



Cuthbertson High School

Student Handbook
2025-2026

Principal
Jeffery Stout

MY SCHEDULE		
BLOCKS	1 st SEMESTER	2 nd SEMESTER
1 st Block		
2 nd Block		
3 rd Block		
4 th Block		
Homeroom:		

Guidelines While in the Building

- CHS will be open **no earlier than 7:15 AM** for student arrival. Students will wait in the front foyer until 7:30, when doors to the cafeteria will be unlocked. Students will be released to their classrooms at 8:00 AM from the cafeteria.
- Students not participating in supervised activities and/or waiting for transportation must report to the Cavalier Foyer at 3:05 PM.
- Students waiting to pick up siblings at Cuthbertson Middle School must also report to the Cavalier Foyer and wait for CMS dismissal. Students may NOT wait in the parking area, nor should they leave campus and return to pick up siblings.
- The **Moment of Silence** is a school-wide reflective time. Students, staff, and visitors will stop all activities and pause to reflect and remain silent.

School Wing Designations

- A-WING – Auditorium, Agriculture, and Fine Arts
- B-WING – Athletics
- C-WING – Administration, Counseling, Computer Lab, Media Center
- D, E, F and G-WINGS – Academics

Statement of Non-Discrimination

Cuthbertson High School does not practice or condone discrimination in any form against students, employees, or applicants on the basis of race, color, sex, national origin, religion, age or handicap. For more information regarding sex discrimination or service for the handicapped please contact:

Union County Public Schools 500
N. Main Street Suite 700
Monroe, NC 28112-4786
(704) 283-3771

Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA)

(FERPA) sets out requirements designed to protect the privacy of parents and students. In brief, the law requires a school district to:

- Provide a parent with access to his/her child's educational records.

- Provide a parent an opportunity to seek correction of records he/she believes to be inaccurate or misleading.
- With some exceptions, obtain the written permission of a parent before disclosing information contained in the student's education record.

ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURES

CHECK IN – CHECK OUT

Students who arrive late to school must walk to the front door and check in at the front office.

Students wishing to check out early must bring a note to the main office before school containing the first and last name of the student. The note must be from the student's custodial parent and contain the reason, departure time, parent signature and a phone number where the parent can be reached. The School Secretary in the main office will print out an early dismissal form and give it to the student. The student is to show the pass to their teacher for dismissal and bring this check-out pass to the main office at his/her departure time. If the student returns to school the same day, he/she must check in at the main office and be issued a pass to class.

Students who need to leave school due to illness must have their teacher send them to the main office with a hall pass. The school nurse will assess the student and decide on proper dismissal if deemed necessary.

Students will not be allowed to leave campus without a parent note or parent pick up. This applies to all students including those over 18 years old. Phone calls, emails, or faxed notes from parent/guardian allowing the student dismissal must be authorized by administration. This policy will apply on all school days including those with scheduled school-wide assemblies.

MORNING ARRIVAL

- The building will open to students at 7:15 each morning. Access prior to 7:15 will only be granted if students are working directly under the supervision of a teacher or coach.
- Students will wait in the foyer until 7:30 when doors to the cafeteria are opened.
- Students will wait in the cafeteria from 7:30 to 8:00.
- Prior to 8:10, there will be three points of entry:
 - Front doors

- Senior Patio doors
 - Bus entry doors
- First period will begin at 8:10. Students not in class, ready to begin when the bell rings will be considered tardy.
- Students that enter the building after 8:10 should report to the office.
- After 8:10, the only point of entry is the front door.

Car Riders

- Car riders will be dropped off in one of two spots: front circle or side of the building.
- Prior to 7:40, all students will be dropped off in the front circle.
- After 7:40 parents will drop students off in one of two spots:
 - Parents entering the campus at the top of the staff/student parking across from Champion Forest will be directed to drop students off on the side of the building. Upon exiting the vehicle, students will walk to the back of the building and enter the doors by the Senior Patio.
 - Parents entering campus through the entrance at the end of the service road beyond the middle school will drop students off in the front circle. Upon exiting the vehicle, students will enter the building through the front doors.

Bus Riders

- Bus riders will be dropped off at the base of the stairs on the bus lot. Upon exiting the bus, students will walk up the ramp and enter the building through the set of doors at the end of the gym hall.

Student Drivers

- Students that drive to school must park in their assigned parking spot. Upon exiting the vehicle, students will walk to the back of the building and enter the doors by the Senior Patio.

Walkers

- Students should only walk to and from school if they have direct connectivity to campus. Students should NOT be crossing Cuthbertson Road on foot without a crosswalk, as this is an incredible safety risk. Bus transportation will be provided to any student in need. If your student needs bus transportation and you are not currently registered, please call the front office at 704-296-0105.

