

# **Student Handbook 2025-2026**



***“Deliberately Successful”***

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<http://www.cobbk12.org/Hillgrove/>

## *Message from the Principal*

### **Welcome to the 2025–2026 School Year at Hillgrove!**

It's an honor to serve again as your principal in a school as vibrant and committed as Hillgrove. Here, students are valued, supported, and empowered throughout their high school journey.

**I'm excited you're here!** I consider myself your partner, and I believe open, honest communication is essential to our success. My goal is to serve with intention, compassion, and purpose—to ensure students are safe, learning, and enjoying their experience. Student voice matters, so please reach out with any questions or concerns.

High school can be challenging, but we're in this together. Clear, consistent communication among students, staff, and families is key. Let's stay connected to best support our students.

**You are part of the Hillgrove legacy**—and this year, we celebrate 20 years of excellence in academics, arts, and athletics! Thank you for continuing that tradition.

To every student: **your success matters.** I believe in your potential and want you to feel safe, supported, and inspired to grow academically, socially, and emotionally.

Thank you for being part of the Hillgrove TEAM and supporting our mission: ***Deliberate Success for All Students***. Please review the student handbook carefully—it helps us maintain the standards that make Hillgrove great.

Make good choices, stay focused on your goals, and believe in yourself. You are capable of great things—and I'm here to support you every step of the way.

Let's make it a phenomenal year.

### **Go Hawks!**

Angela Stewart, Ed.S.  
Principal, Hillgrove High School

## ***OUR MISSION AND VISION***

*Mission: "Deliberate Success for ALL Students."*

*Vision: "Soaring toward deliberate success in academics, the arts, and athletics."*

### ***Beliefs***

1. All students should have an opportunity to learn in a safe, supportive, and respectful environment.
2. The responsibility for learning is a partnership among students, teachers, parents, and community members.
3. Critical thinking skills enable all students to become effective and efficient decision makers.
4. All students can achieve excellence in academics, co-curricular activities, and citizenship.
5. Data-driven instruction is essential to improving student achievement.
6. Student achievement is enhanced using technology.
7. All students can acquire the skills necessary to become responsible and productive citizens.

### ***About This Handbook...***

The Hillgrove High School Student Handbook is created to serve as a complete source of information for students and parents. It includes details about academic policies, schedules, student behavior expectations and consequences, and extracurricular activities. Students are required to familiarize themselves with this handbook. **The information in the handbook may be updated or changed by policies and procedures set by the Cobb County School District or Hillgrove High School.** This also covers the latest policies from the Cobb County School District. Additionally, students are responsible for staying informed about any other local school or district policies throughout the school year and for sharing this information with their parents or guardians. For more details on Cobb County School District policies, please visit

<http://www.cobbk12.org>.

The Cobb County School District shall maintain its educational programs in compliance with all laws relating to non-discrimination. Procedures shall be established, and personnel shall be appointed within the school district to address concerns related to the requirement of non-discrimination regarding students, parents, and employees. (Policy JAA-R)

No person shall be discriminated against because of race, creed, national origin, religion, sex, age, or disability. Concerns may be directed to the proper authority at the Cobb County School District. Questions concerning policies and practices of an individual school may be addressed to the building principal or the Cobb County School District, 514 Glover Street, Marietta, GA 30060.

## **ADMINISTRATIVE TEAM**

Angela Stewart .....Principal  
Jonathan Brown .....Assistant Principal / Athletic Director  
Bryan DeFreezer .....Assistant Principal  
Cassandra Mathious..... Assistant Principal  
Brandon Morris.....Assistant Principal/Curriculum  
Yolanda Rogers..... Assistant Principal  
Amy Pothel ..... Assistant Principal  
Dr. Charles Few.....Student Support Administrator

### **SCHOOL COUNSELORS**

Myesha Davis .....Department Chair/ Mim - Sc  
Brianna Berry.....A - Dau  
Heather Boyle.....Hom- Mil  
Myranda Calloway.....Dav - Hol  
Devante Washington.....Sd - Z

### **DEPARTMENT CHAIRS**

Sylvia Spruill.....English  
April Adkins .....Mathematics  
Chelsea Scroggs .....Science  
Kate Gaffney.....Social Studies  
Sarah Bowers .....World Languages  
Sara Stickle .....Fine Arts  
Katherine Brink .....Business/Career Technical  
Susan Milam .....Physical Education  
Annette Tucker .....Special Education

### **MEDIA SPECIALISTS**

Traci Hill.....Media Specialist/Department Chair

Mayra Recinos.....Media Paraprofessional

### CLERICAL STAFF

Latoshia Breazeale.....School Secretary  
Anna Mills.....Front Office Clerk  
Crystal Frizie ..... Scheduling Clerk  
Lisa Daves .....Pupil Personnel Clerk  
Cliff Donlan ..... Counseling Office Clerk  
Natasha Mitchell..... Counseling Office Clerk  
Melissa Garrido .....Athletic Clerk  
Anne Thwaites.....Discipline/Parking Clerk  
Sandra Worden.....Bookkeeper

### SUPPORT STAFF

Melanie Mullins ..... School Nurse  
Antoinette Frazier .....Social Worker  
Sharon Thompson.....School Psychologist  
Alee McLean.....Head Custodian  
Krysztof Rubacha..... Head Custodian  
Sharon Wesley .....Cafeteria Manager  
Officer David Dunkerton .....Campus Officer  
Officer David Graham..... Campus Officer

## 2025-2026 Bell Schedules

### Regular Bell Schedule

<b>RELEASE BELL</b>	<b>8:15</b>
<b>1<sup>st</sup> PERIOD</b>	<b>8:20 - 9:50</b>
<b>2<sup>nd</sup> PERIOD</b>	<b>9:56 – 11:36</b>
<b>3<sup>rd</sup> PERIOD</b>	<b>11:42 - 1:54</b>
<b>A-LUNCH</b>	<b>11:42 - 12:11</b>
<b>B-LUNCH</b>	<b>12:16 - 12:45</b>
<b>C-LUNCH</b>	<b>12:50 - 1:19</b>
<b>D-LUNCH</b>	<b>1:24 - 1:54</b>
<b>4<sup>TH</sup> PERIOD</b>	<b>2:00 - 3:30</b>

### Wednesday Hawk Hour Schedule

<b>RELEASE BELL</b>	<b>8:15</b>
<b>1<sup>st</sup> PERIOD</b>	<b>8:20 - 9:28</b>
<b>HOMEROOM</b>	<b>9:34 - 9:50</b>
<b>2<sup>nd</sup> PERIOD</b>	<b>9:56 - 11:04</b>
<b>3<sup>rd</sup> PERIOD</b>	<b>11:10 – 1:10</b>
<b>A-LUNCH</b>	<b>11:10 - 11:35</b>
<b>B-LUNCH</b>	<b>11:40 - 12:05</b>
<b>C-LUNCH</b>	<b>12:10 - 12:35</b>
<b>D-LUNCH</b>	<b>12:40 - 1:10</b>
<b>HAWK HOUR</b>	<b>1:16 – 2:16</b>
<b>4<sup>TH</sup> PERIOD</b>	<b>2:22 - 3:30</b>

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## **ACADEMIC/OPERATIONAL PROCEDURES**

### **HOMEROOM**

All students assigned to grade-level advisement/homeroom groups will meet between 1st and 2nd blocks on Wednesdays. Students who are not scheduled in a face-to-face class during 1st block are still expected to report to their assigned homeroom, where attendance will be taken.

### **HAWK HOUR**

Hawk Hour is a school-wide intervention/enrichment hour built into the bell schedule once a week between 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> blocks on Wednesdays. Students will have the opportunity to select their Hawk Hour session weekly. Teachers can place students in sessions based on grades; therefore, some students may not have a choice. We will support students academically, whether they prefer it or not, during Hawk Hour. All students shall participate. Dates and/or changes will be communicated promptly.

### **BLOCK SCHEDULING**

The school calendar and instructional time are based on a four-by-four block schedule. Each day is organized into four blocks, or four periods, of instructional time. Most students are enrolled in four (4) classes per semester.

### **GRADING SCALE**

The Cobb County School District observes the following grade scale:

A 90 - 100	B 80 - 89	C 74 -79
D 70 - 73	F Below 70	

## **REPORT CARDS/PROGRESS REPORTS**

Report cards are issued every six weeks. Only the 18-week grades are recorded on the student's academic transcript. Parents and students can access current course grades and attendance information at any time through the Synergy ParentVUE and StudentVUE portals. Report cards are published in ParentVue/StudentVue every six weeks.

