerning participation in online communities may include, but are not limited to depictions or

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presentations of the following:

1. Posting photos, videos, comments or posters showing the personal use of alcohol, tobacco, no holding cups, cans, shot glasses that may be deemed as

containing contraband.

2. Posting photos, videos, and comments that are of a sexual nature. This includes links to websites of a pornographic nature and other inappropriate material.
3. Posting pictures, videos, comments or posters that condone drug related activity. This includes but is not limited to images that portray the personal use of marijuana, and drug paraphernalia.
4. Using inappropriate or offensive language in all comments, videos and other postings. This includes threats of violence and derogatory comments against race and/or gender.
5. Negatively commenting about a teammate, a coach, an official, an opponent or member of the staff of the Martins Ferry City School District

If a student-athlete's profile and/or its contents are found to be inappropriate in accordance with the above behaviors he/she will be subject to the following penalties: 1) written warning; 2) a meeting with Director of Athletics and Head Coach; 3) penalties as determined by the athletics department, for example, suspension from athletic team.

For your own safety, please keep the following recommendations in mind as you participate in social networking websites:

Set your security settings so that only your friends can view your profile.

You should not post your email, home address, local address, telephone number(s), or other personal information as it could lead to unwanted attention, stalking, identity theft, etc.

Be aware of who you add as a friend to your site – many people are looking to take advantage of student-athletes or to seek connection with student-athletes.

If you are ever in doubt of the appropriateness of your online public material, consider whether it upholds and positively reflects your own values and ethics as well as the athletics department and the Martins Ferry School System. Remember always present a positive image and don't do anything to

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embarrass yourself, the team, your family or Martins Ferry City Schools.

STUDENT ATHLETIC ELIGIBILITY

The Ohio High School Athletic Association (OHSAA) and MFHS establishes specific rules for student eligibility for all sports in grades 7 thru 12 in Ohio schools. You as a student should be aware of the fact that your academic success is the primary concern of education and the privilege of participating in sports is determined by your academic success.

Below is a partial list of the basic rules for athletic eligibility: **Grade**

Eligibility: A student must have received passing grades in a minimum of five (5) one-credit academic courses or the equivalent which counts towards graduation during the preceding grading period. Phys. Ed and Physical Training **do not** count towards these 5 courses.

Post-Secondary students: Any student enrolled in a CCP class to be used for determining eligibility, the class must count towards graduation. The student-athlete is taking enough course work at the post-secondary institution exclusively or between post-secondary institution and the high school combined to be equivalent to five one-credit courses. Calculating equivalency of credits in the post-secondary institution is conducted in the same manner as in the high school, based upon the Carnegie Unit. College courses for which three or more semester hours of credit are earned shall be awarded one Carnegie unit. Fractional Carnegie units will be awarded

proportionately. This means that courses which are four, five, six or even seven hours of credit receive just one Carnegie unit. Examples of CCP options:

Subject School Credit/Duration Credit Equivalency (Must = 5 Units)

History High 1 (year course) $1 \times 1 = 1$

AmLit CCP 3 semester hours $1 \times 2 = 2$

Calc. CCP 3 semester hours $1 \times 2 = 2$

Bio CCP 3 semester hours $1 \times 2 = 2$

TOTAL: 7 = eligible for next 9-weeks period

***The factor of 2 is used for post-secondary institutions that are on the semester system**

Summer grades earned MAY NOT BE USED to substitute for failing grades from the last grading period of the regular school year.

Ineligibility timeline: Any student determined to be ineligible by

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O.H.S.A.A. and MFHS standards based upon grades from the preceding grading period remains ineligible throughout the next entire grading period.

The eligibility of a student continues until the start of the fifth (5) school day of the next grading period, at which time grades from the immediately preceding grading period become effective. Eligibility or ineligibility for fall sports is based on the last grading period in the previous school year.

STUDENT ATHLETE DRUG TESTING

The Martins Ferry City Schools Board of Education believes that interscholastic athletics can be an important aspect of a student's overall educational experience. The Board believes that the experiences gained while involved in interscholastic athletics can have lifelong impact. Student participation in interscholastic athletics, however, is a privilege and not a right.

The Board is certainly aware of the pressure that the youth of today face especially in the area of drugs and alcohol. It also realizes that due to the nature of athletic activities the use of drugs and/or alcohol can lead to added risks including injury to the student athlete and others.

All students who wish to participate in the interscholastic athletic programs sponsored by Martins Ferry High School are subject to drug testing. This testing takes place at the beginning of each athletic season: fall, winter and spring. Student athletes participating in multiple seasons within an academic year may not be tested at the beginning of the successive seasons unless selected for random testing or testing based on reasonable suspicion. Parents and athletes will be given a copy of the policy and return signed pages from both the parent and athlete. Failure to give permission to the drug testing will result in denial of participation. All athletes will be subject to random drug testing.

NCAA ELIGIBILITY/REGISTRATION

- Any student who would like to be considered for participation in a Division I or Division II college athletic program must apply for NCAA eligibility their senior year. Students should follow the link provided on Progress Book Parent and register. There is a \$60.00 fee for this. If you are eligible for free/reduced lunch the guidance office may provide a waiver for this fee.
- Your eligibility consists of a formula which includes your G.P.A. and

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results of the ACT or SAT scores. When you sign up to take the ACT

or SAT test be sure to mark NCAA as one of the recipients of your scores. The scores must be sent **directly** from ACT/SAT to NCAA. If you do not, then there is an additional charge you must pay. See Mr. Bennett for more details.

NCAA APPROVED COURSES

English I, II, III, IV, and Honors	AP Am. History
Algebra I, II and Honors Alg. II	Psychology
Geometry	Physical Science
Honors Math	Biology I, II, including Honors
AP Calculus	Chemistry, including Honors
Amer. Hist., World History,	Honors Physics
Amer. Govt.	AP Biology
Honors American History	Spanish I, II, and III

Attendance

Compulsory education in the State of Ohio requires that young people between the ages of 6 and 18 years attend school. A student in grades 9 through 12 may be considered a full-time equivalent student provided the student is enrolled in at least five (5) units of instruction, as defined by state law, per school year. The Belmont County Truancy Program is set up through the Belmont County Juvenile Court System. All students within the county's 7 school districts and the 1 vocational school district are expected to follow the attendance policy published here. These expectations and sanctions are consistent throughout all the school districts which mean if a student should transfer to any other school district in the county their attendance record will follow.

The educational program offered at the Martins Ferry City School District is predicated upon the presence of the student and requires continuity of instructions and classroom participation. Attendance shall be required of all students enrolled in the school during the days and hours that the school is in session. Daily attendance of students is a matter of great importance as shown by the fact that prospective employers always check attendance. **The target attendance rate for all students at MFHS is 92%.**

In accordance with state law, the Superintendent or his designee shall require from the parent of each student or of an adult student who has been absent from school or from class for any reason, a written statement of the cause for such absence.

The School Board considers the following factors as reasonable excuses for time missed at school and will be considered excused absences:

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- A. Personal illness or medical appointment with an accompanying physician's statement
- B. Illness in the immediate family that requires the student to stay home as determined by the Principal
- C. Quarantine of the home
- D. Death in the immediate family (maximum 3 days)
- E. Religious observation in which a student is personally involved.
- F. Emergency situation in which a parent can work out no other solution as determined by the Principal or for such good cause as may be acceptable to the Principal
- G. Court appearance for the child

Upon return to school the student must provide a written excuse to school administration. It will be the responsibility of the student to receive make-up work from the teacher and to have such returned by the specified date as set by the school.

When a student is absent, the parent or guardian should call the school between 7-9 a.m. to inform school officials that their child will not attend school that day. As required by law, if the office does not receive a phone call by the completion of attendance a school representative will attempt to contact the home.

APPOINTMENTS-DOCTOR, DENTIST, ETC.

Appointments should be made outside school time. If this is not possible the student should bring a note from home requesting early dismissal. The student's handbook will be signed, indicating the time the student will be released. Students must sign out in the main office upon leaving. The Principal may call the doctor's office to verify the appointment. When students return to school they need to provide a slip from their doctor, dentist, therapist, etc., verifying the appointment time and date. If they return to school, the same day they should sign back in.

VACATIONS

We encourage vacations involving students to be taken during a time when school is not in session. If a parent who wishes his/her child to vacation when school is in session, a written request to the principal at least three (3) days prior to going is required. Each of the child's teachers will sign the request, then the child may make up any missed work at the convenience of the teacher and within the guidelines for make-up work. If the written request for vacation is approved, up to five (5) days will be marked as "excused". Anything beyond five (5) days will be marked as "unexcused" and count towards hours documented for HB 410. *Only five (5) vacation days will be approved in one school year. If a student has fallen into one of the attendance parameters listed in HB 410, then vacation requests will not be approved.

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COLLEGE VISITS

Seniors are permitted two (2) approved visits to colleges. Application forms for college visits must be approved three (3) days in advance by the Guidance Office and the principal. Juniors may be permitted one (1) approved visit to a college. Only under extenuating circumstances will college visits be permitted during the month of May. Students must provide proof of the visit to the office upon return.

SANCTIONS

Per HB 410:

Other than specified above as authorized absences, all other absences shall be considered unauthorized absences. A student will be considered habitually truant if the student is absent without an authorized excuse for: • **Thirty (30) or more consecutive hours**

- **Forty-two (42) or more hours in one (1) school month •**
- Seventy-two (72) or more hours in one (1) school year**

If a student is habitually truant and the student's parent/guardian has failed to cause the student's attendance, the Board authorizes the Superintendent to file a complaint with the Judge of the Juvenile Court and/or to take any other appropriate intervention actions as set forth by this Board's policy.