DISMISSAL PROCEDURES

- Seniors will be dismissed at 3:00. All other students will be dismissed at 3:05 each day.
- Car riders and student drivers may exit the building through the closest exterior door and use campus sidewalks and walkways to walk to their destination. Bus riders will exit through the doors at the end of the gym hallway.

Car Riders

- Car riders will be picked up in one of two spots:
 - Parents entering the campus at the top of the staff/student parking lot entrance across from Champion Forest will be directed to pick up students on the side of the building.
 - Parents entering campus through the entrance at the end of the service road beyond the middle school will pick up students in the front circle.

Walkers

- Students should only walk to and from school if they have direct connectivity to campus. Students should NOT be crossing Cuthbertson Road on foot, without a crosswalk, as this is an incredible safety risk. Bus transportation will be provided to any student in need. If your student needs bus transportation and you are not currently registered, please call the front office at 704-296-0105.

BEING GOOD NEIGHBORS

Parents and students should NOT be using adjacent neighborhoods to avoid traffic on Cuthbertson Rd and/or the CHS/CMS campus. Those that choose to do so face potential citations from local police and/or the State Highway Patrol. Student drivers that are caught using the adjacent neighborhoods to avoid established traffic patterns are subject to having their parking passes revoked

STUDENT ABSENCES

- Students must turn in excuse notes to the main office before the start of the school day.
- Students who miss more than 15 minutes of a class will be counted absent for that class period.
- As a courtesy, we ask that all excuse notes are turned in within THREE days of the absence. Parent sick notes will only be accepted during the grading

period in which the absence occurred. Excuse notes from a medical provider will be accepted at any time.

- Students are not permitted to leave campus for lunch because of safety issues.

Refer to the [UCPS attendance policy](#) for additional information regarding lawful reasons for school absences and educational trip attendance policy.

STUDENT USE OF TELEPHONE (OFFICE)

There is one phone designated for student use in the front office in the event of an emergency.

USE OF SCHOOL FACILITIES

Individual students or groups of students must have the supervision of a faculty member when using the school buildings and/or facilities before or after school hours.

LOST AND FOUND

Articles found in and around the school should be turned into the front office where the owners may claim their property by identifying it. Articles not claimed will be donated to a charitable cause.

VISITORS/COMMERCIAL FOOD

All visitors must report to the main office to sign in and obtain a visitor's badge immediately upon arrival on campus.

Students are not to bring guests to school during instructional hours (including lunch). Visitors are not allowed to bring commercial food items to students during school hours due to child nutrition laws. This causes a disruption and competes with child nutrition services. Visitors not complying with this policy will be asked to leave campus. Commercial food may not be ordered for a delivery service to deliver food or drinks. The items will be held in the office until the end of the day.

Teacher-invited presenters or visitors must be an approved volunteer through UCPS and register in the office before entering a classroom.

SECURITY CAMERAS

Students and visitors are advised that security cameras are in use at all times on the Cuthbertson High campus.

VERBAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

Announcements will be made at the end of first block. In an effort to minimize classroom disruptions, intercom announcements will be limited. All announcements must be submitted by staff via the Google form by 7:50 am.

WRITTEN ANNOUNCEMENTS/POSTERS

Administration must approve all written announcements or posters, their display locations, and their method of attachment.

CUTHBERTSON MIDDLE SCHOOL

Cuthbertson High School students are **PROHIBITED** from being on the campus of Cuthbertson Middle School during official hours. Violation may lead to disciplinary action and trespassing charges.

FUNDRAISING PROJECTS

All fundraising projects must meet the guidelines established by the Union County Board of Education and must further be approved by the principal or his/her designee.

FIRE DRILLS

A fire drill will be held each calendar month. When the alarm sounds all personnel must take the attendance roster and:

- Follow the evacuation route for the occupied room.
- Move students quickly and quietly out of the building and approximately 500 feet away.
- Always assume that a fire alarm is the real thing.
- Wait outside until instructed to return to the building.
- Have all students face away from the building.

Other emergency procedure drills will be practiced throughout the year.

FORGOTTEN ITEMS

Instructional time will not be disrupted for students to obtain forgotten items. When a student leaves an item at home, we ask that they bring the item to school the next day, unless it is an item that is required for their health and safety (ex. Eye glasses, medicine, lunch, water bottles, etc.). Additionally, student Chromebooks, homework/projects, instruments, etc., will be permitted to be dropped off, if forgotten at home, as these are important instructional tools for active student participation within classroom activities & assignments.

**Students may not receive gift items or fast food while at school.*

If a student has forgotten an item (lunch, assignment, etc.) items can be left for students on the cart at the front of the school. Please do not ring the bell for pickup of items. *We will not interrupt a class to deliver an item unless it is determined to be an emergency.* The students needing to pick up forgotten items will be allowed to pick up between classes.

Please plan ahead for events such as forgotten lunch by arranging to have a balance in the student's cafeteria account.