Conduct grades are given during each grading period and reported to parents on each progress report/report card.

The following is a guide to conduct grading:

Satisfactory - Needs no correction  
Needs Improvement - Needs some correction  
Unsatisfactory-Needs repeated correction

### GRADE POINT AVERAGE/QUALITY POINTS

A student's grade point average (GPA) is based on quality points awarded for each grade earned. All courses taken in high school impact the GPA whether the student passes or fails the course. Quality points are awarded as listed:

QUALITY POINTS		
Regular Courses	Honors Courses (see school registration forms)	Advanced Placement (AP), and college/University courses as described in Rule IDCH-R
		International Baccalaureate (IB)  4 <sup>th</sup> and 5 <sup>th</sup> Year Foreign Language  Mathematics Courses: Multi-Variable Calculus  Science Courses: Advanced Physics Robotics Advanced Genetics/DNA Research Advanced Scientific Internship Chemical and Material Science Engineering Advanced Scientific Research
A = 4 Quality Points	A = 4.5 Quality Points	A = 5 Quality Points
B = 3 Quality Points	B = 3.5 Quality Points	B = 4 Quality Points
C = 2 Quality Points	C = 2.5 Quality Points	C = 3 Quality Points
D = 1 Quality Points	D = 1.5 Quality Points	D = 2 Quality Points
F = 0 Quality Points	F = 0 Quality Points	F = 0 Quality Points

**HONOR ROLL**  
Students with a weighted GPA of 3.50-3.99 at the end of each academic year are placed on the Honor Roll. Students

with a weighted GPA of 4.00 or higher are placed on the Principal's Honor Roll.

### **HONOR GRADUATES**

After the final computation of the grade point average, Honor Graduates are defined as students with a weighted GPA of 3.50 or higher.

### **PROMOTION/RETENTION**

CCSD Admin Rule IHE-R outlines promotion/retention criteria, which are based on the number and type of credits/units a student has earned. Listed below are the requirements from IHE-R for promotion to each grade level:

- 10<sup>th</sup> grade: 5 units, including one unit each of required English/Language Arts, Math, and Science.
- 11<sup>th</sup> grade: 10 units, including two units each of required English/Language Arts, Math, and Science.
- 12<sup>th</sup> grade: 16 units and entering 4th year in high school based on the 9<sup>th</sup> grade entry date.

Students who are retained will remain in the same grade-level homeroom the entire year and must retake the failed classes needed for promotion.

**Important:** Participation in Homecoming court, Hoopcoming court, or purchasing prom tickets is based on your enrolled grade, not your ninth-grade entry date. Only students in 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> grade homerooms are eligible to buy Prom tickets.

### **GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS**

The Cobb County Board of Education, in conjunction with the Georgia State Board of Education, offers one standard set of high school graduation requirements for all students

to earn a regular diploma. To receive a diploma, students must satisfy these minimum requirements:

<b>SUBJECT</b>	<b>REQUIREMENTS</b>
<b>English</b>	<b>4 units</b> , must include: 1 unit of 9 <sup>th</sup> grade Literature and 1 unit of American Literature <b>or</b> AP Language (Am Lit)
<b>Mathematics</b>	<b>4 units</b> : Algebra, Geometry, Algebra 2, and a fourth math credit (Pre-Calculus, AMDM, Statistical Reasoning, or AP Statistics)
<b>Science</b>	<b>4 units</b> :, must include: 1 unit Biology, 1 unit of Physics/Physical Science, 1 unit of Chemistry, Earth Systems, Environmental Science or an AP Course, and 1 unit of a 4 <sup>th</sup> science.
<b>Social Studies</b>	<b>3 units</b> , must include: 1 unit World History, 1 unit U. S. History, ½ unit American Government, ½ unit Principles of Economics
<b>Health/Physical Education</b>	½ unit Health ½ unit Personal Fitness
<b>Career, Technical, and Agricultural Ed and/or Fine Arts and/or World Language)</b>	<b>3 units</b> (any combination, although 3 CTAE units are recommended for a career pathway, and at least 2 units of the same foreign language is required for college admission)
<b>Electives</b>	<b>4 units</b>
<b>TOTAL UNITS</b>	<b>23 UNITS (Minimum)</b>

(CCSD Admin Rule HIF-R Graduation Requirements contains more detailed information and is available online.)

### SENIOR MINIMUM DAY

The minimum day for seniors in the fourth year of school shall be limited to a reduction of one class period of the school day during the spring semester. The remaining three instructional blocks must be scheduled consecutively. Students may NOT enroll in Minimum Day and either

Mentorship or Work-Based Learning in the same semester. Seniors must be on track to graduate with their cohort to be eligible for Minimum Day. Seniors who choose a minimum day must be off campus no later than fifteen (15) minutes after their last class. Failure to comply can result in administrative action. **\*It is the minimum day student's responsibility to be aware of alternate bell schedules (i.e. homeroom, Hawk Hour, early release, assemblies, and pep rallies).** Seniors considering the minimum day option should consider their grades, transcripts, and plans for post-secondary education.

### **MENTORSHIP**

Mentorship is a class offered for juniors and seniors on track for graduation. This course provides students with the opportunity to develop essential workplace skills. Students must have a minimum GPA of 2.75, good attendance, and a minimum of tardiness. Additionally, they must have no Saturday School, ISS, or OSS records from the previous semester. This class counts as an elective credit only. There are higher dress code and behavior expectations for mentorship students. Students who take this class should be dedicated to the office they are assigned and should represent Hillgrove High School professionally and courteously.

### **WORK-BASED LEARNING (WBL) PROGRAM**

WBL is a course offered in the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> blocks that enables students to participate in a mentor-supervised, on-the-job work experience for career awareness and exploration, earning school credit. Students select a specific career field or industry's job in which to participate that relates to their completed career, fine arts, or advanced placement coursework. Students may leave campus 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> block daily for work. The Work-Based Learning Program Coordinator visits the job mentor to assess student performance and provides supervision to support skill development. The student will maintain a portfolio that contains records of hours worked on the job and completed career development assignments. Students may be placed in a part-time job, paid or unpaid internships, or apprenticeships that are mentor-supervised.

All WBL students must meet the following requirements:



1. Be on track to graduate (Junior or Senior)
2. 2.50 GPA or higher
3. Currently employed or have a paid or unpaid internship (must have placement by the beginning of the semester)
4. Work a minimum of 7.5 hours a week
5. Placement must be relevant to career interests and coursework (can include career courses, JROTC, fine arts, and AP classes)
6. Must have transportation to and from the work site
7. May NOT be enrolled in Minimum Day or Mentorship

## TESTING

### End-of-Course Assessments (Georgia Milestones)

High school students take an End-of-Course assessment in courses designated by the State Board of Education. These courses are Algebra I, Literature and Composition II, US History, and Biology. These assessments serve as the final exam for the course and contribute 10% to the student's final course grade. Students who do not take the End-of-Course assessment receive a zero for the test. End-of-Course assessment scores are posted to transcripts.

### Final Exams

Comprehensive final exams are administered at the end of each course (except those with an EOC assessment) and account for 10% of the final course grade. **Students may not be given a final exam early.**

In the event of extenuating circumstances, students may be permitted to take a test after the scheduled exam period. It is the responsibility of students/parents to arrange with their class teachers to make up any missed final exams.

### Advanced Placement Exams

Students enrolled in Advanced Placement courses are encouraged to take the AP Exam for that course. AP Exams will be administered in early May and are graded on a 1-5 point scale. Students who earn a score of 3 or higher on an AP exam may be eligible to earn college credit. (Check with the colleges that interest you to see their AP score credit equivalencies.)

Visit <https://apstudent.collegeboard.org/home> for additional information.

### **AFTER-SCHOOL TUTORIAL PROGRAM**

Hillgrove High School offers after-school tutoring for students needing assistance in English, Mathematics, Science, Social Studies, and Spanish. The tutorial program meets on Tuesdays and Thursdays each week from 3:45 p.m. to 4:45 p.m. Students must be on time and bring the required materials needed for the tutorial session. Transportation is not provided for students participating in the tutoring program. Parents are responsible for transportation, and students are required to leave campus immediately following the tutoring session.

## **SCHOOL COUNSELING DEPARTMENT**

### **THE COUNSELING OFFICE**

The Counseling Office is in the front of the building, across from the main office. The office hours are from 7:45 a.m. to 3:45 p.m. Counselors facilitate individual, group, and classroom guidance related to students' academic, personal/social, and career success. The primary focus is on postsecondary planning and career counseling. Information concerning testing, tutors, school registration, and advisement may also be obtained in the Counseling Office. Students may stop in the Counseling Office to schedule an appointment with their counselor.