If a student who is habitually truant violates the order of a Juvenile Court regarding the student's prior adjudication as an unruly child for being a habitual truant, s/he may further be adjudicated as a delinquent child. The Board authorizes the Superintendent to take any of the following intervention actions:

- Assign the student to a truancy intervention program
 - Provide counseling to the student
 - Request or require the student's parent/guardian to attend a parental involvement program
 - Request or require a parent to attend a truancy prevention mediation program
 - Notify the Registrar of Motor Vehicles of the student's absences •
- Take appropriate legal action
- Assignment to an alternative school

A student will be considered to have excessive absences if:

- **Absent 38 or more hours in one school month with or without a legitimate excuse**
- **Absent 65 or more hours in one school year with or without a legitimate excuse**

EARLY DISMISSALS

A student who is not present more than one half (a.m. or p.m.) shall be counted absent for that session. The principal shall make the final decision as to

whether a student is counted absent. The student must have a parent/guardian note indicating the reason for the late arrival or the early dismissal. This note should be brought to the Cafetorium or office in the morning where the student's handbook will be signed indicating the dismissed time. Parents must pick-up the early dismissal students in the main office where students must sign out before leaving. The principal or assistant principal are the only individuals that may release a student before the end of the school day. **ALL MINORS MUST BE SIGNED OUT IN THE MAIN OFFICE BY AN APPROVED ADULT.**

SCHOOL ATTENDANCE DAY OF CONTEST/PRACTICE To be eligible to practice or rehearse for a co-curricular activity or to participate in a contest or performance, a student must:

1. Attend at least four (4) periods of that school day, excluding lunch (or)
2. Be involved in a field trip (or)
3. Be involved in an Alternative Learning Experience
4. Regular school attendance is required to participate in extracurricular activities. Student-athletes are required to average 30 instructional hours per week in order to be eligible to participate in extracurricular activities.

Both field trips and alternative learning experiences must be approved in advance by the Principal.

FIELD TRIPS

Students are permitted to attend field trips pertaining to class assignments and supervised by a class room teacher. Students that have missed 30 hours in the nine weeks or 72 hours for the year will not be permitted to go on any field trips. Students must have the appropriate field trip form signed by a parent/guardian and returned to school to be eligible to participate in a field trip.

LEAVING SCHOOL GROUNDS

Anytime a student would need to leave school grounds, that student must have permission from their parent/guardian in the form of a note/phone call and it needs to be verified by the main office personnel. Students must also have their handbook filled out to show proof of that permission. The student must sign out in the main office and if they are to return that same school day, they are to then sign back in. If they do not return they should bring a slip from home to account for the absence. Remember, if the absence is due to an appointment at the doctors, dentists, therapists, etc. office they should bring a note from that professional and this absence will not be marked against their allotted hours of absence for the year. **Students are not permitted to walk on or off campus.**

PRE-ARRANGED ABSENCE

If students are to be absent from classes for one or more days due to vacation,

college visit, field trip, class outing, etc., they must obtain a 'Pre-Arranged absence' form from the main office. The student is responsible for getting the work missed and to verify this, the faculty member must sign for the appropriate period. Student then gets the guidance counselor and principal/dean of student's signature. **This form needs to be completely filled out prior to the student's absence.**

TARDY POLICY

If a student is tardy, they must report to the office to receive a tardy slip. The offense and consequences are listed in the Discipline section of the handbook.

BULLYING POLICY

OF MARTINS FERRY CITY SCHOOLS The

Board of Education is committed to providing a safe, positive, productive, and nurturing educational environment for all of its students. The Board encourages the promotion of positive interpersonal relations between members of the school community.

Harassment, intimidation, or bullying toward a student, whether by other students, staff, or third parties is strictly prohibited and will not be tolerated. This prohibition includes aggressive behavior, physical, verbal, and psychological abuse, and violence within a dating relationship. The Board of Education will not tolerate any gestures, comments, threats, or actions which cause or threaten to cause bodily harm or personal degradation. This policy applies to all activities in the District, including activities on school property or while enroute to or from school, and those occurring off school property if the student or employee is at any school-sponsored, school-approved or school-related activity or function, such as field trips or athletic events where students are under the school's control, in a school vehicle, or where an employee is engaged in school business.

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This policy has been developed in consultation with parents, District employees, volunteers, students, and community members as prescribed in R.C. 3313.666 and the State Board of Education's Model Policy.

Definition:

Harassment, intimidation, or bullying can include many different behaviors including overt intent to ridicule, humiliate, or intimidate another student.

Examples of conduct that could constitute prohibited behaviors include:

- A. physical violence and/or attacks;
- B. threats, taunts, and intimidation through words and/or gestures; C. extortion, damage, or stealing of money and/or possessions; D. exclusion from the peer group or spreading rumors;
- E. repetitive and hostile behavior with the intent to harm others through the use of information and communication technologies and other web-based/on-line sites (also known as "cyber-bullying"), such as the following:
 - 1. posting slurs on web sites where students congregate or on web logs (personal on-line journals or diaries);
 - 2. sending abusive or threatening instant messages;
 - 3. using camera phones to take embarrassing photographs of students and posting them on-line/or otherwise distributing them;
 - 4. using web sites to circulate gossip and rumors to other students; and,
 - 5. Excluding others from an on-line group by falsely reporting them for inappropriate language to Internet Service Providers.
- F. violence within a dating relationship

Any student or student's parent/guardian who believes s/he has been or is the victim of aggressive behavior should immediately report the situation

to the building principal or assistant principal, or the Superintendent. The student may also report concerns to teachers and other school staff who will be responsible for notifying the appropriate administrator or Board official.

Discipline

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MARTINS FERRY CITY SCHOOLS CODE OF CONDUCT

Education cannot proceed without an atmosphere of good order and discipline necessary for effective learning. The Board of Education accepts the traditional American concept that the teacher is “in loco parentis” (in place of a parent) and as such, has similar rights and duties concerning students as a parent. Good education is largely dependent upon the maintenance of effective learning conditions within the classroom, successful and continued maintenance of these teacher, understanding and leadership by the administration, and support of the classroom conditions is dependent upon good judgment and compassion by the Board, the parents and students. Good order and discipline are best thought of as being positive, not negative; helping a student to adjust, rather than punish; turning unacceptable conduct into acceptable conduct. Order and discipline are largely a matter of morale, classroom atmosphere, and positive interpersonal relationships. As a working definition, good order and discipline may be described as the absence of distractions, frictions, and disturbances which interfere with the optimum functioning of the student, the class, and the school. It is also the presence of a friendly, yet business-like rapport in which students and school personnel work cooperatively toward mutually accepted goals. The development of administrative guidelines concerning discipline shall be the responsibility of the administration. Good conduct is based on respect and consideration for the rights of others. Students will be expected to conduct themselves in such a way that the rights of others are not violated. The students of the Martins Ferry School District will conform to school regulations and accept directions from authorized school personnel.

A student who fails to comply with established school rules or any reasonable request made by school personnel on school property and / or at school related events will be dealt with according to approved student discipline regulations.

The Board of Education has a “zero tolerance” for violent, disruptive or inappropriate behavior by its students: i.e. the Board will not tolerate violent, disruptive or inappropriate behavior by its students and such behavior is prohibited as set forth in the Student Code of Conduct.

The Board of Education has a zero tolerance for excessive truancy, and truancy from school or from study hall will result in disciplinary action as set forth in the Board’s Student Attendance Policy.

5500C - CODE OF CONDUCT - HIGH SCHOOL

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A. Disrespect, Defiance, Insubordination, Substantial and Intentional Disruption of Class

1. Up to fifteen (15) demerits each offense.
2. Parent/Teacher conference to be scheduled.
3. Unruly charges may be filed with Juvenile Court.

B. Truancy – Per HB 410

1. 1st offense - ISS plus five (5) demerits
2. 2nd offense - ISS plus ten (10) demerits
3. 3rd offense - charges filed in Juvenile Court plus fifteen (15) demerits

Leaving School Grounds Without Permission

ISS will be assigned plus ten (10) demerits.

Skipping or Cutting Class

1. First Offense - Two (2) lunch detentions will be assigned plus three (3) demerits.
2. Second Offense – ISS for one full school day, plus five (5) demerits.

Skipping or cutting class is defined as not being in the assigned classroom, study hall, or area, etc., but not leaving the school grounds.

Tardy – Per HB 410

If a student is tardy, they must report to the office.

Disciplinary measures for excessive tardiness are on a semester basis.

1. First and Second Times Tardy – Report to office. Tardy will be recorded in the office.
2. Third Time Tardy - one lunch detention. Students are permitted to eat their lunch. No cell phones.
3. Fourth Time Tardy – two lunch detentions. Students are permitted to eat their lunch. No cell phones.
4. Fifth Time Tardy – ISS for one full school day.

District Attendance Policy – Per HB 410

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1. If a student is going to be absent, the parent/guardian is to call the principal's office to inform him/her of your absence before 8:30 a.m. This is to ensure the safety of the student. Students are not to report themselves off sick. School officials will attempt to contact parents/guardians who do not report students absent. After reasonable attempts have been made to contact parents, the truant officer will be notified.
2. Students must be present at least two (2) class periods in the morning and afternoon to be counted present for each session.
3. Student absence will be classified as excused or unexcused. An excused absence is that which has been approved by the parent or guardian for legitimate reasons or illness or other reasons as specified in the Ohio Revised Code. An unexcused absence is that which the parent/guardian has not given permission for or has no knowledge of or which does not meet the provisions of the O.R.C.
4. Upon returning to school after an absence, the student must present a written excuse from the parent/guardian. If a written excuse is not submitted within one (1) days after the student returns from the absence, the student will be considered unexcused for the day/days missed. Students will be assigned a Saturday school for three (3) unexcused absences during a nine (9) week grading period.
5. It is the student's responsibility to receive and complete make-up work. Students with unexcused absence will not be permitted to make up work.
6. After five (5) days of absence for the nine (9) week grading period a student will be required to present a valid doctor's excuse for each additional day missed over five (5) days. Any extended illness or injury of five (5) days or more (which requires the services of a doctor, verified by a doctor's excuse) will not be counted toward the fifteen (15) day absence policy.

After five (5) days of absence for the nine (9) weeks or fifteen (15) days for the year students will be permitted to make up days missed. Students will be given credit for one (1) class make up for each forty-five (45) minutes of make-up time.

Students may make up time during detention, Saturday School, or scheduled time after school or holidays. All schedule make-up time must be approved by the principal or assistant principal before the time is made up.

Teachers may schedule and supervise their own detention.

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1. Any student who fails to submit a doctor's excuse within seventy-two (72) hours will be considered truant (beginning with the 16th absence). A student who is truant will receive an "F" in all subjects for the date of the truancy. A second truancy in the same nine (9) weeks grading period will result in the failure of all subjects for the entire nine (9) weeks grading period.
2. This attendance policy has been approved by the Martins Ferry Board of Education (9/11/84). Extenuating circumstances for student absences may be taken into consideration.

C. Assault/Physical Harassment

Up to fifteen (15) demerits - charges may be filed in Juvenile Court.

D. Fighting

Up to fifteen (15) demerits - three (3) days suspension from school, Saturday school, and unruly charges may be filed in Juvenile Court.

E. Extortion

Up to fifteen (15) demerits - student referred to guidance counselor; written notification to parent/guardian.