STUDENT FINES

All fines from the current year should be paid to the Bookkeeper immediately. Students are not allowed to buy a parking pass, attend dances or to graduate until all fines have cleared in the Bookkeeper's office. Students are responsible for clearing all accounts with the Bookkeeper during the year they are assessed. The Union County Board of Education has entered into an agreement with a collection agency for the collection of all returned checks issued to all Union County School locations.

The Board requires that you make sure the following information is on all checks written:

- Full Name AND Street Address
- Home Phone Number
- Second Phone Number (if available)

If your check is returned by your bank, it will automatically be forwarded by the Union County Board of Education's bank directly to a collection agency after the first presentation. The collection agency will contact you in order to collect the face amount of the worthless check plus the state allowed collection fee. The amount of the collection fee in NC is currently \$25.00; however, this fee is subject to change as allowed by law. If you do not properly respond to the collection agency, your check may be resubmitted to the bank electronically along with applicable collection fees.

After 60 days any check deemed uncollectible will be returned to the school and a warrant will be issued through the Union County Sheriff's Office to the person signing the check. In addition to the face amount of the check and the service charge, the check will then be subjected to a cost of court charge.

Students should bring the correct amount of money to school. All checks are to be made payable to Cuthbertson High School.

MEDICATION

Students who must take medication of any kind, including over the counter medications, during school hours must obtain a "Union County Public Schools Medication Consent Form" form from the office or online. This form must be completed and signed by a physician and parent. The completed form and the medication are given to the school nurse for dispensing.

Students who do not comply will be subject to consequences as defined in the Union County Board Policy on student discipline.

STUDENT SERVICES

BUS TRANSPORTATION

Riding a bus is a privilege, not a right. Students living a mile or more from school are eligible for free bus transportation. Students must be at their designated bus stop fifteen (15) minutes prior to the time of bus arrival. By state law, bus stop locations must be no closer than two-tenths of a mile apart. Students may be required to walk up to one-half mile. A student may be denied this privilege as a result of misbehavior in addition to other penalties. Union County Board Policy and Cuthbertson High School discipline guidelines do apply to bus riders.

Any questions regarding routes, buses, or drivers should be directed to the Cuthbertson Cluster's Transportation Specialist @ 704-296-0105. Ext. 5971

Notes requesting bus changes must be brought to the Front Office before school. A call home to the custodial parent will be made to verify any bus change. Approval to ride a different bus is **NOT** guaranteed.

CAFETERIA

- Each student will be issued a cafeteria ID number to use when purchasing meals. Students are responsible for payment when meals are purchased.
- Each student is responsible for cafeteria cleanliness. Dispose all trash to the appropriate location.
- Any disciplinary rules for the school system also apply for behavior in the cafeteria including disruptive behavior and non-compliance.
- Only students making purchases are allowed in line. Food handled will have to be purchased.
- Book bags are not allowed in the food line.
- A designated area for peanut/nut free eating will be available to students in the cafeteria.
- Food and beverage, except water is not permitted outside of the cafeteria.
- For more information pertaining to Child Nutrition, including prices, menus, free & reduced applications, and more, [click here](#).

COUNSELING

The purpose of the Counseling Department is to deliver a comprehensive and equitable program that addresses the academic, career, social, and emotional needs of all students. Advocacy, leadership, collaboration, and consultation will serve as the framework for the school counseling program. Through a partnership with students, parents, educators, administrators, and the community the CHS

Counseling department will help ensure that all students are fully prepared to become well-rounded and productive members of our global community.

Upon entering CHS, students are assigned to a counselor with whom they will work throughout their four years. This model ensures that the student and counselor establish a relationship that will address the diverse needs of each student. Cuthbertson High School's Counselors are located in the Counselors Suite. The main entrance to the Counseling Suite is on the first floor between E and F wings, across from the elevator.

The Counseling Department has an "open door" policy; however, appointments can be made through the Counseling secretary or by requesting a time from the individual counselor. Assistance is always available in case of emergencies. Students must report to their classroom teachers before going to the Counseling Office.

Schedule Changes

Each year during registration, students are encouraged to seek and secure all available assistance in planning class schedules for the following year. Determining and registering for the proper courses is necessary to satisfy graduation requirements as well as to meet the personal interests and needs of students. Due to class sizes and maximum allowable teacher-student ratios, schedule changes at the beginning of the year may not be possible.

Students who wish to request a schedule change will have the opportunity to do so before each semester. Students may request a level change the first five (5) days of the semester. After the 5th day of each semester, only level change requests by the teacher can be made. After the 10th day of each semester the window for schedule changes is closed.

Any course dropped after the first two weeks will be indicated on the student's record as dropped. No grade will be given. The student's transcript will be designated as a "WP" (withdraw passing) or "WF" (withdraw failing). The "WP" is not counted in computing grade point averages; however, a "WF" is counted in computing grade point averages. No student may drop a course for which a state End-of-Course test is given after the first ten days of school.