### **STUDENT ADVISEMENT**

The course advisement process is available for 9th- and 11th-grade students. The 11<sup>th</sup> grade advisement is held in the fall, and the counselors will schedule the parents and students for an appointment. The 9th-grade advisement is held in the spring. Parents, teachers, and counselors are included in this process. This team makes decisions regarding a student's academic progress and outlines a recommended course of action for future study. Classroom/Group counseling lessons for each grade level address academic, personal/social, and career development, which is also a part of the advisement process. School counselors are available by individual appointment to discuss a student's progress at any time.

### **COLLEGE APPLICATION PROCEDURES**

A packet outlining these procedures is available on the Hillgrove Counseling webpage or in the counseling office. A counselor is available to assist you throughout this process. Plan early!!

### **COLLEGE ENTRANCE EXAMS**

The SAT (Scholastic Aptitude Test - [www.collegeboard.org](http://www.collegeboard.org)) and the ACT (American College Testing Assessment - [www.act.org](http://www.act.org)) are college entrance exams accepted by most colleges and universities. Students should consider taking both the ACT and the SAT to expand their options for post-secondary study. Students should consult the admissions office of their chosen college to determine the specific requirements. SAT and ACT registration information, study guides, and prep opportunities are available in the counseling office. These tests are given approximately seven times each year between July and June. Information on registration fees, deadlines, and testing dates and locations is available in the counseling office.

The PACT is a preliminary ACT that 9<sup>th</sup> grade students take in the fall at no charge. The PSAT/NMSQT is a preliminary SAT that 10<sup>th</sup> grade students take in the fall at no charge. Juniors seeking to qualify for the National Merit Scholarship Program who choose to take the PSAT must register for the exam and pay the exam fee.

### **COLLEGE AND CAREER CENTER**

A counselor is available most mornings from 7:45 a.m. to 8:15 a.m. to provide information and assist students with any questions they may have. Students are encouraged to stop by for information, including ACT/SAT preparation, Financial Aid, College and Career Support, and assistance with Naviance. The center is located by the counseling office.

### **SCHEDULE CHANGES**

Students were allowed to select their courses during the registration period. Students also received a printed list of the courses they had chosen and were allowed to change their course selections. The master schedule was then created based on the students' course selections. **As a result, requests for schedule changes will only be considered for scheduling errors.**

### **DECEMBER GRADUATES**

Juniors who plan to graduate at the end of the 1st semester of their senior year must complete a December Grad form with their counselor before the end of their junior year.

### **FINANCIAL AID**

Information concerning scholarships, grants, and loans is available through the counseling office. Financial aid information is updated regularly on our Counseling webpage under "Scholarships." A financial aid meeting, held in the fall, provides students and parents with insight into completing financial aid forms.

### **HOPE SCHOLARSHIP**

Georgia residents who graduate from high school and meet specific grade point average (G.P.A.) requirements are eligible for the HOPE scholarship at a state public college, university, or state vocational/technical school. Students should see their counselor and GAFutures.org for additional information.

### **SCHOOL SOCIAL WORKER**

The social worker addresses issues that include but are not limited to the following: attendance problems, depression, drug abuse, and teen pregnancy. The school social worker collaborates with community agencies, the home, and the school to provide the best service that complements the student's needs.

### **TRANSCRIPTS**

Transcripts of a student's academic record can be obtained through a request on the student's MyPayments Plus account. Transcripts are not released without a student's written consent. An unofficial transcript is free. Official copies are \$2.00

Reasons a student may request official transcripts include college entrance, scholarship applications, financial aid requests, and prospective employment. *No transcripts will be mailed until all fines/fees are reconciled.*

### **WORK PERMITS**

Students who are required to have a work permit for employment may obtain one from the front office.

## **WITHDRAWALS**

Students withdrawing from school for any reason should report to the Counseling Office to complete the proper forms. A parent or guardian must accompany the student to complete the withdrawal process. This should be done the day before the last day the student will be in school. All books must be returned, and any outstanding fines or fees must be paid, before records will be forwarded.

## **ATTENDANCE PROCEDURES**

### **ATTENDANCE OFFICE**

The Attendance Office is located in the front lobby of the school, adjacent to the Main Office (Admin 1). The office is open Monday through Friday, 7:45 a.m. to 3:45 p.m.

### **ATTENDANCE RULES**

Hillgrove strongly encourages student attendance. Students must be present for at least one-half of the school day, excluding the lunch period, to be considered "in attendance" for a school day. For a student to be counted present for a class period/block, they must be present in the class for at least one-half of the period or block.

By CCSD Administrative Rule JB-R the following are considered excused absences:

1. Student Illness: Students who are personally ill and whose attendance in school would endanger their health or the health of others (To assist in preventing the spread of illness, students may return to school 24 hours after the last episode of a fever, vomiting and/or diarrhea-Reference form JGC-6).
2. Religious Holidays: Students on recognized holidays observed by their faith, which necessitate an absence.
3. Family Illness/Death: Students in whose immediate family there is a serious illness or death (Immediate family is defined as mother, father, siblings, grandparents, stepparents, and legal guardian).

4. Medical Appointments: A doctor's note must be provided that includes the student's name, date, and time.
5. Government: Armed services pre-induction physical, court order, foster care proceedings, Page for Georgia General Assembly, active duty deployment, return, or leave from the combat zone of a parent/guardian.
6. Inclement Weather: Conditions that render school attendance impossible or hazardous to the student's health or safety.

Any other reason for a student to be late or absent will be considered "unexcused," including family or personal emergency, out-of-town, non-medical appointments (babysitting, driver's license, passports, etc.), car trouble, power outage, oversleeping, or missing the bus.

### **ABSENCE NOTES**

A letter written by a parent/guardian and/or licensed physician explaining the reasons for the absences must be presented to the school authorities by all students on the date of return to school. *Failure to submit a note to the attendance office within three school days after a student's return from an absence will result in the absence being marked as unexcused.* Please include the student's ID number and his/her **full legal name** on the note. Also, ensure that all contact information is legible.

### **LATE ARRIVALS**

Students should avoid being late for school. If arrival at school is between 8:20 a.m. and 8:30 a.m., then students should obtain a tardy pass from one of the Late Arrival Stations. If arrival is after 8:36 a.m., then the student should report to the attendance office to sign in and receive an admit slip. Students will be assigned discipline consequences for every 4<sup>th</sup> unexcused tardy (whether to school or class).

### **CHECK-OUT/EARLY DISMISSAL**

A note written by the parent/guardian must be submitted to the attendance office 24 hours in advance to receive permission to leave school early. The note must include a phone number where a parent or guardian can be reached. If the parent or guardian cannot be reached, then the

student may not leave. All student driver notes will be verified. The early dismissal request will be exchanged for a dismissal pass showing the time to report back to the attendance office for dismissal. Students will receive their dismissal pass from the attendance office. The parent (or their designee) must come to the attendance office to pick up the student(s). If a student leaves school without a dismissal pass, disciplinary action will be taken for failure to properly check out.

Anyone picking up a student must be on the student's emergency contact list and present a photo ID. **If a student returns to school on the same day, they must check in through the Attendance Office with a note or documentation showing the reason for their absence.**

All early dismissals must be submitted in writing; phone calls are not accepted. There will be special student activities, such as the prom, pep rallies, and holiday breaks, that will require meeting a deadline (advance notice) to release a student early from school. Parent notes and emails received after the deadline will not be accepted.

**Parents/guardians may check out their student any day by 3:15 p.m. in person.**

**All check-outs/check-ins are marked unexcused** unless a parent's or doctor's note is provided, and the reason stated on the note is considered excused.

Where possible, parents are encouraged to schedule doctors' appointments for students after school hours. Students must be present for two (2) blocks to be eligible to participate in extracurricular activities.

### **CERTIFICATES OF SCHOOL ENROLLMENT/ TEENAGE AND ADULT DRIVER RESPONSIBILITY ACT (TAADRA)**

Legislation requires local school systems to issue Certificates of School Enrollment (DDS-1) to certify that a student is enrolled in and not under expulsion from a public or private school, making them eligible for a driver's license or learner's permit. This legislation (TAADRA) applies to minors between the ages of 15 and 18. Certificates are



issued through the attendance office with a 48-hour turnaround. A \$2.00 processing fee (payable via MyPaymentsPlus) applies to each certificate. During the school year, Certificates of School Enrollment are good for 30 days. During the summer, the DDS will accept certificates that are dated near the end of the school year.