F. Possession of/Brandishing a Weapon

Any student possessing or brandishing a weapon, as defined below, will be suspended for ten (10) days plus fifteen (15) demerits. Charges will be filed in Juvenile Court. No weapon is permitted on school property regardless of its operating condition. Recommendation for expulsion can occur, if possession or brandishing of a weapon is meant to threaten or harass students, staff members, parents, or community members.

Weapons are defined, but not limited to knives, metal knuckles, straight razors, noxious irritation gases, poisons, drugs, or other dangerous weapons. Acts such as arson or false fire alarms may also lead to expulsion.

Possession of a firearm

A firearm is defined as any device, including a starter gun, which will or is designed to or may readily be converted to expel a projectile by the action of an explosive, the frame or receiver of any such device, any firearm muffler or silencer, or any destructive object. A destructive device, includes but is not limited to any explosive, incendiary, or poison gas, bomb, grenade, rocket having a propellant charge of more than four (4) ounces, missile having an explosive or incendiary charge of more than one-quarter ounce, mine, or other similar device.

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The definition of firearms expressly does not include:

1. an antique firearm;
2. a rifle that the owner intends to use solely for sporting, recreation, or cultural purposes;
3. any device that is neither designed or redesigned for use as a weapon;
4. any device, although originally designed as a weapon, redesigned as a signaling pyrotechnic, line-throwing, safety, or like device;

5. surplus ordinance, sold, loaned, or given by the Secretary of the Army;
6. class C common fireworks.

The effective date of the firearms policy is September 14, 1995, the effective date of substitute House Bill 64.

Students are prohibited from bringing a firearm on school property, in a school vehicle, or to any school-sponsored activity. If a student brings a firearm on school property, in a school vehicle, or to any school-sponsored activity, the Superintendent shall expel this student from school for a period of one (1) calendar year. Any such expulsion shall extend, if necessary, into the school year following the school year in which the incident occurred. The Superintendent may reduce this requirement on a case-by-case basis in accordance with State law.

The specific circumstances under which a Superintendent may modify a one (1) year expulsion could include:

1. a recommendation from the group of persons knowledgeable of the student's educational needs in accordance with Policy 2465 - Suspension/Expulsion of Disabled Students;
2. the student was unaware that s/he was possessing a firearm;
3. the student did not understand that the item s/he possessed was considered a firearm;
4. the student brought the item to school as part of an educational activity and did not realize it would be considered a firearm.

The Board may extend the right to expel a student for reasons beyond the possession of a firearm.

G. Profanity/Offensive or Provocative Name Calling

Up to fifteen (15) demerits - unruly charges may be filed in Juvenile Court.

H. Destruction of Property

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Parents are responsible for up to \$10,000.00 worth of damages as per Ohio Revised Code 3109.09.

Ten (10) day suspension plus fifteen (15) demerits.

1. First Offense - Parents/Guardians will be notified of the offense and the amount of money to be remitted to the school. If restitution is not made within a prescribed period of time charges will be filed in Juvenile Court.
2. Second Offense - Restitution must be made to the School District and charges will be filed in Juvenile Court plus fifteen (15) demerits.

I. Stealing

Up to fifteen (15) demerits - charges may be filed in Juvenile Court.

J. Smoking

Health professionals have determined the use of tobacco products can be detrimental to one's health. The Board wishes to encourage good health practices among the students of the District.

Therefore, the Board prohibits smoking, use of or possession of tobacco in any form, including but not limited to, cigarettes, cigars, clove cigarettes, chewing tobacco, snuff or any other tobacco product, by students in any area under control of the School District or any activity supervised by any school within the District.

Violation of the Tobacco Policy will result in the following:

First Offense

1. Use in school buildings will result in an automatic three (3) day suspension from school plus fifteen (15) demerits.
2. Use outside the school building will result in a one (1) day Saturday School plus five (5) to fifteen (15) demerits.
3. Possession on school property up to fifteen (15) demerits.

Second Offense

1. Use in the school building will result in assignment to Saturday school and mandatory attendance in an assigned tobacco seminar approved by the Board plus fifteen (15) demerits.
 2. Use outside the school building will result in an assignment to Saturday school and mandatory attendance in an assigned tobacco seminar approved by the Board plus fifteen (15) demerits.
 3. Possession on school property up to fifteen (15) demerits.
- Failure to comply with any of these stipulations will result in a ten (10) day suspension from school.

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Suspended Students

Assignments **MUST** be obtained from individual teachers, completed by the student, and submitted to the principal in order for that student to be re-admitted to school.

A conference must be held by the custodian parent with the principal or assistant principal before a student serving suspension may return to school.

Suspended students can make up class work and tests. The grades for students who are suspended out of school will be counted at 60%.

Subsequent Offenses

The student will be assigned an automatic ten (10) day suspension from school for each subsequent offense. Tobacco products will be confiscated with each offense plus fifteen (15) demerits.

K. Violation of Dress Code Policy

First Offense - Notify parents – Student will spend 1 day in ISS.

Second Offense – Student will be suspended out of school and lose the privilege to wear shorts and/or jeans with holes.

Dress Code for Girls

1. Cut off shirts are not permitted.
 2. Cut-out or see through dresses are not permissible.
 3. Coats cannot be worn to classes.
 4. No tank top attire including halter tops, shrink tops, or mesh shirts.
 5. Hats, caps, or unnecessary headwear in the school are not permissible.
This also includes sunglasses on the head or otherwise.
 6. Shoes are to be worn at all school activities.
 7. Blue jeans (denims) may be worn. No holes above the knee. 8.
- Bare midriffs will not be permitted.
9. Drooping or sagging pants will not be permitted. Pants must be worn in a normal fashion at or above the beltline and may not be excessively large where as to cause them to droop. Students wearing drooping pants will be suspended up to three (3) days.

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Any student whose attire does not conform to these standards will be asked to change. Students who are unable to change will go to ISS for the remainder of the school day.

Dress Code for Boys

1. No coats are to be worn to classes.
2. Cut off shirts are not permitted.
3. No tank tops are to be worn in school. No shirts with pictures or lettering or slogans in poor taste are to be worn.

4. Shoes are to be worn at all school activities.
5. Blue jeans (denims) may be worn. No holes above the knee.
6. Hats, caps, or unnecessary headwear in the school are not permissible.
This also includes sunglasses.
7. Bare midriffs will not be permitted.
8. Drooping or sagging pants will not be permitted. Pants must be worn in a normal fashion at or above the beltline and may not be excessively large where as to cause them to droop. Students wearing drooping pants will be suspended up to three (3) days.

Any student whose attire does not conform to these standards will be asked to change. Students who are unable to change will go to ISS for the remainder of the school day.

L. Saturday School

Students are assigned to Saturday school by the principal's office. It is the last attempt to solve students' school problems.

Failure to attend Saturday school:

1. First Offense - Suspension from school on Tuesday, required to attend the next Saturday school.
2. Second Offense - Three (3) days suspension from school.
3. Third Offense - Referral to Juvenile Court.

M. Snowballing - up to fifteen (15) demerits.

N. Fireworks

1. First Offense - Three (3) days suspension plus fifteen (15) demerits.
2. Second Offense - Ten (10) days suspension - plus fifteen (15) demerits.

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Offenses not covered will be dealt with by the principal/assistant principal when they occur. If a student's behavior warrants, the principal/assistant principal may by-pass or adjust steps in the Code of Conduct and proceed as s/he feels necessary.

O. P.D.A. Public Display of Affection

Engaging in display of affection in school, on school grounds, or at a school event is not permitted. One (1) to five (5) demerits each offense.

P. To ensure the safety and well-being of the student body. Gang or gang related activities will not be tolerated. The following is a list of activities that could be considered gang activities. The principal/assistant principal will be judge of the type of activities considered to be gang related.

1. Incidents involving initiations, hazing, intimidations, and/or related activities of such group affiliations which are likely to cause bodily danger, physical harm, or personal degradation or disgrace resulting in physical or mental harm to students.
2. The wearing, carrying, or displaying gang paraphernalia or exhibiting behavior or gestures which symbolizes gang membership.

Q. The following are some examples of student behavior that violate school policy when they occur at school or during school activities. This list is not intended to be inclusive. Students may be disciplined, suspended, or assigned Saturday School for any of the following:

1. arson
2. false alarms
3. improper language
4. inappropriate display of affection
5. sexual harassment

6. gambling
7. throwing objects
8. distribution of unauthorized materials
9. possession of firearms - which will lead to expulsion
10. the possession, transmission, and/or use of tobacco, drugs, alcohol (The drug and alcohol policy is posted on the bulletin board.)
11. insolence, disrespect, or insubordination

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12. fighting - Saturday school - three (3) day suspension
13. leaving a classroom or leaving school without permission
14. forgery
15. class tardiness or truancy
16. vandalizing, damaging, or stealing school or private property
17. threatening, intimidating, hazing, pushing, shoving, cheating, yelling, and whistling

SUSPENDED STUDENTS CAN MAKE-UP CLASSWORK and TESTS. The work will be scored at 60%. Students suspended out of school can't participate in extra-curricular activities during their suspension.

Offenses not covered will be dealt with by the principal/assistant principal when they occur.

If a student's behavior warrants, the principal/assistant principal may by-pass or adjust steps in the Code of Conduct and proceed as s/he feels necessary.

R. Drugs, Look-Alike Drugs, or Alcoholic Beverages

Ten (10) day suspension plus fifteen (15) demerits. Referral to the appropriate agency for necessary treatment.

The school has a "Drug Free" zone that extends 1000 feet beyond the school boundaries as well as to any school activity and transportation. This means that any activity: sale, use, distribution, or use of drugs, alcohol, fake drugs, steroids, inhalants, or look-alike drugs is prohibited. If caught, the student will be suspended or expelled and law enforcement officials may be contacted.

Note: Any student seeking self-referral will not be punished and will be assisted through drug and alcohol assessment and recommendations to aid him/her.

A student shall not possess, use, transmit, sell, or be under the influence of any drug, look-alike drugs, or alcoholic beverages of any kind with the exception of the student who is taking prescription medicine under the direction of a physician. This restriction shall refer to:

1. the school grounds; during, before, or after school hours;
2. off school grounds at a school activity;
3. on school buses or rented carriers;
4. use prior to attending a school activity, function, or event;
5. a student shall not knowingly possess, sell, make, offer to sell, give, package, or deliver a counterfeit controlled

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substance; nor shall s/he represent a counterfeit controlled substance by describing it as being the same as or having the same physical or mental effect associated with use of a controlled substance.