Transcripts

Transcripts of academic work, both official and unofficial, are issued from the Counseling Department upon request from the individual student. Most requests will be processed through SCOIR. If not processed through SCOIR, they will be available for pick-up in the Counseling Department within five school days.

Grades

Report cards are distributed each six weeks. The printout contains a number grade for class achievement, a conduct comment for each class, and a listing of the number of days absent in each class period. Final report cards may be withheld if student accounts have a due balance.

Driving Eligibility Certificate

Driving Eligibility Certificates will be processed by appointment only.

Parents may sign up for an appointment on our webpage under “Quick Links” then “Driver’s Eligibility Certificate.” PLEASE READ INSTRUCTIONS PRIOR TO SCHEDULING. Comment section to be as follows “DEC for (insert student’s name)”.

Parents must bring the Driver’s Education Completion certificate with them at the time of the appointment.

To receive and keep a driver’s license a student must maintain academic progress, which means passing 75% or more of his/her classes. At Cuthbertson High School, students must pass three out of four classes each semester or their license will be revoked. Instructions for submitting hardship letters will be mailed home before a student’s license is revoked. Students can have their license revoked if they meet the academic requirements. Contact the Support Services Counselor for a DEC the following semester if the student passes the three out of four classes. If a student under the age of 18 years old drops out of school they will have their permit/license revoked. In addition, on July 1st, 2000, the “Lose Control, Lose Your License Guidelines” went into effect. This law directs schools to report expulsions, long-term suspensions and assignment to alternative schools for offenses such as sale or possession of alcohol or illegal controlled substances, weapons, or firearms on school property, or physical assault on any school personnel to the NC Dept. of Motor Vehicles. The license or permit may be revoked for these students for one year.

Contact the Driver Education Coordinator for questions concerning the Driver Education Class.

LOCKERS

Lockers will be available for the school year. Students may only use locks obtained through the school. Students can only use the locker to which they are assigned. Students are responsible for books and other school materials that are lost from unsecured lockers. Lockers are the property of Cuthbertson High School and students should expect no privacy rights regarding their use. Lockers are subject to search by school personnel at any time. To request a locker students should visit the front office.

NOTE: The school is not responsible for book bags, purses, wallets or other personal belongings that are left unattended. Items that are “stolen” because they are unattended will be the fault of the student.

MEDIA CENTER

The CHS Media Center offers many services to students and maintains an informative website accessible 24/7! The website is access to hundreds of EBooks that can be read and enjoyed on their Chromebooks as well as links to databases, copyright-free resources, and much more! Look for it under the Academics tab on the main CHS website, under the CHS Quick Links, and here:

<https://www.ucps.k12.nc.us/Page/3843>

Circulation

- Students may access the Media Center catalog from any computer by clicking on the 'Destiny' icon on the UCPS Student Startup page. They may log in to Destiny to check out eBooks with their PowerSchool ID number and password 'student.'
- Some of our databases require passwords if used from home. These passwords may be picked up in the MC.

Calculators

- TI-84 calculators are school supplies used for all math, SAT/ACT, or Physics classes. TI-84 calculators can be purchased, new or used, from various vendors for a student to use throughout their educational career.
- If a student needs to borrow a TI-84 calculator because of a financial need, the student and/or parent may complete a Google doc permission slip to check out a calculator per semester from the Media Center. The form is available on the Media Center website. Students will need to supply their own replacement batteries.
- CHS has a limited number of calculators that students can check out. If the calculator is lost or stolen, the student is responsible for the \$125 replacement fee.

Lost Materials

- Students will be charged the replacement fee for lost or damaged books and calculators.
- Overdue notices are sent periodically as reminders. We do not charge overdue fines.

Obligations

- Students are expected to keep Media Center Accounts in good standing.
- If a student pays for a lost item and the item is found by the end of the next school year, he/she will be reimbursed for that item.

Printing and Copying

There is a printing station set up in the Media Center. Copies or printouts are available from the Media Center at no charge. Students may come to the Media Center with a pass from the teacher to print copies. The student will log into the computer and follow the directions posted. Color copies are not available. Black and white is the only option.

Computer Use

Students are assigned computers and can log into the network with their own ID numbers and passwords. Students may access the Internet which includes their own Google Drive, school email account, informational databases, and digital resources for educational use. Computers housed in the Media Center provide access to printing and are available to students during MC hours. Refer to the Union County Acceptable Use Policy in the Student Handbook. Failure to adhere to the established acceptable use policies can result in restricted or possible loss of computer privileges.

Expected Behavior

- Students should bring their pass from their teacher, signed and dated to the circulation desk as they enter. Please sign in with staff.
- Students should leave all food, candy, and gum outside the Media Center. Water bottles may be left on tables or in backpacks and not used near computers.
- Students are expected to respect the right of others to have a quiet place in which to work, read, and learn.
- Students are expected to respect the building and materials by keeping them clean and in good condition.
- Students are expected to clean up after themselves.
- Students are expected to follow the UCPS Acceptable Use Policy and guidelines outlined in the student handbook when using computers.
- Students are expected to treat all staff and students with respect.