For reporting purposes, a non-compliant student is defined as one who has dropped out of school without graduating or has been expelled from school during the current school year.

### **COLLEGE VISIT PROCEDURES**

You and your parent/guardian may plan to visit colleges and universities as you make post-high school graduation plans. Please be aware of the following procedures regarding absences because of these visits:

- A. For these absences to be considered excused, official documentation from the institution, including dates and times of tours, appointments with admissions counselors, etc. (on college or university letterhead) **MUST** be turned in to the Attendance Office when the student returns to school. Brochures, campus maps, or email confirmations of the visit or tour will not qualify as appropriate and sufficient documentation of a college visit.
- B. There will be a limit of two (2) days per academic year, which will be excused for these types of visits for a senior or junior student.

### **EXTENDED ABSENCES**

After a student has missed four consecutive days due to illness, the parent or guardian should contact the Counseling Office to request make-up work. Work may be picked up 24 hours after the request is made. Long-term absences may require a homebound teacher (Please see the counseling department about hospital/homebound procedures). Requests for consideration of extended absences due to family trips/activities must be submitted in writing to the attendance office clerk before the absences.

The absences will be considered unexcused, but the opportunity for make-up work will be available.

### **NOTIFICATION OF EXCESSIVE ABSENCES**

By CCSD Admin Rule JB-R and Attendance Protocol Form JB-5, when a student receives the following:

Three (3) unexcused absences: The teacher contacts the student's family.

Five (5) unexcused absences: Written notification is sent to the student's family.

Seven (7) unexcused absences: A referral may be made to the School Social Worker. A truancy intervention panel may be scheduled to discuss excessive absences.

Ten (10) or more consecutive days of unexcused absences may result in the withdrawal of the student without parental permission per Administrative Rule JBC-R.

After **three (3) days of excused and unexcused absences**, the student may be required to provide a doctor's note to excuse any further absences, including early dismissals. If no note is provided, then the absences will be unexcused. The three, five, seven, and ten-day absence rules are cumulative for the school year.

### **TARDIES TO CLASS**

Tardiness is a disruption to the learning environment for every student. Any student who is tardy to class must obtain a tardy pass. **Students will receive consequences for every fourth tardy.** Students receive Saturday school on the 4<sup>th</sup> (2 hours) and 8<sup>th</sup> (4 hours) tardy. Subsequent tardies will result in more serious consequences, such as in-school suspension.

### **SCHOOL CLINIC**

The clinic and the school nurse are located inside the Attendance Office. Students who become ill during the school day should report to the clinic.

### **ACCIDENTS**

Any accidents or student injuries should be reported to the classroom teacher immediately. The school nurse should also be notified immediately.

### **FIRST AID AND OTHER MEDICAL ASSISTANCE**

Students requiring minor attention should report to their teacher and obtain a pass to the clinic. If a student needs to visit the clinic during lunch, they should first obtain permission from an administrator located in the cafeteria.

STUDENT DRIVERS BEING CHECKED OUT THROUGH THE CLINIC WITH COMPLAINTS OF HEADACHES, MIGRAINES, VOMITING, FEELING DIZZY OR LIGHTHEADED, EYE CONCERNS, FEVER OVER 100.7, PAIN, OR AN INJURY WILL NOT BE ALLOWED TO DRIVE THEMSELVES HOME. A PARENT/GUARDIAN OR DESIGNATED EMERGENCY CONTACT (ON FILE WITH THE SCHOOL) WILL BE REQUIRED TO COME AND PICK UP THE STUDENT.

### **MEDICATIONS**

A school employee or trained clinic worker, with written permission from the child's parent/guardian, will assist the student in taking prescribed medication. Prescription drugs must be stored in the clinic in their original containers, bearing the patient's (student's) name, the name of the physician who prescribed the medication, and the name of the pharmacy that filled the prescription.

Controlled medications (ADD, ADHD, and pain medications) must be brought to the clinic by a parent/guardian. Students are not allowed to bring these medications to school themselves. They must be in the original container,

bear the name of the patient (student), the name of the physician prescribing the medication, and the name of the pharmacy filling the prescription. Students who are found with these or any other substance listed under the GA Controlled Substances Act will be found in violation of the CCSD Administrative Rule JCDA-R Student Code of Conduct.

## **QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS MEDICATIONS AND HEALTH CARE AT SCHOOL**

### **1. Does the school provide medications?**

No, the school does not provide medication. Medication must be brought to the school clinic by the parent or guardian. An "Authorization to Give Medication" Form JGCD-R must be completed and filed with the School Clinic.

### **2. May the parent/guardian bring and give medications to their student?**

Yes, parents/guardians may come to school to administer their child's medication. They should visit the school clinic, where the student will be called from class.

### **3. Where can I find authorization forms?**

Authorization forms are found in the school clinic or online. To find forms online, go to [www.cobbk12.org](http://www.cobbk12.org). Locate "General Info," and then click on "Student Health Services." Next, click on "My Student Needs Medicine at School" located on the left side of the page. Please print and complete the authorization form, then return it to the clinic along with the medication.

### **4. Why do medications have to be in the original container?**

The original container provides information from the manufacturer about over-the-counter medications, including the name of the medication, the proper dosage, how the medication should be administered, the frequency of administration, potential side effects, and the date by which the medication is no longer effective (an expiration date).

The original prescription container includes the name of the medication, the patient's name, the name of the

prescribing licensed healthcare provider, the proper dose, instructions on how and when to administer the medication, the duration of treatment, the expiration date of the medication, and the pharmacy where it was purchased. All this information is necessary for the School Nurse to administer medication safely.

**5. What if my child's medication or dosage changes?**

Parents/guardians must inform the School Nurse of any changes to their child's medication. New medication or different doses will not be given unless the parent completes a new medication form. The information on the prescription bottle label must match the information on the latest consent form.

**6. May my child carry over-the-counter medication at school?**

High school students may carry any over-the-counter medication and do not need to complete an "Authorization to Carry Over-the-Counter Medication." Students are not allowed to share any medication, whether over-the-counter or prescription, with others. Doing so could be a violation of the Student Code of Conduct and may also result in the student losing the privilege of carrying medication on their person.

**7. Can my child take herbal medication at school?**

No. Over-the-counter diet pills, vitamins, dietary supplements, including minerals or herbs, will not be given to a student on campus. Such medication should be administered at home by the parent.

**8. Can my child carry his asthma inhaler at school?**

Yes, students may carry inhalers, EpiPens, or insulin with a completed "Authorization to Carry Prescription Medication" Form JGCD-10 on file in the clinic.

**9. Why is there a place for the health care provider to sign the authorization form for my child to carry their inhaler at school?**

The health care provider's signature indicates that your child has been instructed on the proper use of his/her

inhaler and that your child is responsible for administering it to himself/herself without supervision. The form can be faxed to the health care provider and then faxed back to the School Nurse.

**10. Why do I have to have a prescription label on the inhaler?**

The prescription on the inhaler includes the child's name, how often it is to be used, and what dose is appropriate for your child. It is challenging to keep the label directly on the inhaler. You can write your child's name on the inhaler and bring the labeled prescription box to the clinic.

**11. If I give my child Tylenol for a fever, can I still send them to school?**

If your child's fever is more than 100.9 degrees F before you give them Tylenol, they cannot come to school. Your child may return to school when his/her temperature is below 101 degrees F without Tylenol or any other fever-reducing medication for 24 hours and if he/she feels well and is not showing any signs of illness.

**12. If I give my child Tylenol for aches and pains, then can I still send them to school?**

Your child is welcome at school while taking Tylenol and any other over-the-counter medication for an injury, dental work, or other medical reasons. However, if the medication is for a sore throat, earache, or flu-like symptoms, please keep the individual at home.

**13. If I treat my child for lice, then can I send them back to school the same day?**

Yes. Please bring your child back to the School Nurse, free of live lice, to be rechecked.

**14. Why do I have to bring in a box top to verify lice treatment?**

A box top from the product provides the School Nurse with the type of treatment used and confirms that treatment was provided for the child, as a prescription is not necessary for the treatment of head lice.

**15. How much time do I have to get to the school if the nurse calls me to pick up my child because he/she is sick?**

You, or a person you designate, should arrive within one hour of being called. Most school clinics have a designated area where your child can rest for a short period. You, or a person you designate (that is on the Emergency Contact form at the school), must arrive within 15 minutes if your child has a fever of 104 degrees F or higher. Otherwise, 911 will be called.