Use of Breath Test Instruments

1. The principal may arrange for a breath test for blood-alcohol to be conducted on a student whenever there is sufficient and reasonable suspicion to believe that a student has consumed an alcoholic beverage. The student will be taken to a private administrative or

instructional area on school property with at least one (1) other member of the teaching or administrative staff as a witness to the test. The purpose of the test is to determine whether or not the student has consumed an alcoholic beverage. The amount of consumption is not relevant, except where the student may need medical attention. If the result indicates a violation of school rules as described in this handbook, the student will be disciplined in accordance with disciplinary procedures prescribed in this handbook.

2. The suspension will be reduced if the student enters an approved drug and alcohol assessment-counseling program.
3. Repeated offenses would result in possible expulsion and referral to the appropriate agency for possible in-patient treatment as deemed necessary. Unruly charges will be filed in the Belmont County Juvenile Court if the student refuses to comply with this referral.

Breaking and Entering and/or Major Theft

Ten (10) day suspension plus fifteen (15) demerits. Charges may be filed in Juvenile Court. Illegal or unauthorized entry to school facilities, theft of items belonging to the school.

Martins Ferry High School Demerit System - Cumulative for the year

- A. Drugs and alcoholic beverages - up to ten (10) day suspension plus fifteen (15) demerits. Referral to the appropriate agency for necessary treatment.
- B. Assault - up to ten (10) day suspension plus fifteen (15) demerits.
- C. Possession of/Brandishing a Weapon - ten (10) day suspension plus fifteen (15) demerits.
- D. Breaking and Entering/Major Theft - up to ten (10) day suspension plus fifteen (15) demerits.
- E. Destruction of Property - up to fifteen (15) demerits.

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- F. Use of Profanity/Obscene Language or Gestures - up to fifteen (15) demerits.
- G. Fighting - three (3) days suspension plus up to fifteen (15) demerits.
- H. Stealing - up to fifteen (15) demerits.
- I. Disrespect, Defiance, Insubordination, Disruption of Class - up to fifteen (15) demerits.
- J. Harassment/Extortion - up to fifteen (15) demerits.
- K. Use of Tobacco Products
 1. use in the school building - three (3) days suspension plus fifteen (15) demerits
 2. use outside of the school building – three (3) days suspension plus 15 demerits
 3. possession - tobacco products confiscated plus up to fifteen (15) demerits
- L. Violation of Dress Code Policy
 1. 1st offense - parents notified – Student will spend 1 day in ISS.
 2. 2nd offense – Student will be suspended out of school and lose the privilege to wear shorts and/or jeans with holes.
- M. P.D.A. - Public Display of Affection - one (1) to five (5) demerits
- N. Truancy – Per HB 410
 1. 1st offense - ISS plus five (5) demerits
 2. 2nd offense - ISS plus ten (10) demerits
 3. 3rd offense - charges filed in Juvenile Court plus fifteen (15) demerits
- O. Leaving School Grounds Without Permission - ISS plus ten (10)

demerits

P. Skipping/Cutting Class - ISS plus three (3) demerits

Accumulation of Demerits – Cumulative for the year

- A. One (1) to fourteen (14) demerits – Possibility of being placed in ISS. Parents contacted.
- B. Fifteen (15) demerits - three (3) day suspension. Letter mailed to parents. Parent conference prior to student returning.
- C. Thirty (30) demerits - Five (5) day suspension. Letter to parents. Parent conference.

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- D. Thirty-five (35) demerits - Phone call to parents.
- E. Forty (40) demerits - Letter to parents. Student to counselor.
- F. Forty-five (45) demerits - Ten (10) day suspension. Letter to parents. Parent conference.
- G. Sixty (60) demerits - Ten (10) day suspension and recommendation for expulsion.

DISCIPLINARY MEASURES

The school has the authority to take corrective disciplinary action against any behavior, whether covered specifically in this written code or not. No behavior should be disruptive of the educational process of the school. Saturday School and/or suspension (internal or external) will also be given according to the disruptive behavior or incident that occurred by a student or students. The discipline process will be dealt with by the principal and/or assistant principal as felt necessary to conduct a safe, drug-free school which is conducive to a learning environment for all students. We are not only committed to educational excellence but to operate a school for the good of the order, safety and discipline of the school. Your handbook is for your use and knowledge of the operation of our school but is used as a guideline and the above-mentioned discipline procedure can be added to any or all incidents. This student handbook was school board adopted.

Any behavior that directly or indirectly disrupts the orderly operation of the educational process will be dealt with according to the student handbook and at the discretion of the principal.

Immediate suspension will occur for the following reasons:

- 1. Violence
- 2. Fatal Threat
- 3. Drug and Alcohol
- 4. Vulgar language/Harassment
- 5. Stealing
- 6. Destruction/defacing property
- 7. Use/possession of tobacco or electronic smoking device
- 8. Digital imaging of other students/staff

The principal has the right to make the final decision for disciplinary measures based upon investigation and circumstances.

We believe there is something here at Martins Ferry High School for everyone. Our mission statement for our schools is to develop critical thinkers and responsible citizens in a positive learning environment. We are here to teach, guide and assist our students in any way possible to make their high school experience a positive and productive one. We welcome parent involvement and

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are much more successful when the school and home work together for the overall welfare of the student.

In addition to the above system, Internal School Suspension may be assigned by the principal as judged necessary, in handling discipline problems in the school, which have not been addressed in the discipline code.

Should a child behave in the unacceptable ways indicated in the Discipline Code, any of the following disciplinary measures may be enforced by the

school.

1. Student conference

2. Assignment of Internal School Suspension (which is sometimes referred to as ISS) – Students may be assigned to the Internal School Suspension classroom for a period to be determined by the Principal.

A. No cell phones or any electronic devices.

B. Students are to remain seated at all times.

C. Students must bring all class material to the ISS Classroom at the beginning of the school day.

D. Students will not be allowed to sleep during ISS.

E. No talking or communications of any kind.

F. Rebellious or Disruptive Behaviors will not be tolerated and may result in an extended period of Internal School Suspension.

3. Work assignments - beyond the regular course load, when determined to be appropriate and practical.

4. Lunch detention- Students may be assigned lunch detention by the principal. Reasons for being given lunch detention may include: disrupting the learning process, refusal to complete assignments, not completing and turning in assignments by the due date, insubordination, disrespecting a school official, poor attendance and any other measure stated in the student handbook. Any student who is given lunch detention will sit in a designated spot during their lunch period. No cell phones or electronic devices will be permitted during this time. Students are not permitted to communicate with other students while in lunch detention.

5. After school detention- Students may be assigned an after school detention, from 2:00 p.m.- 2:45 p.m., by the principal and/or assistant principal. Parents/guardians will be notified in advance in order to make transportation arrangements for the student. Reasons for being given after school detention may include: disrupting the learning process, refusal to complete assignments, insubordination, disrespecting a school official, poor attendance and any other measure stated in the student handbook

6. Saturday School - Students may be assigned Saturday School by the Principal's Office. Written notification will be sent to the child's parent.

A. Saturday School hours are from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. B. The district is not responsible for transportation.

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C. Students are required to bring sufficient study materials with which to work quietly. If a student does not bring work to do they will be sent home and be reassigned additional time.

D. Sleeping, lying heads on desks or loafing will not be permitted and will not count as time served.

E. Any student causing disruption, being disrespectful or not following Saturday School rules will be sent home and will be suspended for 5 (five) days at the alternative school and an additional Saturday School.

F. Failure to attend Saturday School

First Offense - reassigned and assigned an additional Saturday School or the Alternative School

Second Offense - Unruly charges filed in Juvenile Court

7. In school suspension (ISS)- A student may be assigned in-school time out for repeated classroom disruptions, refusing to do class assignments, or disrespect to any school personnel. Students assigned to ISS will complete all class assignments in the time out area. Failure to comply with ISS rules will result in a three (3) day out of school suspension.

8. Out of school suspension

A. Students suspended for three (3) or more days may be placed in the Belmont County Alternative School for the duration of the suspension or sent home. This will be the Principal's choice.

9. Consequences of Suspension

A. Suspended students cannot participate in school activities (out-of-school suspensions). Work will be scored at 60% of what is earned.

10. Referral to juvenile authorities or police - When a serious offense is involved, outside authorities may be called for assistance.

11. Removal from school by the parent on a temporary basis for the protection of the children involved, pending investigation of a situation which may be disruptive to the school program - This allows us to solve a potentially serious

problem with the least amount of confusion.

12. Expulsion- Recommendation of the Superintendent for Expulsion -

Although expulsion in our schools is rare, the possibility of expulsion must be taken very seriously by students and parents. Students cannot remain in our schools if they are a continued threat to the health and safety of other students and staff.

Martins Ferry City School District's policy on the removal, suspension, expulsion and permanent exclusion of students (5610)

The Board of Education recognizes that exclusion from the educational program of the schools, whether by emergency removal, out-of-school suspension, expulsion, or permanent exclusion, is the most severe sanction that

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can be imposed on a student in this District, and one that cannot be imposed without due process. However, the Board has zero tolerance of violent, disruptive or inappropriate behavior by its students.

No student is to be removed, suspended out-of-school, expelled and/or permanently excluded unless his/her behavior represents misconduct as specified in the Student Code of Conduct/Student Discipline Code approved by the Board. The Code shall also specify the procedures to be followed by school officials when implementing such discipline. In addition to the procedural safeguards and definitions set forth in this policy and the student/parent handbook, additional procedures and considerations shall apply to students identified as disabled under the IDEA, ADA, and/or Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973. (See Policy 246 - Suspension/Expulsion of Disabled Students).

Students may be subject to discipline for violation of the Student Code of Conduct/Student Discipline Code even if that conduct occurs on property not owned or controlled by the Board but where such conduct is connected to activities or incidents that have occurred on property owned or controlled by the Board, or conduct that, regardless of where it occurs, is directed at a District official or employee, or the property of such official or employee.. For purposes of this policy and the Student Code of Conduct/Student Discipline Code, the following shall apply: "Emergency removal" shall be the exclusion of a student who poses a continuing danger to District property or persons in the District or whose behavior presents an on-going threat of disrupting the educational process provided by the District (See Policy 5610.03 - Emergency Removal).

I. **"Suspension"** shall be the temporary exclusion of a student by the Superintendent, principal, assistant principal, or any other administrator from the District's instructional program for a period not to exceed ten (10) school days. Suspension may extend beyond the current school year, if at the time a suspension is imposed; fewer than ten (10) days remain in the school year. The Superintendent may apply any or all of the period of suspension to the following year. The procedures for suspension are set forth in the Student Code of Conduct/Student Discipline Code and Board Policy 5611 - Due Process Rights.