SCHOOL AUTHORITY/ GOOD NEIGHBOR POLICY

The school has the authority to address any act that takes place on or immediately adjacent to school grounds, at any school-sponsored activity, on school-provided transportation or at any official school bus stop, through the use of the district Internet system or school provided technology, through the use of a personal digital device on campus, or off-campus activities that cause or are reasonably expected to cause a direct and immediate impact on the orderly and effective operations of the school or the safety of individuals.

STUDENT PARKING

Parking on the Cuthbertson Campus is considered a privilege for students. Each student who drives must buy his/her own parking permit. Neither CHS nor UCPS assumes any responsibility for damage to private vehicles brought onto campus. All student drivers must be licensed and have appropriate auto insurance. The administration reserves the right to terminate parking privileges and/or tow any vehicle for cause.

Section I: Parking Expectations

- Once on school grounds, you are at school. Students may NOT leave campus for any reason! The only way a student may leave is to check out at the office with their school issued QR code or a parent handwritten note that is turned into the front office prior to leaving.
- Student vehicles are subject to search if there is reasonable suspicion to believe that drugs, alcohol, stolen property, or other contraband might be present in a vehicle.
- Students must follow the 10-mph speed limit while entering, parking and leaving the student parking lot. Failure to adhere will result in a \$25 fine and may result in the suspension of driving privileges.
- Students must wear seatbelts in accordance with state law.
- Students may NOT park in designated staff parking spaces, bus parking areas, agricultural areas, gymnasium areas, or on any greenway or sidewalk. This also includes Cuthbertson Middle School. Failure to adhere will result in a \$25 fine and possible suspension of driving privileges as well as towing of your vehicle.

Section II: Parking Citations, Discipline & Fines

- If a student's parking privileges are suspended, he/she can drive NO vehicle on school grounds. Failure to adhere may result in booting of the vehicle which costs \$25 to be removed.
- Students who drive to school and are persistently late can have their parking privileges suspended for a period of time to be determined by the administrator.
- If a student's vehicle is used to skip class, to leave school grounds without permission or help others violate school rules, then that student may have their parking privileges revoked for the remainder of the academic year and be subject to Out of School Suspension.
- First offense for reckless driving behavior including speeding, spinning tires, "off-road" driving, parking out of space, taking up two spaces, or blocking other cars will result in a \$25.00 fine, suspension of driving privileges for 60

days, and parent contact. Second offense will result in a \$25.00 fine, revocation of driving privileges for the remainder of the school year.

- Sharing, “leasing”, or selling a parking space will result in a \$25.00 fine for both parties and possible revocation of parking privileges.
- Vehicles NOT registered with the school are considered unauthorized and trespassing, will be fined \$25 and may result in towing of the vehicle.
- More than three parking violations will result in the revocation of parking privileges for one school year.
- All fines must be paid in full by the tenth day after receiving the parking citation. Failure to pay the fines within 10 days may result in revocation of driving privileges for the remainder of the school year.

Section III: Additional Parking Notes

- When you drive an unregistered vehicle, you must email Mrs. Ernst prior to leaving for school to your situation as well as park in your assigned spot.
- **Upon arrival you must enter the building and NOT linger in your car or the parking lot.**
- **Excessive tardies can result in loss of parking privileges.**
- Repeated violations and/or failure to pay parking fines within 10 days may result in loss of driving privileges on campus and/or towing of personal vehicles at owner’s expense.
- Student and Parent signature on the Parking Application indicates an understanding of parking policies.
- The administration reserves the right to terminate driving privileges and/or tow any vehicle for cause if necessary.

ACADEMIC PROCEDURES

The grading scale is calculated on a weighted scale as follows:

GPA Scale for students entering 9th grade 2015 or later

Grade	CP	Honors	AP
A	4.0	4.5	5.0
B	3.0	3.5	4.0
C	2.0	2.5	3.0
D	1.0	1.5	2.0
F	0	0	0

The following final marks, along with all failing numerical final marks, will be computed in the Grade Point Average (GPA) and in the student ranking process as a course that was attempted but was failed:

- **WF** – Withdrew failing
- **FF** – failed because of absences
- **F** - denotes grade in a pass/fail course

The following final marks WILL NOT be computed in the GPA or the student's rank:

- **WP** – withdrew passing
- **P** - denotes grade in a pass/fail course
- **AUD** – audited courses

Homework and Class Assignments

Failure to complete homework and class assignments will result in a lowering of grades and may result in a parent/teacher conference.