**16. What happens to my child's medication at the end of the school year?**

All medications not picked up by parents/guardians by the last day of school will be destroyed.

**17. Why should my child take the first dose of the new medication at home?**

We want your student back in school as soon as possible after an illness, diagnosis, or medication changes. It is for the safety of your student that you observe him/her for any unsuspected reactions to a new medication and report it to the prescribing licensed health care provider.

**18. How can I add people to my Emergency Contact List to pick up my child?**

Parents/guardians may add names to the Emergency Contact List as needed. This may be done at the school clinic. Picture ID must be shown. The person being added to the contact list must be at least 18 years of age.

## **MEDIA CENTER**

Hillgrove Media Center hours are 7:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. Monday through Friday. Students are encouraged to use the Media Center before, during, or after school for research and individual study.

Students should have a clear purpose for visiting, whether it is to study, read, or complete coursework. Collaboration is encouraged but should be at a respectful volume (whisper) reflective of a studious environment. Several

rooms in the Media Center may be reserved for group work. See the media staff to reserve a space.

Passes are required for students to use the Media Center during class periods or at lunch. The pass should be legible and show the date, time, student's full name, and the signature of the class teacher or administrator. Students who wish to use the Media Center during their lunch period should obtain a pass from a teacher in advance.

### **RULES AND PROCEDURES**

- Students are welcome anytime during library hours. You must have a pass during the school day/lunch.
- Students can borrow 10 print items at a time.
- Print items are checked out for four weeks. Return in time to avoid paying fines of \$0.10 per day.
- Equipment, such as cameras, headphones, flash drives, etc., is for overnight checkout only. The fine for an overdue equipment item is \$1.00 per day.
- "In-Library use" items, such as phone chargers and laptop computers, do not leave the library at any time.
- Use our 35 desktop computers for any educational purpose by all county policies.
- Printing and scanning are available at no charge. Please inquire about color printing (new); a fee will apply.
- The Student Production Room comes stocked with most of your presentation needs. Count on our paper, markers, pens, glue, and die-cuts to help make your projects amazing!
- Media staff can help with your research, suggest titles, and help with technology issues.
- Maintain the "quiet" library policy. Whispering permitted. Remember, rooms are available for collaborative groups.

### **COBB DIGITAL ACCESS - 24/7 ACCESS**

The CCSD Library Media Education Department provides



the Cobb Digital Library for all stakeholders. Access the CDL from the Cobb Homepage, from the Hillgrove Homepage, or at <https://cobb.mackinvia.com>. Password information can be found on the Media Center website. CDL includes databases, e-books, and library catalog access.

### **TECHNOLOGY USE**

The Media Center has computers, printers, and equipment for student use. Individual students may use the computers at any time during regular hours, except when they are reserved for class use. All patrons must abide by the school district's policies and regulations regarding the use of technology. Per the CCSD Administrative Rule IFBG-R, students using district technology should access only those websites and applications that are educationally relevant to the curriculum as directed by a teacher.

### **MICROSOFT OFFICE 365**

Cobb County students can download the full version of Microsoft Office, including familiar applications such as Word, Excel, PowerPoint, and OneNote, through Office 365. Office 365 is a user-based service and allows each student to install Microsoft Office on up to five PCs or Macs and five mobile devices (including iPads). Additionally, access to Microsoft Office mobile applications is available on iPhone and Android phones (Office Mobile applications are included with all Windows phones). Students' county email through Microsoft Office Outlook:

[studentfirstname.studentlastname@students.cobbk12.org](mailto:studentfirstname.studentlastname@students.cobbk12.org)

### **SCHOOL COMMUNICATIONS**

CCSD Administrative Rule IHAD-R recognizes that effective communication between the school and the home is essential to the success of students. The CCSD further acknowledges that the delivery of information to the home is a responsibility that must be shared by school personnel

and students. Parents should provide valid daytime contact numbers and email addresses. All students are expected to convey written notes, messages, deficiencies, report cards, and other documents between the school and their parents/guardians. School personnel shall be responsible for making reasonable effort in the communication process, including e-mail, telephone calls, and messages to bring attention to situations where the educational welfare of students may be in jeopardy.

The Hillgrove administration strongly encourages students and parents to communicate their concerns to teachers as soon as a problem becomes evident. If a student has a situation or problem in a class, they should schedule a meeting with the teacher. If the issue is not resolved, then the student and parent/guardian should schedule an appointment with the teacher.

If the problem persists, then the parent/guardian and teacher should schedule an appointment with the appropriate counselor/administrator. At any time, parents/guardians may access their student's grades through Synergy ParentVUE portal online. We encourage parents to maintain active communication with teachers. Effective communication etiquette is essential for both parents and teachers. Respect is necessary for effective communication. All stakeholders are asked to refrain from using inappropriate tones and comments when making an effort to communicate. If students/parents have any incidents that may be deemed unacceptable, then don't hesitate to get in touch with the administration.

## **SYNERGY PARENTVUE AND STUDENTVUE**

The Cobb County School District utilizes Synergy ParentVUE and StudentVUE to provide 24/7 online access to student grades, report cards, attendance information, and athletic registration. Students will log in to the site using their existing network user ID (student ID) and password (no new accounts are required). Parents must bring a photo ID to our counseling office to obtain an activation key. This activation process is only needed when creating a new account.

### **CTLS Parent**

The school will utilize CTLS Parent to forward general communication to parents/guardians. Parents/guardians are encouraged to access the school website for curricular and extra-curricular information.

### **SCHOOL WEBSITE**

Students and parents/guardians are encouraged to check the Hillgrove High School website frequently. You may access the Hillgrove website through the CCSD website at <http://www.cobbk12.org/hillgrove>

### **PTSA eNews**

eNews is an email service provided by Hillgrove's PTSA. eNews sends out regular emails to subscribers regarding Hillgrove High School activities. The service also includes information regarding the Cobb County School District, as well as local, regional, and national PTSA news. Additionally, eNews sends out communication relevant to the Hillgrove community/stakeholders. You may sign up for these emails through the Hillgrove Website or access the eNews directly on the Hillgrove Website.

## **SCHOOL PROCEDURES**

### **BUS CONDUCT/TRANSPORTATION**

Maintaining proper conduct while on the school bus is the responsibility of the student. Students are expected to observe the same code of conduct as they would on the school campus. Serious or repeated misconduct may result in disciplinary action, including suspension from the bus. Students must board the bus at their assigned bus stop.

Following CCSD policy, students may be transported to and from their residences only. Students may not ride a middle school or elementary school bus to or from school. If a bus is late to school, then students will be given an excused late bus pass. Students must provide this pass to their teacher when entering the class.

*Students must board and exit buses at the correct bus stop. At the end of the school day, students have five minutes to board buses. If students have not boarded buses within the allotted time, they will be left on campus.* Should this occur, students will be allowed to use the telephone in the Main Office to contact their parent and/or guardian.

### **CAFETERIA/LUNCH PERIOD**

Please visit the Food and Nutrition Services website for current meal prices, menus, nutrient analysis, and staff contacts: <https://www.cobbk12.org/foodservices>

Hillgrove High School offers both a la carte breakfast and lunch. The cafeteria utilizes a computer system that enables parents to pay for student lunches in advance. Students must memorize their Cobb County Student ID number. This is not the student's Social Security Number. Students can deposit money in their accounts at any time. Students should not share their ID number with any other student. Extra food will be sold on a cash-only basis. Students may apply for free or reduced lunch benefits on the application form, which is available from the lunchroom staff or online. Please return this form to the lunchroom manager. They may do this at any point during the school year. Parents may monitor their students' lunch purchases at

<https://www.mypaymentsplus.com/welcome>

Students are expected to display **appropriate behavior** in the cafeteria. Students must attend lunch. They may eat in the cafeteria or the courtyard.

These guidelines should be followed:

- Do not cut the line.
- Dispose of trash in garbage cans.
- Do not leave the campus during lunch.
- During lunch, students should remain in the cafeteria or the courtyard, unless they have a written pass to the Media Center or other specified location.
- Students will follow procedures as instructed by dining hall staff.

- Outside food/deliveries (from parents or DoorDash, Grubhub, Uber Eats, etc.) are not permitted on campus.

### **ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATION DEVICES**

Personal electronic devices for this policy are defined as, but not limited to:

- AirPods/Headphones
- Cell Phones
- Digital Cameras
- Laptops/iPads/Tablet Computers

The leadership of Hillgrove High School recognizes that students have access to technology through their own electronic devices, which classroom teachers can utilize as instructional tools.

