

FORSYTH MS ALTERNATIVE SCHOOL

MISSION AND VISION:

The faculty and staff of the Alternative High School at Forsyth R-III Schools believe we can play a significant role in the lives of students. The vision of FHS is to support student growth for a positive future impact. It is the mission of Forsyth Alternative School's faculty and staff to inspire and equip every student for their next stage in life.

The Forsyth R-III School District agrees to provide the individual student with opportunities for academic, personal, and social success by providing a unique, individualized program of instruction. This alternative program encourages high academic achievement, which incorporates learning and personal skills to enable the student to become a successful, productive, and contributing member of society.

The decision to enter the program is a representation of a desire to commit to social and academic success. It is also a positive commitment to make a positive change in life. However, it is up to every individual student to take advantage of this opportunity.

Expectations of students entering the Alternative Middle School:

Personal responsibility for behavior, which includes but not limited to:

- A. Regular School Attendance.
- B. Arriving to class on time.
- C. Prepared for class (on time, materials, and ***positive attitude***).
- D. Complete all assigned work.
- E. Agree to notify and work with all Alternative School staff to seek solutions to problems that may arise (academic, social, or personal).
- F. Compliance with ALL student handbook rules and procedures.
- G. Working in a respectful, cooperative manner with other students and staff members.

Students must show continued academic progress in the program:

- A. Students will meet regularly with faculty to review and evaluate student progress.
- B. Lack of progress will result in a suspension from school.

ATTENDANCE: Regular school attendance is extremely important if students are to be successful in the Alternative Middle School. Grades will be awarded for academic progress/completion of the coursework. This means that students must be in regular attendance to earn grades. Absences, regardless of the reason are absences.

Students will not be permitted to leave school unless accompanied by a parent/guardian. Students are encouraged to schedule appointments (doctor visits, etc.) on Mondays, before, and/ or after school when possible. You can check in/out at the Alternative School.

TARDIES: Students are expected to arrive at school on time. School begins at 8:00. Any student reporting after 8:00 will be tardy.

LUNCH: Students are allowed to bring their lunch or may choose to eat the school lunch. Students will select a lunch choice in at the beginning of each morning and eat lunch together in the alternative school.

BREAKFAST: Students wishing to eat breakfast will need to select a choice the day before and it will be delivered to the alternative school each morning. Breakfast will be eaten from 8:00-8:15 each morning before instruction/activity begins.

TRANSPORTATION: Students will report directly to the Alternative School building. Students who ride a bus will wait in the designated place and will be transported to the Alternative School building at 7:55. **Students are not to be in the courtyard, MS/HS buildings, or parking lots for any circumstances unless approved by school administrators.** Students who walk will be able to leave the building at 3:05 pm but are not to be on school premises. Students who ride the bus home will get picked up at the Alt School and transported to the MS. They will then walk to the MS Office and sit where they are directed by MS office personnel.

REMOVAL FROM THE ALTERNATIVE MIDDLE SCHOOL: The Alternative Middle School program is a privilege and not a right. Students must continue to make positive choices and show improvement in academics, attendance, and interpersonal relationships. Failure to comply could result in the removal from the program and long term Out of School Suspension (OSS), from the Superintendent.

Other grounds for dismissal from the program include, but are not limited to:

- Any violation of rules outlined in the middle school student handbook.
- Continued disruption of class or activities.
- Failure to follow rules or instructions on a repeated basis.

DISCIPLINE POLICY

Most issues that arise are covered in the Forsyth R-III Middle School Student Handbook. However, other discipline issues have consequences specific to the Alt. School environment. Consequences will be determined by a team including, but not limited to the director of alternative school, middle school principals, and other Forsyth R-III district administrators.

SITUATIONS NOT IN STUDENT HANDBOOK: Situations that might arise that are not addressed in this handbook or the Forsyth R-III Student Handbook will be handled at the discretion of the administration.

INSUBORDINATION: Defiance of authority; refusal to obey directions/Alt. School norms.