Homework Expectations:

- CP: 15 minutes
- Honors: 30 minutes
- AP: 60 minutes
- Weekends = 1 night
- No homework should be assigned over extended breaks (i.e. Thanksgiving, Winter and Spring Break). In the case of a holiday that extends a weekend or is the middle of the week, (i.e. Labor Day, Veterans' Day, Martin Luther King Jr. Day) the weekend policy should be followed.

Turn-in Deadline:

No earlier than the beginning of the same class period the next school day
(*Think if it was on paper, when would it be due?*)

Late Work Policy

- On time, student earns 100% of points/score
- 1 day late, student earns 75% of points/score
- 2 days late, student earns 50% of points/score
- The teacher can choose not to accept late work once the unit is complete, as long as the 2-day timeframe has elapsed
- These are meant to serve as a guideline for the maximum deduction of points possible. Teachers have the discretion to be more lenient.

Make-up Policy

When students are absent from class, they have two days to submit makeup work. It is the student's responsibility to request makeup work from the teacher on the day they return to class. Teachers will provide work that covers the learning objectives

from the missed class. Families/students should be aware that when a student misses class, they miss all the learning opportunities for that class. Students will be expected to make up all the learning and so should be prepared for an equivalent investment of time.

Semester Exams

First and second semester exams are given to all students in grades 9-12 on designated days in the school calendar. Scores on these exams count 25% of the final semester grade. High School students will not be required to take a teacher-made final exam in a course if the student has an average of 90 or above the week prior to the administration of the exam.

Exam Exemptions

High School students will not be required to take a teacher-made final exam in a course if the:

- student has an average of 90 or above the week prior to the administration of the exam.

Teacher-made tests are defined as tests designed and graded by a UCPS teacher of record for the purpose of assigning an exam grade to a student. Exam exemptions only apply to teacher-made tests and are not available in courses which require the administration of an End of Course or state mandated final exams. Students enrolled in AP courses will still be required to take the AP exam. Students are expected to take all other assessments given at the school.

STUDENT RECOGNITION PROGRAMS

Cuthbertson High School will offer numerous opportunities for students to participate in co-curricular and extra-curricular activities. Clubs and organizations are listed on the school's website.

1. HONOR ROLL

Students making the "A" or "A/B" Honor Roll will have recognition opportunities that occur throughout the school year.

2. ORDER OF THE CHEVALIER

Students who receive an Order of the Chevalier card during a semester will be in the running to be nominated for the Order of Chevalier. This recognizes students who go above and beyond in their classes throughout the semester.

3. ACADEMIC LETTERS

Students who have an overall semester average of 90, computed by averaging equally the grades received in all courses in which the student has completed in this semester, and no semester grade less than 85, will be awarded a letter. Students who meet the qualifications more than once will be awarded a gold bar. Five (5) points are added to the numerical grade received for the semester for each AP course.

4. VALEDICTORIAN AND SALUTATORIAN

Students that score first and second in their class, according to weighted GPA, will be recognized at graduation.

5. JUNIOR CLASS MARSHALS

The roster of Marshals will be comprised of the top five percent of the Junior Class or at least 10 students (whichever number is greater). Selection is based on highest cumulative grade point averages calculated at the end of the 5th grading period of the Junior year. Junior Class Marshals participate in Graduation exercises and other ceremonies.

6. HONORS DESIGNATIONS FOR GRADUATING SENIORS

The following honors designations will be used for graduating seniors in lieu of valedictorian and salutatorian:

Weighted GPA	Designation
4.25 and higher	summa cum laude
4.0 to 4.24	magna cum laude
3.75 to 3.99	cum laude

7. SCHOLAR ATHLETES

Individuals who are members of athletic teams at a varsity level and who obtain a 3.50 or higher grade point average for the designated semester receive scholar athlete certificates.

8. NORTH CAROLINA ACADEMIC SCHOLARS*

Students who complete the State Board of Education requirements for a well-balanced, challenging high school program will be named North Carolina Academic Scholars and receive special recognition. The students who qualify for this special recognition:

- will be designated by the State Board of Education as North Carolina Academic Scholars.
- will receive a seal of recognition attached to their diplomas.
- may receive special recognition at graduation exercises.

- may be considered for scholarships from the local and state business/industry community.
- may use this special recognition in applying to post-secondary institutions.

**Requirements for NC Scholar designation are available in the Counseling Office and in the UCPS Program of Studies.*

9. CLUBS

Each student at Cuthbertson High School is encouraged to be an active participant of a club or organization to celebrate leadership, community service, academic excellence, student interest, or to support a specific curriculum.

Students may advocate to form new clubs or organizations based on student interest and availability of teacher advisement.

10. ATHLETICS

Cuthbertson High School is a member of the Southern Carolina Conference and is a member of the North Carolina High School Athletic Association.