Any electronic devices used in the cafeteria must be used with headphones and shall not be loud enough to be heard by other people.

Personal electronic devices may be used in the classroom at the discretion of the teacher, provided:

- It is for educational use.
- It is done under the supervision of the teachers.
- Students follow all classroom rules regarding the instructional use of electronic devices.
- All students must put their electronic devices away and/or turn them off when instructed to do so by any faculty or staff member.
- Students shall always follow all rules regarding the use of personal electronic devices.

For safety reasons, headphones are not permitted in the hallways of Hillgrove High School. Electronic devices shall not be in use by students or teachers during any safety

drills. In the event of a student evacuation, no electronic devices, including cell phones, shall be used.

Faculty and staff shall not make the use of electronic devices for instructional purposes a condition for grading in their classrooms. Consequently, the faculty, staff, and administration of Hillgrove High School, and any employees of the Cobb County School District, are not responsible for any theft, loss, damage, wear and tear, or any altered function or use of a personally owned electronic device.

Students should refrain from posting on any social media outlet (e.g., Twitter, TikTok, Instagram, Snapchat) during the school day. Disciplinary consequences may be assigned to students who post to social media outlets during the instructional day while on school property or at a school-sponsored function.

Students and parents are encouraged to read the Cobb County School District Board Administrative Rule Student Code of Conduct: High School (JCDA-R), specifically Paragraph II, Subsections E, F, and W. This is available on the District website ([www.cobbk12.org](http://www.cobbk12.org)) under the Board Policy Manual contained in the Board of Education tab. Nothing in this local school policy should be construed as being in contradiction with any Board Administrative Rule, Policy, or Guideline.

Students are not allowed to take photographs, audio recordings, or videos of faculty, staff, or other students during the instructional day or at school-sponsored events without the permission of the subject in the recording.

This policy is subject to change at the discretion of the school administration.

### **DISTRICT COMPUTING DEVICE**

The Cobb County School District has implemented a program to provide laptops to all high school and middle school students, supporting their instruction. This initiative aims to offer learning flexibility and options to any family that chooses to receive a device.

A District computing device will be for educational purposes. At no time will the equipment be used for any

purpose other than its intended use, including personal, commercial, or business use. Technology equipment must be returned in the same condition as the item was at the time of checkout. For more information, please reference the Student Laptop Program:

<https://www.cobbk12.org/page/51289/student-laptop-program>

**TECHNOLOGY OFFENSES:** Students who violate the Code of Conduct regarding the misuse of technology may lose the privilege of utilizing District-issued technology for a period to be determined by the administration, which may include permanent revocation of technology privileges. Administration may also limit the use of student-owned technology on school campuses or the use of the District network for academic purposes.

### **SAFETY/EMERGENCY DRILLS**

Code Red Drills will take place periodically throughout the year (minimally once per semester). Students and teachers are given clear expectations on the lock door policy in place by the district.

Fire drills will be held monthly. The warning is a continuous ringing of the fire alarm. Students are expected to exit the building and proceed to a designated area quietly.

Tornado drills will also be conducted periodically. Students must remain quiet and comply with their teacher's directions. No students will be checked out during any emergency drill.

### **FEES AND FINES**

All fees and fines must be paid before a student's withdrawal or graduation from Hillgrove High School. A student's final transcript and diploma will not be released unless all fees and fines have been reconciled.

### **FIELD TRIPS/PERSONAL FIELD TRIPS**

Whenever a student leaves campus on an official school trip, a signed parental consent form must be provided through Passport.

Recognizing that parents may wish to take students on a non-school-sponsored trip, the administration does not want to penalize a student who might otherwise participate in an educational experience outside the classroom. *In compliance with state regulations, the administration must consider such absences as "unexcused," but students can make up their work upon return.* This provision can be offered only to students who request such approval at least five days before the proposed absence. Written requests should be turned in to the pupil personnel clerk in the Attendance Office. Students will then be notified of acceptance or denial of their request.

### **LOCKERS**

A. Lockers are available upon request. Please contact your homeroom teacher.

B. The right is reserved to search a school locker when there is reason to believe a school violation has occurred and at the end of each semester. All lockers are subject to inspection and search by school officials as provided by law. There will be random locker searches.

C. Students should not go to their locker during any class period or during lunch period without a written pass signed by a faculty member.

D. The school is not responsible for items taken from a locker. If students have problems with their lockers, then they should report the problem to Ms. Rogers (Administration 8 office).

E. Students should secure all possessions in a locker before leaving the locker room for P.E.

F. No obscene pictures or illegal substance-oriented pictures, slogans, etc. may be placed inside lockers or on the doors. A student will be held responsible for any extraordinary measures needed to clean an assigned locker at the end of the year.

### **LOST AND FOUND**



Students who misplace personal belongings during the school day should see the receptionist in the Main Office during non-instructional hours.

### **PARKING/AUTOMOBILES - FEES AND POLICIES**

Each student who chooses to park a vehicle at Hillgrove must purchase parking decals according to the following schedule:

<b><u>First Semester</u></b>	<b><u>Price of Decal</u></b>
(Decals Sold Between)	
Aug. 1 - Sept. 30	\$50.00
Oct 1 - Oct. 31	\$45.00
Nov. 1 - Nov. 30	\$40.00
Dec. 1 - Dec. 31	\$30.00

First semester decals expire 12/31/25. Students must complete a second semester parking application with attachments to purchase a new decal.

<b><u>Second Semester</u></b>	<b><u>Price of Decal</u></b>
(Decals Sold Between)	
Jan. 1 - Feb. 28	\$50.00
Mar. 1 - Mar. 31	\$45.00
Apr. 1 - Apr. 30	\$40.00
May 1 - May 21	\$30.00

The CCSD Public Parking Permit Application and Vehicle Registration Form (PAVR-2/06) will be used to advise students and parents of rules and regulations.

Parking applications may be downloaded from the Hillgrove website or Ms. Thwaites, downstairs in the ROTC hallway between classrooms 1301 and 1302.

1. All parking transactions will take place in Ms. Thwaites' office, downstairs ROTC hallway between classrooms 1301 and 1302, Monday through Friday from 7:30 a.m. to 8:10 a.m. Student parking is a non-academic item; therefore, no parking transactions will take place during the school day.
2. Students will be assigned a permanent parking space.
3. Students are not permitted to park in front of the building, in visitor spaces, in staff spaces (marked with yellow lines and numbers,) or at Lovinggood Middle School.

Emergency one-day parking will be limited to 7 days per semester and is subject to the same rules and regulations as stated on the Parking Permit Application. Students must provide the following in order to purchase a one-day parking pass:

1. Current driver's license
2. Current proof of vehicle insurance
3. License plate
4. \$1.00 cash

Parking and traffic violations on campus shall be subject to the following:

1. Fines for minor violations will range from \$15.00 to \$35.00 and must be paid downstairs ROTC hallway between classrooms 1301 and 1302. To the discipline clerk, Ms. Thwaites, the following school day. After that, a \$ 1.00-per-day penalty will be applied. Tickets for 1<sup>st</sup> semester violations will begin on August 21, 2025. Tickets for 2<sup>nd</sup> semester violations will start on January 22, 2026.
2. The speed limit anywhere on campus is 12 MPH.
3. As stated on the Parking Permit Application form, fines not paid the following school day will be assessed an additional \$1.00 per day.
4. Discipline will not reduce the amount of the fine.
5. Moving violations are subject to state traffic citations.
6. **Buses always have the right-of-way on campus.**

**Students may have their parking privilege revoked or suspended. Vehicles may be towed at the owner's expense. Parking privileges may be revoked if the student leaves campus without permission. In such cases, no part of the parking fee will be refunded.**

The drivers/owners of any vehicle will be responsible for the use of their vehicle while on campus and, subsequently, for any violation of the rules and regulations by persons other than themselves if the offense is committed with or in their vehicle. Vehicle owners who utilize the school parking facility agree to maintain adequate liability insurance and must always have proof of insurance available. The CCSD will not be responsible for any losses or damages to the property of users of its facilities, including losses resulting from bodily injury.

Students may go to their cars during the school day with a pass from an administrator.

The right is reserved to search an automobile when there is reason to believe a violation of school regulations has occurred. If a student's vehicle is vandalized or if articles are stolen from their vehicle, a report should be made to the campus officer immediately. A written report of stolen property should also be completed. A report will be filed with the Cobb County Police Department.