II. **"Expulsion"** shall be the exclusion of a student from the schools of this District for a period not to exceed the greater of eighty (80) school days or the number of school days remaining in a semester or term in which the incident that gives rise to the expulsion takes place or for one (1) year as specifically provided in this policy and the Student Code of Conduct/Student Discipline Code. Only the Superintendent may expel a student. The procedures for expulsion are set forth in the Student Code of Conduct/Student Discipline Code and Board Policy 5611 - Due Process Rights.

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1. **Firearm or Knife** Unless a student is permanently excluded from school, the Superintendent shall expel a student from school for a period of one (1) year for bringing a firearm or knife to a school building or on to any other property (including a school vehicle) owned, controlled, or operated by the Board, to an interscholastic competition, an extra-curricular event, or to any other school program or activity that is not located in a school or on property that is owned or controlled by the Board, except that the Superintendent may reduce this period on a case-by-case basis in accordance with this policy. Similarly, the Superintendent shall expel a student from school for a period of

one (1) year for possessing a firearm or knife at school or on any other property (including a school vehicle) owned, controlled, or operated by the Board, at interscholastic competition, an extra-curricular event, or at any other school program or activity that is not located in a school or on property that is owned or controlled by the Board, except the Superintendent may reduce this period on a case-by-case basis in accordance with this policy. The expulsion may extend, as necessary, into the school year following the school year in which the incident that gives rise to the expulsion takes place. The Superintendent shall refer any student expelled for bringing a firearm (as defined in 18 U.S.C. 921(a) (3) or weapon to school to the criminal justice or juvenile delinquency system serving the District. A firearm is defined as any weapon, including a starter gun, which will or is designed to or may readily be converted to expel a projectile by the action of an explosive, the frame or receiver of any such weapon, any firearm muffler or silencer, or any destructive device. A destructive device, includes, but is not limited to any explosive, incendiary, or poison gas, bomb, grenade, rocket having a propellant charge of more than four (4) ounces, missile having an explosive or incendiary charge of more than one-quarter ounce, mine, or other similar device. A knife is defined as any a weapon or cutting instrument consisting of a blade fastened to a handle; a razor blade; or any similar device (including sharp, metal martial arts weapons such as a ninja throwing stars) that is used for, or is readily capable of, causing death or serious bodily injury. The Superintendent may, in his/her sole judgment and discretion, modify or reduce such expulsion to a period of less than one (1) year, on a case-by-case basis, for the following reasons, so long as the modification is made in writing:

- A. For students identified as disabled under the IDEA, ADA, and/or Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, a recommendation from the group of persons knowledgeable of the student's educational needs
- B. The student was unaware that s/he was possessing a firearm or knife;
- C. The student did not understand that the item s/he possessed was considered a firearm or knife;
- D. The student brought the item to school as part of an educational activity and did not realize it would be considered a firearm or knife.

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2. Violent Conduct If a student commits an act at school, on other school property, at an interscholastic competition, extra-curricular event, or any other school program or activity and the act: would be a criminal offense if committed by an adult and results in serious physical harm to person(s) as defined in Revised Code Section 2901.01(A)(5), or to property as defined in Revised Code Section 2901.01(A)(6). The Superintendent may expel the student for a period of up to one (1) year. The Superintendent may extend the expulsion into the next school year or reduce the expulsion as necessary on a case-by-case basis as specified below. The student need not be prosecuted or convicted of any criminal act to be expelled under this provision. The Superintendent may, in his/her sole judgment and discretion, reduce such expulsion to a period of less than one (1) year, on a case-by-case basis, for the following reasons: for students identified as disabled under the IDEA, ADA, and/or Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, a recommendation from the group of persons knowledgeable of the student's educational needs; or other extenuating circumstances. If at the time of the suspension or expulsion, there are fewer days remaining in the school year than the number of days of the suspension or expulsion, the Superintendent may apply any or all of the remaining period to the following school year.

3. Bomb Threats If a student makes a bomb threat to a school building or to any premises at which a school activity is occurring at the time of the threat, the Superintendent may expel the student for a period of up to one (1) year. The Superintendent may extend the expulsion into the next school year or reduce the expulsion as necessary on a case-by-case basis as specified below. The student need not be prosecuted or convicted of any criminal act to be expelled under this provision. The Superintendent may, in his/her sole judgment and discretion, reduce such expulsion to a period of less than one (1) year, on a case-by-case basis, for the following reasons: for students identified as disabled under the IDEA, ADA, and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, upon recommendation from the group of persons knowledgeable of the student's educational needs; or other extenuating circumstances. If at the time of the suspension or expulsion, there are fewer days remaining in the school year than the number of days of the suspension or expulsion, the Superintendent may

apply any or all of the remaining period to the following school year.

III. "Permanent exclusion" shall mean the student is banned forever from attending a public school in the State of Ohio (See Policy 5610.01). If a student is expelled for more than twenty (20) school days or for any period of time that extends into the next school year, the Superintendent shall provide the student and his/her parents with the names, addresses, and telephone numbers of those public or private agencies in the community which offer programs or services that help to rectify the student's behaviors and attitudes that contributed to the incident(s) that caused the expulsion. If the

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Superintendent determines that a student's behavior on a school vehicle violates school rules, s/he may suspend the student from school bus-riding privileges for the length of time deemed appropriate for the violation and remediation of the behavior. Any such suspension must comply with due process and the Student Code of Conduct/Student Discipline Code. The Board authorizes the Superintendent to provide for options to suspension/expulsion of a student from school which may include alternative educational options. The Superintendent shall initiate expulsion proceedings against a student who has committed an act that warrants expulsion under Board policy even if the student withdraws from school prior to the hearing or decision to impose the expulsion. The expulsion must be imposed for the same duration it would have been had the student remained enrolled. The Board may temporarily deny admittance to any student who has been expelled from the schools of another Ohio district or an out-of-state district, if the student's expulsion period set by the other district has not expired. The expelled student shall first be offered an opportunity for a hearing. The Board may temporarily deny admittance to any student who has been suspended from the schools of another Ohio district, if the student's suspension period set by the other district has not expired. The suspended student shall first be offered an opportunity for a hearing before the Board. When a student is expelled from this District, the Superintendent shall send written notice to any college in which the expelled student is enrolled under Postsecondary Enrollment Options at the time the expulsion is imposed. The written notice shall indicate the date the expulsion is scheduled to expire and that the Board has adopted a provision in Policy 2271 under R.C. 3313.613 to deny high school credit for postsecondary courses taken during an expulsion. If the expulsion is extended, the Superintendent shall notify the college of the extension.

DUE PROCESS

Before a student may be suspended, expelled, or permanently removed from school, there are specific procedures that must be followed.

Suspension from School:

1. The Superintendent, principal, assistant principal, or Superintendent's designee are the only school administrators who may suspend a pupil.
2. Whenever an incident occurs that may lead to a suspension, an administrator shall investigate the nature of the alleged offense.
3. When a student is being considered for a suspension, the administrator in charge will give written notice of intent to suspend, and the reasons to the student.
 - a. The student will have an opportunity to appear at an informal hearing with the principal, assistant principal, superintendent or designee and will have the right to challenge the reasons for the intent to suspend or otherwise explain his/her actions. This hearing may take place within reasonable time.

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- b. Whenever a student has attained eighteen (18) years of age the rights accorded to the parents of the student shall thereafter only be required of and accorded to the student. If a student refuses to sign the form for the notice to parents or guardian, the refusal will be noted in the presence of a witness.
- c. The Superintendent, principal, assistant principal or Superintendent's designee is not required to permit the presence of counsel or follow any prescribed judicial rules in conducting the hearing.

4. Within 24 hours of the suspension, the parent, guardian, or custodian of

the student will be notified in writing of the suspension. This notice will include the reasons for the suspension; the right of the student or parent to appeal to the Superintendent; and the right to be represented at the appeal.

5. The suspension may be appealed to the Superintendent within **FIVE (5) DAYS** after the receipt of the suspension notice. The request for an appeal must be in writing. During the process, the student shall not be allowed to remain in school. The appeal shall be conducted in a private meeting and the student may be represented. Sworn, recorded testimony shall be given.
6. If the appeal decision is to uphold the suspension, the next step in the appeal process is to the Court of Common Pleas.

Expulsion from School:

When a student is being considered for expulsion, the student will receive a formal letter of notification addressed to the parents. Students being considered for expulsion may or may not be removed immediately. A formal hearing is scheduled with the Superintendent during which the student may be represented by his/her parents, legal counsel and/or by a person of his/her choice. Within ten days after the Superintendent notifies the parent of the expulsion, the expulsion can be appealed, in writing, to the Superintendent. The appeal will also be formal in nature with sworn testimony before official(s) designated by the Board of Education. Again, the right to representation is available. If the expulsion is upheld, the next step in the appeal process is to the Court of Common Pleas.

All opportunity to earn grades or credit ends when a student is expelled.

Expulsion for certain violations may result in revocation of a student's driver's license.

When a student 16 years of age or older, is being considered for permanent exclusion, it is possible that she/he may never be permitted to return to school anywhere in the state of Ohio. A permanent exclusion may be considered if the student is convicted or adjudicated delinquent for committing one or more of the following crimes while on the property of any Ohio school: any possession

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or involvement with a deadly weapon, drug trafficking, murder, manslaughter, assault or aggravated assault, certain sexual crimes, or complicity in any of the aforementioned crimes. This process is formal and will usually follow an expulsion and the proper notification to parents.

Martins Ferry High School makes a sincere effort to have disciplinary actions take place that will allow the student to remain in school. If the disciplinary action does not result in removal from school, it is not appeal able. Should a student or parent have questions regarding the propriety of an in-school disciplinary action, they should contact the Principal.

The school has the authority to take corrective action against any behavior, whether covered specifically in this written code or not, which is found to be disruptive of the educational process of the school.

DISCIPLINE OF STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

Students with disabilities will be entitled to the rights and procedures afforded by the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (I.D.E.A.) And the Americans with Disabilities Act (A.D.A.) Or Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973.

SEARCH AND SEIZURE

The Martins Ferry Board of Education and Administration reserves the right to search lockers, desks, automobiles, persons and personal belongings of students on the school campus or at any school activity when it is reasonably necessary for the maintenance of order, discipline and safety in the supervision and education of students. Trained police dogs may be used for these purposes. All searches may be conducted with or without the consent of the student. Students are provided lockers, desk, and other equipment in which to store materials. It should be clearly understood that this equipment is the property of the school and may be searched at any time if there is reasonable suspicion that a student has violated the law or school rules.