CHS currently offers students opportunities to participate in the following sports:

- Baseball
- Basketball (Men's and Women's)
- Cheerleading
- Cross Country (Men's and Women's)
- Dance
- Football
- Golf (Men's and Women's)
- Lacrosse (Men's and Women's)
- Soccer (Men's and Women's)
- Softball (Women's)
- Swimming (Men's and Women's)
- Tennis (Men's and Women's)
- Track and Field (Men's and Women's)
- Indoor Track (Men's and Women's)
- Volleyball (JV and Varsity)
- Wrestling

NOTE: Participation in high school athletics is a privilege, not a right. Team members are subject to removal or suspension from any team at the coach's discretion.

ATHLETIC ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

1. Scholastic: must pass three (3) subjects during the previous semester and meet local promotion standards.
2. Age: must not turn 19 on or before August 31.
3. Insurance and Physical: must have school insurance or proof of insurance and a certified physical examination.

4. Athletic packet must be completed prior to trying out.
5. Must have a completed and approved family identification registration for the current school athletic year.

HIGH SCHOOL DISCIPLINE CODE

Please see the **2025-2026 UCPS High School Student Handbook** for the “Code of Student Conduct” under Board of Education Policy 4-3b.

ATTENDANCE – UB: Leaving School without permission, UB: Truancy

Students will not leave the assigned area/school grounds without permission and/or commit other attendance violations (i.e. skipping class and truancy). Students must attend school and once at school will remain on campus and in areas designated by school officials at all times. As per UCPS Code of Conduct 4-3 Guidelines, this violation will result in 0-2 days suspension and principal discretion which may include additional consequences should the conduct violate other rules in this policy or the bus or school level rules. No more than 2 days of suspension can be assigned to a student for an attendance violation.

Out of specified area without permission - UB: Leaving Class without permission; UB: Skipping Class

No student shall be in any place other than those designated by teachers or school officials without permission. Students must report to the cafeteria upon arrival at school and remain there until the first (1st) bell. Students may not go to Academic Wings during their lunch unless they have a written pass. Students must exit the building at the dismissal bell unless under the direct supervision of a teacher.

Out of class or out of school for any part of the day without permission- UB: Skipping School s, UB: Cutting Class

No student shall be out of class or miss any part of the school day that violates local school policy on attendance (skipping). State regulations do not allow parents to give students permission to miss any school time for unlawful reasons.

NOTE: Truancy is a legal issue and will result in court proceedings. The administration reserves the right to modify consequences on a case-by-case basis whenever appropriate.

TARDY POLICY – UB: Excessive Tardiness, UB: Late to Class

At Cuthbertson High School, we believe that teachers have a right to teach and students have a right to learn. Instructional time must be protected and without interruption in order to assure that quality teaching and learning are taking place in every classroom every day. To assure this at Cuthbertson High School, we will utilize a comprehensive “Tardy” program with students who are late to class. All

students are expected to be in their classrooms and ready to receive instruction before the tardy bell rings for each class.

TARDY POLICY:

Tardies will result in the following penalties:

1st Tardy Verbal warning

2nd Tardy Verbal warning and parent contact

3rd Tardy One (1) 30 minute After-school Detention (ASD) and parent contact

4th Tardy One (1) 60 minute After School Detention (ASD) and parent contact

Students who drive will receive a one-week suspension of their parking pass for the fourth (4th) tardy for their first (1st) block.

5th Tardy One (1) day of In-School Suspension School (ISS) and parent contact

6th Tardy Return to Step 3 to restart

Students who drive will lose their driving privileges for the remainder of the semester on the sixth (6th) tardy for their first (1st) block.

NOTE: Failure to serve assigned detention as scheduled may result in OSS.

HALL PASSES

Students should only be in those areas designated by teachers or school officials. Students who are not in class during regular class hours must have a “hall pass” and produce it to an administrator or teacher upon request. Students with Early Leave must leave campus immediately following their last class.

DRESS CODE

The administration recognizes that the First Amendment to the Constitution of the United States respects a student’s right to choose his or her style of dress or appearance. However, if a student’s dress or appearance is so unusual, inappropriate, or lacking in cleanliness that it disrupts the learning environment, the student may be required to change the offending dress or appearance. Clothing that attracts undue attention to the body’s form or contour is inappropriate for school. Students are responsible, therefore, for exercising good judgment in dress and grooming. The following UCPS guidelines for high school dress code can be found under [Board Policy](#).

CHS HONOR CODE: On my honor, I pledge that I have neither given nor received help on this assignment.

Cheating/plagiarism. Students will refrain from copying, using, or otherwise claiming work of others to be their own. Students shall not cheat on tests/examinations, copy the work of another, or complete any type of academic assignment in a dishonest or deceptive manner.

1st Offense: The teacher will refer the students to the office; the student will be given a grade of zero (0) on the assignment., 1 day of In-School Suspension (ISS), and parent notification.

2nd Offense: The teacher will refer the student to the office; the student will be given a grade of zero (0) on the assignment, 1 day In-School Suspension (ISS), and parent notification.