## **TEXTBOOKS**

All textbooks assigned to students are the responsibility of the students and, indirectly, their parent/guardian. If the textbooks are lost or not returned after each semester, then parent/guardian must pay for the missing book(s). Failure to return the textbooks/instructional materials assigned will result in the student not being issued textbooks/instructional materials for the following school year and/or semester. Seniors who have outstanding debt may be prohibited from participating in graduation activities.

Pay any textbook fees to the school bookkeeper. Checks should be made payable to Hillgrove High School or cash if student/parent has exact change.

## **VENDING MACHINES**

Vending machines available for student use are located throughout the school. Students should dispose of all trash in an appropriate manner. No food or beverages are allowed in classrooms.

## **VISITORS**

According to CCSD Policy KM-R all persons wishing to visit a Cobb County school must contact the school principal, or his/her designee prior to, or immediately upon entry of school property. The persons must obtain written permission to visit any part of the school. The principal may grant permission at his or her discretion in accordance with school operations. The presence or visitation of unauthorized persons in and about school system facilities or properties may constitute trespassing and may subject visitors to criminal prosecution under the laws of the State of Georgia. A student or employee may not have an unauthorized visitor in class.

Legal Reference: OCGA 20-2-50; 20-2-57; 20-2-5

## **STUDENT ACTIVITIES**

### **ATHLETIC/EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES**

Students are encouraged to participate actively in student clubs and organizations. Hillgrove High School offers a wide variety of clubs. All organizations must be approved by the principal and sponsored by a faculty member. A staff member must be present at all meetings and activities.

### **CONDUCT AT ATHLETIC EVENTS**

Hillgrove High School is a member of the Georgia High School Association. The following statement will be adhered to at each sporting event:

"The GHSA and its member schools have committed to promoting good sportsmanship by student/athletes, coaches, and spectators at all GHSA-sanctioned events. Profanity, degrading remarks, and intimidating actions directed at officials or competitors will not be tolerated and are grounds for removal from the event site. Spectators are not permitted to enter the competition area during warm-ups or while the contest is in progress. Thank you for being so cooperative in promoting good sportsmanship at the event.

Good sportsmanship is essential to Hillgrove's athletic program. As a spectator, a student represents Hillgrove just as much as the athletes do and is responsible for a significant portion of the school's reputation. Support the team enthusiastically, but with consideration for the other team's players and fans. Applaud fine play and good sportsmanship by both teams. Remember that extracurricular activities are an extension of the school day, and student conduct must comply with all district and school behavior policies.

### **ELIGIBILITY (ATHLETICS)**

The Georgia High School Association (GHSA) and CCSD Policy require that students participating in extracurricular activities meet specific eligibility requirements.

To be eligible for participation in athletics, a student must:

1. Pass 2.5 credits the semester preceding participation.
2. Be enrolled in at least 3 classes that offer credit toward graduation.
3. Be on track for graduation as follows:
  - Earned 5 units at the beginning of the 2nd year.
  - Earned 11 units at the beginning of the 3rd year.
  - Earned 17 units at the beginning of the 4th year.

### **GUIDELINES FOR PARTICIPATION IN EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES**

Participation in interscholastic/extracurricular activities in public schools is a privilege. Students will be required to follow the IDF-R policy. The state sets eligibility

requirements, and all students involved in any GHSA-sponsored extracurricular activity must meet state requirements. To encourage students to stay on track for their graduation requirements, the State Board of Education has adopted a policy regulating student participation in extracurricular activities.

The CCSD recognizes the significance of extracurricular activities at the high school level. To assure that students' participation in these activities is in line with their progress toward high school graduation, the following standards shall be observed for student participation in all high school extracurricular activities (For this policy, extracurricular activities include athletic and competitive teams sanctioned by the GHSA, including cheerleading, debate, and one-act plays).

- A. Students must meet all academic eligibility requirements as outlined under "Guidelines for Participation in Extracurricular Activities."
- B. Students who wish to participate in an athletic team must have a physical exam with the information completed in the online athletic registration system through ParentVue. A licensed medical physician, Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine, nurse practitioner, or physician's assistant must conduct the physical exam. An RN or Doctor of Chiropractic Medicine may NOT complete the exam.
- C. Students are not eligible to participate in a GHSA-sanctioned activity after their eighth semester in high school

#### **DRUG/ALCOHOL/FELONY/MISDEMEANOR AND OTHER OFFENSES POLICY FOR INVOLVEMENT IN INTERSCHOLASTIC ACTIVITIES**

To ensure consistency and fairness in handling students involved in extracurricular activities who violate the Drug and Alcohol Policy, CCSD Administrative Rule IDF-R will be followed. Students who are participating in any athletic program and any extracurricular activity may be dismissed by their coach or sponsor if they have been involved in illegal substance use.

## **FUNDRAISING**

All fundraisers must be associated with a school-sponsored activity. *Students are not allowed to sell any item on campus for personal compensation.*

## **STUDENT EVENTS**

All Hillgrove High School student events, including extracurricular, athletic, and other school activities, must be approved by the administration. A Hillgrove faculty member must chaperone all events. Currently enrolled students and their approved guests are the only attendees permitted. Appropriate school rules of conduct are in effect, even if the event occurs off campus and after hours.

## **STUDENT CLUBS AND ORGANIZATIONS**

Students will have the opportunity to participate in a variety of academic, athletic, and fine arts clubs, as well as clubs and organizations dealing with other areas of interest (See the Hillgrove website for a current list).

## **STUDENT RECOGNITION**

The goal of Hillgrove High School is to recognize outstanding students who excel academically, in the arts, and athletically. These acknowledgments are recognized in various ways, including but not limited to announcements, awards programs, and membership in honor societies.

## **YEARBOOK SALES**

Students may purchase yearbooks during the fall ordering period. Order forms will be available, and payments may be made to the Yearbook sponsor. Additional information regarding yearbooks, order dates, senior pictures, senior credits, and other important details will be communicated to students at the beginning of the school year and posted on the school website throughout the year.

## **STUDENT BEHAVIOR EXPECTATIONS**

The faculty and students at Hillgrove form a community of people working together. To accomplish our goals, we must treat each other with mutual respect and adhere to established expectations of behavior.

### **BEHAVIOR IN THE CLASSROOM**

Students are expected to arrive for class on time, remain attentive, be respectful, and stay on task throughout the entire class period. The expectations listed below set the tone for an appropriate classroom atmosphere that is conducive to learning.

- A. Show respect for your teachers and other students:
  - Be on time for school and class.
  - Do not interrupt instruction (beating on desks, humming, singing, blurting out, and talking to others during instruction, making other inappropriate noises or gestures).
  - Ask permission to leave your seat.
  - Keep your head up during instruction and remain attentive. Do not sleep in class.
  - Leave others' personal belongings alone.
  - Respect the opinions of others.
- B. Show respect for school property and the classroom environment:
  - Dress appropriately for school (see Dress Code).
  - Keep headphones, all electronic entertainment, and communication devices away or at home unless they are being used for instructional purposes.
  - Do not deface desks, bulletin boards, or walls.
  - Please refrain from bringing food or drink into any classroom.
- C. Follow all classroom rules outlined by your teacher.

**BEHAVIOR IN ASSEMBLIES/PEP RALLIES** - Appropriate behavior is expected at all special activities, including assemblies and pep rallies. Any student who displays inappropriate behavior may be removed from the activity



and referred to an administrator. Discipline may include loss of the privilege to attend future assemblies/pep rallies.

### **ACADEMIC INTEGRITY POLICY**

Academic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to the items below:

- A. Taking information of any form into a test situation for the purpose of responding to test items.
- B. Plagiarism - Using the ideas or words of others without proper documentation.
- C. Copying the work of others when the copied material will count as part of the grade.
- D. Communicating test information to others is prohibited.
- E. Use or display of a cell phone during testing (administrative action).
- F. Taking test questions (complete tests, answer key, teacher's edition) to provide assistance in later test situations (administrative action).
- G. Selling, buying, or using papers written by another party (administrative action).

Consequences from academic dishonesty may include the following:

- Assignment of a zero for that particular grade
- Teacher/student conference
- Parent notification
- Discipline referral

**Note: Students who are members of any honor society, such as Beta Club, may have their membership revoked. The National Honor Society and other organizations do not allow membership by students who have a discipline record of cheating. Incidents of cheating are cumulative over the student's high school enrollment.**

### **SCHOOL ARRIVAL AND DISMISSAL**

Students are allowed to enter the building at 7:00 a.m. Students are dismissed at 3:30 p.m. each day. Students must exit the building by 3:45 p.m. or be under the direct supervision of a teacher or coach. Unsupervised students who are seen on campus, without permission from a school official, may receive disciplinary consequences.