Anything that is found in the course of a search that may be evidence of a violation of school rules or the law may be taken and held or turned over to the police. The school reserves the right not to return items which have been

confiscated. Video surveillance of the hallways, classrooms, parking lot, entrance and other school property may be utilized for protection of students and /or employees, their property and the school's property.

DISCIPLINARY MEASURES

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ABSENCES (excessive)	IN ACCORDANCE WITH HB 410: NOTIFICATION OF PARENT/GUARDIAN OF EXCESSIVE ABSENCES OR TRUANCY; DEVELOPMENT OF AN ABSENCE INTERVENTION PLAN; REFERRAL FOR TRUANCY IF APPLICABLE.AFTER 18 HOURS OF UNEXCUSED ABSENCES A STUDENT WILL BE ASSIGNED TO AFTER SCHOOL DETENTION (FOR EACH OFFENSE).
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ASSAULT	UP TO 10 DAY SUSPENSION & CHARGES WILL BE FILED IN BELMONT COUNTY COURT
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A student shall not cause physical injury to any student, teacher or other school employee or visitor on school grounds or during a school function or event. Physical assault may result in charges being filed and recommendation for expulsion.

BREAKING AND ENTERING AND/OR MAJOR THEFT	TEN DAY SUSPENSION PLUS CHARGES MAY BE FILED IN JUVENILE COURT
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Students shall not attempt illegal or unauthorized entry to school facilities or theft of items belonging to the school.

BULLYING, INTIMIDATION	Administrative team will determine the consequence in accordance to the district policy. There is also the possibility of ADDITIONAL DISCIPLINE AS REQUIRED
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§ 61 §

Martins Ferry City Schools believes that all students have the right to attend school feeling safe. Any report from a student of an intimidation or

bullying incident will result in discipline for all involved.

BUS MISBEHAVIOR	SUSPENSION OF BUS PRIVILEGES
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Students riding the school bus are required to follow the basic school bus rules. The driver is responsible for the safety of the students and may assign seating or direct the students in any reasonable manner to maintain safety.

Rule 1 Disruption - A student shall not use violence, force, coercion, threat, or other serious act of misconduct cause disruption or interfere with the operation of the school bus.

Rule 2 Damage to Private Property - A student shall not cause or attempt to cause damage or destruction of private property while waiting at a designated school bus stop.

Rule 3 Damage to School Bus - A student shall not cause or attempt to destruction to a school bus.

Rule 4 Assault - A student shall not behave in such a way as could cause physical injury to a school employee, student, or other person on the school bus while in the custody or control of the school.

Rule 5 Possession of Dangerous Weapons - A student shall not possess, handle, transmit, or conceal any dangerous weapons or instruments. **Rule 6 Narcotics, Alcoholic beverages, and Drugs** - A student shall not knowingly possess, use, transmit, conceal, or be under the influence of alcohol, a harmful intoxicant, any narcotic drug, counterfeit "look alike" drugs, or possess instruments for administering drugs.

Rule 7 Use of Tobacco/E-Cigarettes, Vaping, Juuling - A student shall not use tobacco/electronic smoking devices on the school bus. (Open flames are prohibited).

Rule 8 Defiance and Obscenity - A student shall not openly defy or use obscene language or gestures while being transported.

Rule 9 Sexual Harassment: verbal, non-verbal, physical contact

VIOLATION OF ANY OF THE ABOVE MAY RESULT IN IMMEDIATE REFUSAL OF TRANSPORTATION SERVICE.

CHEATING POLICY

CHEATING: Individually/Group – Electronically or without Electronic Devices

Submitting work other than the student's own and claiming (directly or implied) it to be his or her own work.

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Copying answers.

Looking at another's paper/screen to get answers.

Getting another person to do the work.

Using cheat sheets.

Stealing a test or an answer key, or in any other way, illegally obtaining information.

Participating in any other situation deemed to be cheating by the classroom teacher.

Submitting materials that were directly copied from the internet.

CHEATING (WITHIN ONE CLASS)

First Offense- The student will receive a zero (0) score on the assignment, class work or test. The classroom teacher will notify the parent/guardian. The classroom teacher will notify the principal. Cheating will be marked in Progress Book.

Second Offense- The student will receive a zero (0) score on the assignment, class work or test. The student will be assigned one (1) Saturday School/one day of ISS. The student will be referred to the Guidance Counselor. The classroom teacher will notify the parent/guardian. The classroom teacher will notify the principal. Cheating will be marked in Progress Book.

Third Offense- The student will receive an “F” grade for the nine week grading period. The classroom teacher will notify the parent/guardian. The classroom

teacher will notify the principal. Cheating will be marked in Progress Book. The

⌘ 63 ⌘

	parent/guardian will receive written notification.
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DESTRUCTION OF PROPERTY	OUT OF SCHOOL SUSPENSION/ISS/MAKE RESTITUTION PAYMENTS WHEN NECESSARY/CHARGES MAY BE FILED IN BELMONT COUNTY COURT.
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A student shall not steal, cause damage to or destroy school property or private property if on school grounds or during a school function.

Parents are responsible for up to \$10,000.00 worth of damages as per Ohio Revised Code 3109.09.

DANGEROUS WEAPONS OR INSTRUMENTS	IMMEDIATE REMOVAL OF THE STUDENT & TEN DAY SUSPENSION AND THE PRINCIPAL WILL SEEK EXPULSION FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT. CHARGES MAY BE FILED IN BELMONT COUNTY COURT.
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A student shall not possess, use, transmit or conceal any object which might be considered a dangerous weapon or instrument of violence. Recommendation for expulsion and charges being filed can occur, if possession or brandishing of a weapon is meant to threaten or harass students, staff members, parents or community members.

The Board of Education will not tolerate the possessions of weapons or other devices designed to inflict serious bodily harm by anyone while on district property, at a school-related event, or while en route to or from school whether on a school bus, walking, or in a private vehicle.

This prohibition shall also encompass such actions as look-alike items, false fire alarms, bomb threats, or intentional calls to falsely report a dangerous condition.

Students are required to immediately report knowledge of dangerous weapons and threats of violence to the building principal; if the principal is not available, such report shall be made to another administrator. Failure to report such knowledge may subject the student to discipline up to and including suspension and expulsion from school.

⌘ 64 ⌘

Procedures shall also include the immediate reporting to the appropriate law enforcement agency if a dangerous weapon is found or suspected to be in the possession of a District employee or visitor.

DIGITAL IMAGING OF OTHER STUDENTS/STAFF	5 DAYS SUSPENSION
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DISMISSED (THROWN OUT) FROM CLASS DUE TO DISRUPTION	FIFTEEN DEMERITS. TO BE DETERMINED BY THE ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF. CHARGES MAY BE FILED IN BELMONT COUNTY COURT.
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Any student who is asked to leave a classroom due to that student's behavior will be disciplined as per the discretion of the principal/assistant principal.

DISTRIBUTION OF DRUGS, LOOK-ALIKE DRUGS, OR ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES	TEN DAY SUSPENSION AND THE PRINCIPAL WILL SEEK EXPULSION FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT
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A student shall not transmit or sell any drug, look-alike drugs, or alcoholic beverages of any kind. This ruling includes

- a. The school grounds; during, before or after school hours.
- b. Off school grounds at a school activity.
- c. On school buses or rented carriers.
- d. Use prior to attending a school activity, function or event.
- e. A student shall not knowingly sell, make offer to sell, give package or deliver a counterfeit controlled substance; nor shall he/she represent a counterfeit controlled substance by describing it as being the same as or having the same physical or mental effect associated with use of a controlled substance.

DRESS CODE VIOLATION	NECESSARY ACTION WILL BE TAKEN AS STATED IN THE DRESS CODE.
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Parents will be notified, and the student will spend one day in ISS upon their first offense. A student's second offense will result in an out-of-school suspension and loss of the privilege to wear shorts and/or jeans with holes.

DRUGS, LOOK-ALIKE DRUGS, OR ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES	TEN DAY SUSPENSION PLUS
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§ 65 §

POSSESSION	REFERRAL TO THE APPROPRIATE AGENCY FOR NECESSARY TREATMENT
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The school has a "Drug Free" zone that extends 1000 feet beyond the school boundaries as well as to any school activity and transportation. This means that any activity: sale, use, distribution, or use of drugs, alcohol, fake drugs, steroids, inhalants, or look-alike drugs is prohibited. If caught, the student will be suspended or expelled and law enforcement officials may be contacted.

Note: Any student seeking self-referral will not be punished and will be assisted through drug and alcohol assessment and recommendations to aid him or her.

A student shall not possess, use, or be under the influence of any drug, look-alike drugs, or alcoholic beverages of any kind with the exception of the student who is taking prescription medicine under the direction of a physician. Note: Any prescription medicine the student needs to take during school hours should be kept in the main office.

This restriction shall refer to:

- A. The school grounds; during, before or after school hours.
- B. On school grounds at a school activity.
- C. On school buses or rented carriers.
- D. Use prior to attending a school activity, function or event.
- E. A student shall not knowingly possess, sell, make offer to sell, give package or deliver a counterfeit controlled substance; nor shall he/she represent a counterfeit controlled substance by describing it as being the same as or having the same physical or mental effect associated with use of a controlled substance.

1. Use of Breath-Test Instruments - The principal may arrange for a breath test for blood-alcohol to be conducted on a student whenever there is sufficient and reasonable suspicion to believe that a student has consumed an alcoholic beverage. The student will be taken to a private administrative or instructional area on school property with at least one other member of the teaching or administrative staff as a witness to the test. The purpose of the test is to determine whether or not the student has consumed an alcoholic beverage. The amount of consumption is not relevant, except where the student may need medical attention. If the result indicates a violation of school rules as described in this handbook, the student will be disciplined in accordance with disciplinary procedures prescribed in this handbook.

1. The suspension will be reduced if the student enters an approved drug and alcohol assessment-counseling program.
2. Repeated offenses would result in possible expulsion and referral to the appropriate agency for possible in-patient treatment as deemed necessary. Unruly charges will be filed in the Belmont County Juvenile Court if the student refuses to comply with this referral.