3rd Offense: The teacher will refer the students to the office; the student will be given a grade of zero (0) on the assignment., 1 day of Out-of-School Suspension (OSS), and parent notification.

4th Offense: The teacher will refer the students to the office; the student will be given a grade of zero (0) on the assignment., 2-6 days of Out-of-School Suspension (OSS), and parent notification.

Forgery

Students shall not provide school personnel or parents/guardians with false information by making changes in written paper or other genuine documents or use school documents inappropriately including signing another person's name or initials. Under some circumstances, forgery may constitute grounds for out-of-school suspension (OSS) to be determined by the administrator.

Reckless or belligerent behavior that might result in injury or bodily harm

No student shall engage in any behavior which is so careless, reckless, or belligerent it could, if continued, result in bodily harm or injury to oneself or others. Under some circumstances, these behaviors could lead to out-of-school suspension.

False Reporting

Students will not make a false report that there is about to occur or is occurring on school property as defined in the UCPS Code of Student Conduct 4-3 (18) of a crime, catastrophe, or emergency that is likely to cause serious injury, with the intent to cause significant disruption to the instructional day or school-sponsored activity or which actually causes such disruption. Conspiring to commit any of the acts described in the UCPS Code of Student Conduct 4-3 (18) will result in out-of-school suspension and the administration consider a recommendation for long-term suspension.

Lying

Students shall provide truthful information to school personnel. Under some circumstances, lying may constitute grounds for out-of-school suspension (OSS) to be determined by the administrator.

Any major act clearly intended to disrupt school – UB: Disruptive Behavior

No student shall purposely disrupt the lawful function of the school or its special activities, events, trips, or performances or infringe on the rights of other students, faculty, spectators, or the public. In the classroom, no student shall impair the teaching/learning process. Under some circumstances, these behaviors could lead to out-of-school suspension (OSS).

NON-COMPLIANCE – UB: Insubordination

Students will comply with all directions of teachers, substitute teachers, teacher aides, student teachers, and any other authorized school personnel during any period in which they are subject to school authority. Under some circumstances, non-compliance may constitute grounds for out-of-school suspension to be determined by the administration.

Violation of classroom policies

Students shall follow any rules and regulations not addressed in this policy which are established by the administration or the classroom teacher. See page 25 for levels of consequences addressing prohibited behaviors.

CELL PHONES – UB: Electronic Devices

As per UCPS Policy, students will not use cellular phones or electronic/media devices during instructional time except for an authorized purpose or as an instructional tool under the guidance and direction of a staff member during a school activity. Students may use cell phones during non-instructional times, including class change and lunch, so long as the use is not disruptive to the school environment and the device is used in a safe and responsible manner. The school is not responsible for theft, loss or damage of any electronic devices brought onto school property.

Failure to obey the request of a school staff member to hand over an electronic device, including but not limited to a cell phone, shall be considered insubordination.

For the UCPS and CHS Cell Phone Policy and Consequences, [click here](#).

OTHER PROHIBITED BEHAVIORS:

Intimate behavior

Students must not engage in behavior such as kissing, excessive body contact, or other actions inappropriate for the public-school setting.

Bus misbehavior

Students shall not display any type of behavior which interferes with the safe and efficient operation of the school bus. Students may be suspended and/or denied the privilege of riding a bus to school. (Refer to “Bus Transportation”)

Use of profanity – UB: Abusive Language and Gestures

Profanity or vulgar language is not consistent with an academic environment and will not be tolerated. Certain words, expressions, or phrases are considered offensive enough to result in out- of-school suspension.

Use of computers/Internet

The use of computers at school is a privilege and should be used for educational purposes. The misuse of computers/Internet will result in disciplinary action that could include suspension and/or limitations placed on student internet access. Examples include but are not limited to the inappropriate use of the internet and/or any tampering with any hardware or software.

Violation of school policy not specifically addressed

The faculty, administration, and staff of Cuthbertson High School have the responsibility to provide a safe and orderly learning environment. Students are subject to disciplinary action for any disruptive behavior that detracts from the safe and orderly environment even if not specifically mentioned in these guidelines. The administration reserves the right to modify or amend the policies contained herein as it deems appropriate to fulfill this responsibility.

After School Detention (ASD)

After school detention is held from 3:10 p.m. to 4:10 p.m. Students are given one day's notice to arrange transportation. Students who fail or refuse to report for detention are assigned to Out-of-School Suspension.

In-School Suspension (ISS)

The philosophy at Cuthbertson High School states that students should be in class as much as possible to facilitate the learning experience. Therefore, In- School Suspension will be assigned sparingly and only in those cases where a student's behavior is disruptive to the point that it impairs the ability of other students to learn. Students assigned to ISS will report to a designated classroom under the supervision of a staff member. Students must complete academic work.