### **DRESS CODE**

**To maintain high expectations and to support a conducive learning environment, please adhere to the following criteria for the dress code.**

Hillgrove High School complies with the CCSD Dress Code.

*IMPORTANT NOTE: When in doubt - DO NOT WEAR IT.*

**As a rule of thumb**, the Six “B’s” to avoid overall are the following: Buttocks, Bosoms, Boxers, Bellies, Bras, and Backs. Exposure of any of the “B’s” will be addressed immediately.

Students may **NOT** wear:

1. Any fabric that is see-through (tops, pants, or dresses). Undergarments should not be exposed.
2. Shirts or blouses that are cut off to expose stomachs and lower back or show cleavage or midriff.
3. Shorts that are not visible under blouse or sweatshirt OR that expose buttocks.
4. Clothing which advertises alcohol or substances that are illegal for minors or display suggestive phrases, designs, markings, or profanities.
5. Hats, caps, bandanas, or other head coverings during the school day.  
Head coverings worn for religious or medical reasons will be approved by administration.
6. Pants with holes that show private parts or expose the buttocks, unfastened belts, or exposed underwear.
7. Clothing that displays weapons, violence, gang affiliations, or any other clothing that causes a disruption.
8. Chains or spiked accessories.

**As in all matters of dress code, the determination of conformity is ultimately at the discretion of the administration. Students who fail to adhere to the dress code may be subject to consequences for not following instructions.**

### **DISCIPLINE PROCEDURES**

The CCSD Manual of Administrative Rules will be included in a 2025-2026 Family Information Guide available online. Students, parents, and guardians are encouraged to read this information carefully and must sign the JCDA-3 receipt of the Family Information Guide. The JCDA-R Student Code of Conduct is also available online at <https://www.cobbk12.org/page/307/family-info-guide>

### **DISCIPLINARY MEASURES FOR GENERAL MISCONDUCT**

Disciplinary actions taken for misconduct are progressive and will be determined by the appropriate administrator based on the circumstances of the specific infraction and the student's previous disciplinary conduct. If a student is in the company of someone who is in violation of a behavioral policy, that student may be treated as if they violate the policy. These rules apply 24/7, 365 days a year when/where a Hillgrove student represents Hillgrove, or on school property. A general guideline of disciplinary actions follows. These rules are found at [www.cobbk12.org](http://www.cobbk12.org) under Administrative Rule JCDA-R.

### **DISCIPLINARY OPTIONS**

#### **Teacher Detention**

During the first days of a semester, every student will receive oral and written orientation procedures from teachers regarding detention procedures. Each teacher may have their guidelines, and it is the student's responsibility to abide by the individual teacher's detention rules. Failure to serve a teacher detention will result in a referral to an administrator. Saturday School will be assigned to students who fail to serve a teacher-assigned detention.

#### **Saturday School**

One consequence of inappropriate student behavior is being sent to Saturday school. Hillgrove may exercise the option of Saturday School for certain offenses. **A student**

assigned to Saturday School must report to the school's front lobby by 7:50 a.m. No student will be permitted to enter Saturday School after 8:00 a.m. He/she must also bring books and materials for the duration of the assigned Saturday School. Failure to attend Saturday School will result in further consequences - ISS or Out-of-School Suspension.

### **In-School Suspension**

In-School Suspension (ISS) has been established as a measure to keep students in school while they are being disciplined for serious offenses. The student is made aware of these policies before reporting to ISS. Students are allowed to obtain all class assignments before entering the ISS program. Assigned work must be returned to the teachers on the first day the student is back in class or no credit will be granted. Students are **unable to participate in school activities, such as athletic events, club competitions, drama, band, chorus, or orchestra performances, on days serving ISS.**

### **Out-of-School Suspension**

Suspension is a severe disciplinary action. Suspended students will be permitted to make up their work. All work will be due the day the student returns from suspension. Suspended students are **not** allowed to participate in or attend any extracurricular events until they return to class.

## **STUDENT SEARCHES (Administrative Rule JCAB-R)**

**SEARCHES:** The principal or designee of each school in the District may conduct reasonable inspection of students' school lockers, articles carried upon their persons, and vehicles to properly investigate and address student misconduct.

1. Searches based on reasonable suspicion may proceed without hindrance or delay, but they shall be conducted in a manner that ensures that students are not arbitrarily stripped of personal privacy.
2. Strip searches of students are not allowed.
3. Searches shall be based on a reasonable suspicion of the presence of harmful or prohibited items, including,

but not limited to, bombs, handguns, clubs, bludgeons, or other dangerous weapons, contraband drugs, alcohol, tobacco, stink/smoke bombs, secreted noise makers, and look-alike weapons.

4. If a school official has reasonable suspicion to believe that a particular student has an illegal or unauthorized metal-containing object or weapon, the official may conduct a metal detector check of the student's person and personal effects by the procedures outlined in Section D below.

5. Lockers:

a. Lockers are the property of the District and are subject to the rules and regulations for use of lockers established by the principal of each school.

b. Principals or designees of each school in which lockers are issued shall ensure that:

(1) At the time lockers are made available to students, it is specified in writing that lockers are subject to inspection and search by school officials.

(2) The school administration maintains duplicate/master keys or records of all locker combinations.

C. CONFISCATED ITEMS:

1. In the event the search of a student's person, personal possessions, locker, or vehicle reveals the student is concealing material, the possession of which is prohibited by federal, state, or local law, the District Office of Public Safety shall be notified so that they may take appropriate action.

a. Confiscated contraband, including, but not limited to, illegal drugs, alcohol, weapons, or other harmful items, shall be forwarded to the Office of Public Safety or outside law enforcement.

b. The District Office of Public Safety shall dispose of such items according to established procedure.

2. Other items which are generally prohibited by the Student Code of Conduct may also be confiscated by the principal or designee.

3. Confiscated items must remain in the possession of a school official, who may include the Director of Public Safety or designee, unless the items are relinquished to the police or required for due process or judicial hearings.

4. Confiscated items required for a due process or judicial hearing:

- a. Must be given to outside law enforcement (if involved) or to the Director of Public Safety or authorized representative for the District; and
  - b. Must be treated according to the chain of evidence as established by the District's Office of Public Safety.
5. If there is no due process or judicial hearing involved, and the item is not in the possession of the Office of Public Safety or outside law enforcement, the principal or designee shall determine the appropriate disposal procedure of the item by July 15 of each year. The principal or designee will decide if the item will be:
- a. Returned to the student, or
  - b. Given to the parent/guardian.

### **INAPPROPRIATE BEHAVIOR CONSEQUENCES**

Please refer to the Family Information Guide and Student Code of Conduct, which are provided to all students electronically on the first day of school, for guidelines on behavioral consequences. The guide is only available electronically on the district website at <https://www.cobbk12.org/page/307/family-info-guide>

### **COMPLIANCE WITH FEDERAL/STATE NON-DISCRIMINATION POLICIES**

Age Discrimination in Employment Act of 1967 (ADEA)  
Americans With Disabilities Act of 1990: Titles I, II, and III (ADA) § 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (Section 504)  
Public Law 101-476 - Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA)

Discrimination based on age, race, color, national origin, religion, sex, disability, and veteran status is prohibited in all CCSD programs and activities. Below is a list of

individuals designated to handle inquiries regarding the district's non-discrimination policies:

**Title IX Student Issues     Director of Student Activities**  
**(770)426-3340                514 Glover St., Marietta, GA 30060**

**Title VI Student Issues     Asst. Superintendent, Policy and**  
**(770)426-3304                Planning**  
**514 Glover St., Marietta, GA 30060**

**Student Program             Asst. Superintendent, Special**  
**(770)426-3573                Services Accessibility**  
**514 Glover St., Marietta, GA 30060**

Questions concerning policies and practices of an individual school in the Cobb County School System may be addressed to the building Principal, or to the Cobb County Board of Education, P. O. Box 1088, Marietta, GA 30061, (770) 426-3300.

Discrimination complaints may also be filed directly with:

U.S. Department of Education 61 Forsyth Street S.W., Suite 19T10 Atlanta, GA 30303-8927 Telephone: (404) 974-9406 Facsimile: (404) 974-9471 Email: <a href="mailto:OCR.Atlanta@ed.gov">OCR.Atlanta@ed.gov</a>	Individuals with complaints alleging discrimination on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability, or age.
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