§ 66 §

1. **Electronic Devices:** "Personal communication device" includes computers, tablets (e.g., iPads and similar devices), electronic readers ("e-readers"; e.g., Kindles and similar devices), cell phones (e.g. mobile/cellular telephones, smartphones, smart watches and/or other web-enabled devices of any type). **All electronic devices are to be powered off and in the student's locker during the entire school day.** The school will not be liable for lost, stolen or damaged electronic devices.
**MFHS will adhere to Ohio Department of Education and Workforce's "Cell Phones in Schools Model Policy". This policy can be viewed on the high school's website.*

IMPROPER USE OF ELECTRONICS (OFFENSES ARE CUMULATIVE FROM SCHOOL YEAR TO SCHOOL YEAR)	1ST OFFENSE: THE ELECTRONIC DEVICE WILL BE CONFISCATED THE STUDENT WILL BE GIVEN THE DEVICE AT THE END OF THE DAY. STUDENT WILL BE REQUIRED TO TURN THEIR ELECTRONIC DEVICE INTO THE PRINCIPAL, OR DESIGNEE, AT THE BEGINNING OF THE SCHOOL DAY FOR FIVE (5) CONSECUTIVE SCHOOL DAYS. THE STUDENT WILL BE GIVEN THE DEVICE AT THE END OF THE DAY. 2ND OFFENSE: THE ELECTRONIC DEVICE WILL BE CONFISCATED AND A PARENT/GUARDIAN MUST PICK UP DEVICE IN OFFICE. STUDENT WILL TURN PHONE INTO THE PRINCIPAL FOR TEN (10) CONSECUTIVE SCHOOL DAYS. DEVICE MAY BE PICKED UP AT THE END OF THE SCHOOL DAY. STUDENT WILL RECEIVE THREE (3) DAYS OF ISS.
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	3RD OFFENSE: THE STUDENT WILL RECEIVE FIVE (5) DAYS OF ISS. PARENT/GUARDIAN MUST PICK UP DEVICE AT SCHOOL. STUDENT WILL TURN DEVICE
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	INTO THE PRINCIPAL EACH MORNING FOR THE REMAINDER OF THE SCHOOL YEAR.
	CONSEQUENCES WILL INCREASE WITH ANY ADDITIONAL OFFENSE THE POSSIBLE LOSS OF ANY ELECTRONIC DEVICE PRIVILEGE FOR THE REMAINDER OF THE SCHOOL YEAR AND STUDENT PLACEMENT IN CCAP.

FIGHTING	MINIMUM THREE (3) DAY SUSPENSION. CHARGES MAY BE FILED IN BELMONT COUNTY COURT.
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All incidents will be investigated by principal and/or Dean of Students and charges may be filed.

FIREARM POSSESSION	EXPULSION
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A firearm is defined as any device, including a starter gun, which will or is designed to expel a projectile by the action of an explosive, the frame or receiver of any such weapon, any firearm muffler or silencer, or any destructive device, includes, but is not limited to any explosive, incendiary, or poison gas bomb, grenade, rocket having a propellant charge of more than four (4) ounces, missile having an explosive or incendiary charge of more than one-quarter ounce, mine or other similar device. No look-alike firearms are permitted in school or at school activities. Disciplinary action may occur.

The definition of a firearm expressly does not include:

1. An antique firearm;
2. A rifle that the owner intends to use solely for sporting, recreation or cultural purposes;
3. Any device that is neither designed nor redesigned for use as a weapon.
4. Any device, although originally designed as a weapon, redesigned as a signaling pyrotechnic, line-throwing, safety or the like.

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5. Surplus ordinance, sold, loaned or given by the Secretary of the Army.
6. Class C common fireworks.

Students are prohibited from bringing a firearm on school property, in a school

vehicle or to any school-sponsored activity. If a student brings a firearm on school property, in a school vehicle or to a school-sponsored activity, the Superintendent shall expel this student from school for a period of one calendar year. Any such expulsion shall extend, as necessary, into the school year following the school year in which the incident occurred. The Superintendent may reduce this requirement on a case-by-case basis in accordance with the State Law.

The specific circumstances under which a Superintendent may modify a one (1) year expulsion could include.

- A. A recommendation from the group of persons knowledgeable of the student's educational needs in accordance with Policy - Suspension/Expulsion of Disabled Students.
- B. The student brought the item to school as part of an educational activity and did not realize it would be considered a firearm.

GANGS/RELATED ACTIVITIES	CORRECTIVE ACTION & DISCIPLINE WILL BE ADMINISTERED ACCORDING TO STUDENT HANDBOOK/DISTRICT POLICY.
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To ensure the safety and well-being of the student body, gangs and gang related activities will not be tolerated. The following is a list of activities that could be considered gang activities. The principal/assistant principal will be the judge of the type of activities considered to be gang related.

- 1. Incidents involving initiations, hazing, intimidation, and/or related activities of such group affiliations which are likely to cause bodily danger, physical harm or personal degradation or disgrace resulting in physical or mental harm to students.
- 2. The wearing, carrying or displaying of colors or gang paraphernalia or exhibiting signs, signals or gestures which symbolizes gang membership.
- 3. Offenses not covered will be dealt with by the principal/assistant principal when they occur. The school has the authority to take corrective action against any behavior, whether covered specially in this written code or not, which is found to be disruptive of the educational process of the school.

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HARASSMENT	DISCIPLINE WILL BE ADMINISTERED ACCORDING TO STUDENT HANDBOOK/DISTRICT POLICY.
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It is a violation of school rules, and often the law, for any student to harass or intimidate another student or staff member.

If a student is a victim of any unwanted sexual conduct or communications or of derogatory communications or conduct concerning his/her gender, religion, race, ethnic group, or disability, the student should report such behavior to the office.

All reports shall be kept confidential and shall be investigated as soon as possible.

INAPPROPRIATE BEHAVIOR AT EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITY	DISCIPLINE WILL BE ADMINISTERED ACCORDING TO STUDENT HANDBOOK AND THE REMOVAL OF EXTRA-CURRICULAR PRIVILEGES FOR STUDENT
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Students are expected to adhere to the same discipline code of conduct when at extracurricular activities. If a student is removed from an extra-curricular activity due to a discipline issue that student may be denied admission to future extra-curricular events (this may include revoking a student athletic pass). Extra-curricular activities may include, but are not limited to school dances, field trips, sporting events.

*For all school dances students and guests are required to remain at the dance site until 30 minutes prior to the dance ending.

IMPROPER USE OF COMPUTER	DISCIPLINE WILL BE ADMINISTERED ACCORDING TO STUDENT HANDBOOK/DISTRICT POLICY.
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All students are expected to read and abide by the Martins Ferry City School Board adopted “**Computer Network and Internet Acceptable Use Policy**” included in this handbook. Use of the computers and the internet is considered a privilege. Any improper use of this service or violation of the district’s computer policy will lead to disciplinary action, including possible suspension from school, legal discipline and denial of the privilege to use the computers.

INSUBORDINATION , DISRESPECT,	FIFTEEN DEMERITS. TO BE DETERMINED AFTER AN
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§ 70 §

DISRUPTION OF CLASS	INVESTIGATION BY THE ADMINISTRATIVE TEAM. UP TO TEN DAYS ISS OR OUT OF SCHOOL SUSPENSION/TO BE DETERMINED AFTER AN INVESTIGATION BY THE ADMINISTRATIVE TEAM.
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INTIMIDATING, THREATENING, DEGRADING	UP TO TEN DAYS ISS OR OUT OF SCHOOL SUSPENSION/TO BE DETERMINED AFTER AN INVESTIGATION BY THE ADMINISTRATIVE TEAM.
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A student shall not engage in any act which intimidates, threatens, degrades or disgraces a teacher, fellow student, visitor, administrator, school employee or member of the Board of Education by written, verbal or gestured means.

KNIFE POSSESSION	EXPULSION
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If a student is found possessing a knife which is defined as any cutting instrument consisting of at least one sharp blade, the Superintendent may by law expel the student for up to one (1) year.

LEAVING SCHOOL GROUNDS WITHOUT PERMISSION	DISCIPLINE WILL BE ADMINISTERED ACCORDING TO STUDENT HANDBOOK/DISTRICT POLICY.
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Students are not permitted walking to school or home from school.

OBJECTIONABLE MATERIALS	DISCIPLINE WILL BE ADMINISTERED ACCORDING TO STUDENT HANDBOOK/DISTRICT POLICY.
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A student shall not possess, use, sell, buy, transmit or conceal any of the following:

1. Materials which appeal predominately to base or other prurient sexual interest, which are offensive to prevailing standards in the community, and which are without redeeming social value.

§ 71 §

2. Materials which contain language patently offensive to prevailing community standards.
3. Materials which are libelous or slanderous of any person or institution, or which are intended to hold any person, race, ethnic group, or religion as such up to scorn, ridicule, or contempt.
4. Materials which pose a clear and present danger to the health and safety of the student or any other person.

PROFANITY AND/OR OBSCENE LANGUAGE	UP TO FIFTEEN DEMERITS. TO BE DETERMINED AFTER AN INVESTIGATION BY THE ADMINISTRATIVE TEAM.
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A student shall not use any form of profanity, written or verbal. This includes obscene gestures, signs, pictures, music or publications. Vulgar language will not be permitted in the school district whether in school or at extra-curricular activities.

PUBLIC DISPLAY OF AFFECTION	1ST OFFENSE: ONE DAY OF ISS/FURTHER CONSEQUENCES WILL BE ADMINISTERED FOR EACH ADDITIONAL OFFENSE.
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Engaging in display of affection in school, on school grounds or at a school event is not permitted.

SKIPPING/CUTTING CLASS	1ST OFFENSE: ONE DAY OF ISS, PLUS 3 DEMERITS /FURTHER CONSEQUENCES WILL BE ADMINISTERED FOR EACH ADDITIONAL OFFENSE.	
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Skippping or cutting class is defined as not being in the assigned classroom, study hall, or area, etc.

STEALING UP TO FIFTEEN

DEMERITS-TO BE DETERMINED AFTER AN INVESTIGATION BY THE ADMINISTRATIVE TEAM.

§ 72 §

	CHARGES MAY BE FILED IN BELMONT COUNTY COURT.
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The student will be responsible for restitution.

TARDY TO CLASS	IN ACCORDANCE WITH HB 410
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TARDY TO SCHOOL	IN ACCORDANCE WITH HB 410 <i>*After the third tardy in a 9 week grading period the student will be assigned a one hour lunch detention per each offense.</i>
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School absences/tardies are now tracked in hours/minutes. Please reference HB 410 in this handbook for all questions related to attendance/tardies. All students with 3 or more tardies in one 9 weeks grading period are subject to ISS or lunchtime detention.