1st offense: Warning

2nd offense: Warning; Change of environment (if applicable)

3rd offense: OSS (1-3 days)

TOBACCO: The possession or use of any tobacco product, e-cigarette, or imitation tobacco or cigarette product within one (1) square block of school property by a student is prohibited. This includes all school activities (home or away), as well as, district transportation.

1st offense: report to SRO and OSS (1 day)

2nd offense: report to SRO and OSS (1-3 days) and parent meeting

3rd offense: report to SRO and OSS (3+ days) and parent meeting

FIGHTING: A verbal or physical altercation.

1st offense: 1-3 days OSS and parent meeting

TRUANCY: Absence from school without expressed parental consent or knowledge before the absence occurs, including leaving school without permission from the appropriate school authorities.

1st offense: OSS (1 day) and parent contact

2nd offense: OSS (1-3 days) and parent meeting

3rd offense: OSS (3-5 days) and parent meeting

BEING IN OTHER BUILDINGS/PARKING LOT WITHOUT PERMISSION:

1st offense: Warning

2nd offense: OSS (1 day) and parent contact

3rd offense: OSS (1-3 days) and parent meeting

USE OF INAPPROPRIATE LANGUAGE:

1st offense: Warning

2nd offense: Warning; change of environment (if applicable)

3rd offense: OSS (1-3 days)

DISRUPTIVE BEHAVIOR:

- 1st offense: Warning
- 2nd offense: Warning; change of environment (if applicable)
- 3rd offense: OSS (1-3 days)

TARDIES: Calculated per quarter

- 1st offense: Warning
- 2nd offense: Warning
- 3rd offense: OSS (1-3 days) and parent meeting

DRESS CODE AND APPEARANCE: Students violating the MS handbook guidelines for proper dress and appearance could be sent home and not be admitted to school until they comply with this policy. Failure to comply with the dress code will result in OSS (1-3 days).

ELECTRONIC DEVICES & CELL PHONES: The use of personal electronic devices, including cell phones, in the classroom will be prohibited. **Personal electronic devices are permitted before school, during assigned breaks, after the student gets their targeted amount of assignments done per day, and after school.** During all other times, these devices must be turned off. The school will not be responsible for stolen, lost, or damaged devices.

- 1st offense: Warning
- 2nd offense: Confiscation for the remainder of day
- Continued offenses will result in OSS (1-3 days) and parent will have to pick up the phone from the Alternative school

TECHNOLOGY MISCONDUCT: Attempting, regardless of success, to: gain unauthorized access to a technology system or information; use district technology to connect to other systems in evasion of the physical limitations of the remote system; copy district files without authorization; interfere with the ability of others to utilize district technology; secure a higher level of privilege without authorization; introduce computer viruses, hacking tools, or other disruptive/destructive programs onto or using district technology; or evade or disable a filtering/blocking device; or sending out mass emails/spamming.

- 1st offense: Warning
- 2nd offense: Removal of device and loss of privileges

CRITERIA TO BE REMOVED FROM THE ALTERNATIVE SCHOOL: If a middle school student is placed in the alternative school, the student will remain in alternative school for the **minimum of one full quarter**. To be eligible to return to regular school you have to have the following criteria for one complete quarter.

1. 90% attendance or above
2. 100 % of the course work complete with at least a 70% in all of your classes
3. Fewer than 3 disciplinary referrals for the quarter

If a student satisfies the above criteria, they will be brought back on to the main campus and enrolled in regular classes. If a student does not satisfy the above-mentioned criteria, they will remain in alternative school until they satisfy the criteria or they enter high school.

FORSYTH ALTERNATIVE MIDDLE SCHOOL INFORMATION SHEET
PLEASE WRITE NEATLY.

Today's Date: _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone Number(s): _____

Date of Birth: _____

Name of Parents/Guarian: _____

Address (If different): _____

Parent/Guardian phone numbers: _____

Place of Employment (Parents/Guardian): _____

Is your contact information correct on your child's parent portal in case we need to contact you?

Are there any special problems, issues, illnesses we should be made aware of?

HANDBOOK SIGN OFF SHEET

I have read and understand the rules and expectations of the Forsyth Alternative School.

Student Signature

Parent Signature