THREAT OF FATAL ACTION	SUSPENSION / CHARGES FILED IN JUVENILE COURT
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Any threatening actions pertaining to a possible fatal result toward any staff member or student by a student will result in an investigation by the principal and/or vice principal with the assistance of a guidance counselor to determine the severity of the threat.

First offense - up to a ten (10) day suspension, filing of unruly charges and requirement of proof of counseling. A written recommendation from an outside counselor that the student does not pose a danger to staff or students will be required before the student is permitted back in school. If this professional indicates possible danger to staff and/or students, recommendation by the principal of expulsion for 80 school days will occur.

Second offense - Ten (10) day suspension and filing of unruly charges with a possible recommendation of expulsion for 80 school days.

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USE OF TOBACCO PRODUCTS, E-CIGARETTES, JUUL, AND/OR VAPORIZERS (VAPING)	MINIMUM THREE (3) DAY SUSPENSION & NOTIFICATION TO JUVENILE COURT IF UNDER 18. DISCIPLINE WILL INCREASE IF OFFENSE IS REPEATED.
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The Board of Education prohibits the smoking, use or possession of tobacco in any form, including, but not limited to, cigarettes, cigars, clove cigarette, chewing tobacco, snuff, or any other tobacco, by a student in any area under the control of the school district or any school activity supervised by any school within the school district. This policy also applies to any e-cigarette, JUUL,

and/or vaporizing machines (vaping).
Use on school grounds - 3 days suspension.

MISCELLANEOUS

ASSEMBLIES

Assemblies are held for a variety of reasons, whether recreational, educational, or culture in nature. Students should be aware that behavior acceptable at one type of assembly would be disaster at another. In order to have assemblies of different variety, individuals must be able to respect their fellow students and those conducting the assembly.

Specific seating areas will be assigned by homerooms. Students will report back to homeroom before each assembly.

Pep assemblies are held to create school spirit and to enhance student morals. The student body response should be respectful and appropriate. The student body will stand during all pep assemblies until instructed to sit down. If, according to school personnel, disciplinary action may occur.

BAND

Specific regulations are set by each school band director. It is the responsibility of each student participating in the band to follow the guidelines.

BUS TRANSPORTATION

Students who are riding to and from school on a school bus will only ride their assigned school bus and will board and depart from the bus at assigned stops. Students will not be permitted to ride unassigned buses for any reason other than emergencies, except as approved by the principal. If you have any questions regarding bus routes, call the bus garage at 633-2965.

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CHILD CUSTODY ARRANGEMENTS

In case of divorce or legal separation, legal court documents showing the assignment of child custody must be sent to the school for a copy of in the child's permanent record

§ 75 §

DRESS CODE

The Martins Ferry City School Board of Education believes that parent(s)/guardian(s) must take the responsibility for the development of the student's good habits in the area of safety, health, decency and cleanliness. Good grooming and neatness on the part of each student reflects an expression of pride in him/her and his/her school. Student appearance is an important aspect of Martins Ferry High School standards. Our students have historically demonstrated good taste in clothing and personal appearance. School dress should be such that it ensures the health, welfare and safety of the members of the student body and enhances a positive image of our students and school. Any form of dress or grooming that attracts undue attention or violates the previous statement is unacceptable. Dress and grooming will not be such as to disrupt the teaching and learning process and should be clean and keeping with health, sanitary and safety requirements. The Martins Ferry City School District reserves the right and authority to take corrective measures in order to deal with any yearly fads and fashion trends that would not meet with the district's standards. **The rules of this dress code pertain to any event a student may dress up for during the school day.**

1. Skirts and dresses must conform to the requirements of decency and propriety.
2. Bare midriffs, see-through and/or cutout clothing, crop-top shirts, tank tops, razor-back shirts, spaghetti straps dresses and sheer clothing is not permitted. Low-cut revealing blouses may not be worn. There is to be no gap between the bottom of your shirt and the top of your pants/skirts IN THE FRONT AND IN THE BACK.
3. Hats, caps, or unnecessary headwear in school are not permissible. 4. Feet must be covered by some type of shoe or sandal.
5. Coat, purses, blankets, back packs and book bags will not be permitted

- in class. They must be locked in the student's lockers. All students have assigned lockers.
6. No clothing or accessory with suggestive or profane pictures or slogans or pictures or lettering in poor taste are to be worn.
 7. Drooping or sagging pants will not be permitted. Pants must be worn in a normal fashion at or above the belt line and may not be excessively large where as to cause them to droop.
 8. Students are not permitted to wear spiked collars, gloves, wristbands or chains etc. in school.

All dress code regulations for Martins Ferry High School are at the discretion of the Principal.

1st Dress Code Violation: Notify parent/guardian – student will spend one day in ISS.

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2nd Dress Code Violation: Parent/Guardian notified, and student will be suspended out of school. Students will also lose the privilege of wearing shorts and/or jeans with holes.

Any violation beyond the second violation will result in increased disciplinary action

PERSONAL COMMUNICATION DEVICES

Martins Ferry City School Administration understands that personal communication devices (PCD's) have become an integral part of education today. As such, electronic equipment is **only** allowed in the classroom at the discretion of the teacher. PCD's must be turned off and stored in a locker during school hours unless a teacher instructs you use it for class work. Any student caught using their cell phone without permission or using it to bully or harass a student during school hours will have their phone confiscated by the office, and will be disciplined in accordance with this handbook. After the first offense, a parent or guardian will be required to pick the device up at the end of the day. The office closes at 3:00 p.m. This policy includes any music device. Students are not allowed to use these during school hours. Martins Ferry School District will **not be responsible** for the theft, loss or destruction of any electronic item.

COURSE OFFERINGS

A complete list of course offerings may be obtained in the guidance office and on our website. Please note that with certain classes there are additional requirements/safety precautions that must be taken into consideration.

Create & Edit Digital Images: All students are responsible for purchasing and maintaining their own SD cards. Students are not permitted to share an SD card.

Metal/Wood Shop: Due to the use of dangerous machinery students who display irresponsible, erratic behavior in shop class may be dismissed from the class for safety reasons.

Creative Art & Set Design: Scissors, glue gun, detail art brushes, 2" chip brush, black Sharpie, colored pencils, masking tape.

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EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

Extra-curricular activities are a privilege not a right at Martins Ferry High School. Any inappropriate behavior deemed by authoritative figures will result in a loss of this privilege and/or disciplinary action. Regular school attendance

is required to participate in extra-curricular activities. Extra-curricular activities may include, but are not limited to school dances, field trips, sporting events.

*For all school dances students and guests are required to remain at the dance site until 30 minutes prior to the dance ending.

FIELD TRIPS

Arrangements for field trips will be made by the classroom teacher. Parent permission slips are required. For the protection and safety of all students, repeated violations of the Martins Ferry Student Code of Conduct resulting in an excessive accumulation of detentions or a suspension may result in a student not being able to participate in the field trip activities. All classwork must be completed for students to be eligible to attend a field trip. Regular school attendance is required for any student to participate in a field trip.

GUIDANCE DEPARTMENT

The vision of the Martins Ferry High School Counseling Department is to create a future where every student achieves their fullest potential, both academically and personally. We aim to develop students who are empowered, confident, and equipped with skills and resilience to thrive in an ever-changing global society. Our desired outcomes, 5-15 years from now include students who are compassionate leaders, critical thinkers, and contributors to their communities. They are prepared to navigate diverse pathways and are committed to lifelong learning and personal growth.

The mission of the MFHS Counseling Department is to provide comprehensive, equitable, and accessible support to every student, fostering their academic, social/emotional, and career development. Our overarching focus is to empower students to achieve their full potential and foster a sense of belonging in a diverse world. We are committed to ensuring that every student has the resources and guidance needed to thrive in school and beyond. Our long-range results include students who are resilient, empathetic, and empowered to pursue their unique paths to success, creating positive change in their communities.

The guidance office updates sites/Google Classrooms with scholarships, college links and other career/test-oriented information. Your time here goes fast. Ultimately your goal is to make the best of your high school career and prepare for your future. Preparation begins the day you step foot through these doors and may continue a long time after you graduate. What happens in between this time depends on you. During your time here, the guidance department will be meeting with you to provide you with information and assist you in post-secondary plans. This checklist/timeline is included to help you in

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planning for your future.

Freshmen

- ✓ Grades, Grades, Grades
- ✓ Attendance (Goal of 92% attendance rate)
- ✓ Prepare for the End of Course exams (EOC)
- ✓ Take classes that will prepare you for your post-secondary choices
- ✓ Know your total credits and EOC points
- ✓ Start preparing for the ACT/SAT.
- ✓ **Check your status for graduation. Reference your Graduation Plan. Are you on track to graduate?**
- ✓ Make a PLAN for your life's adventure!

Sophomore

- ✓ Grades, grades, grades
- ✓ Attendance (Goal of 92% attendance rate)

- ✓ Prepare for End of Course exams
 - ✓ Remember your PLAN and stick with it. Where are you heading? 2-year college, 4-year college/technical college/military?
- ✓ Take classes that will prepare you for post-secondary plans
- ✓ Know your total credits and EOC points
- ✓ **Check your status for graduation. Reference your Graduation Plan. Are you on track to graduate?**
- ✓ Start preparing for the ACT/SAT.
- ✓ Make a choice for junior year: Stay at MFHS or BCC (JVS)?

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Junior

- ✓ Grades, grades, grades
- ✓ Attendance (Goal of 92% attendance rate)
- ✓ Take the ASVAB
 - ✓ Take the ACT/SAT AT LEAST by June of your junior year (state-funded ACT is administered to all high school juniors once during 11th grade year)
- ✓ Visit possible post-secondary institutions during the summer before your senior year.
- ✓ **Check your status for graduation. Reference your Graduation Plan. Are you on track to graduate?**
- ✓ Know your total credits and EOC points

Senior

- ✓ GRADES, GRADES. –**THIS IS IT!!!!**
- ✓ Attendance (Goal of 92% attendance rate)
 - ✓ Check your status for graduation. Reference your Graduation Plan. Are you on track to graduate? **DO THIS IN SEPTEMBER!!!!**
- ✓ Know your total credits and EOC points
 - ✓ **For the class of 2023 & beyond, what seals are you using to graduate? Meet with the Guidance Counselor, meet with your class advisor. HAVE A PLAN!**
- ✓ Take the ACT/SAT test (you should have already but if you haven't by now, you better if you're thinking about a 4-year college!)
- ✓ Visit colleges/institutions. If attendance is not a problem you may visit 2 colleges during the school year. This is an excused absence. You must bring documentation back from the institution to prove the visit.

