

**Rogers-Herr
Middle School
2019 - 2020**



**Student/Parent
Handbook**

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ACADEMICS

Grading Scale: Grades are recorded as a letter. Letter grades are determined using the following scale:

- A = 90 - 100
- B = 80 - 89
- C = 70 - 79
- D = 60 - 69
- F = 50 or less

School Schedule:

6th Grade	7th Grade	8th Grade	Electives
7:30-8:07 Discovery	7:30-8:07 Discovery	7:30-8:07 Discovery	7:30-8:07 Discovery
8:10-9:10 1st Core	8:10-8:55 1st Elective	8:10-9:10 1st Core	8:10-8:55 7th Grade - Elective 1
9:10-10:10 2nd Core	8:55-9:40 2nd Elective	9:10-10:10 2nd Core	8:55-9:40 7th Grade - Elective 2
10:10-11:10 3rd Core	9:45-10:45 1st Core	10:15-10:45 Lunch	9:40-10:45 Planning
11:10-12:10 4th Core	10:45-11:45 2nd Core	10:45-11:30 1st Elective	10:45-11:30 8th Grade - Elective 1
12:20 -12:50 Lunch	11:45-12:15 Lunch	11:30-12:15 2nd Elective	11:30-12:15 8th Grade - Elective 2
12:50-1:35 1st Elective	12:20-1:20 3rd Core	12:20-1:20 3rd Core	12:15-12:50 Planning
1:35-2:20 2nd Elective	1:20-2:20 4th Core	1:20-2:20 4th Core	12:50-1:35 6th Grade - Elective 1
			1:35-2:20 6th Grade - Elective 2

Textbooks:

Textbooks are not utilized as often as in the past. If they are assigned, any damages outside of normal wear and tear will be billed to the student. Students will be charged for textbooks that are not returned at the end of the school year. Some textbooks are available online, some hard copies may be distributed upon request.

School Supplies:

Students are responsible for showing up to class prepared to learn. This means having all necessary materials including, but not limited to: writing utensils, notebooks/binders/folders, texts, calculators, rulers, etc. If there is any hardship that prevents parents/guardians from providing supplies, please let a teacher, administrator or counselor know so we can help.

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE/GENERAL INFORMATION**Communication:**

Communication between home and school is very important. Your questions and comments are important to your child and to us. Teachers frequently provide feedback through written reports and may contact parents via phone or email. Students should write down daily assignments in a format and/or planner that makes sense to them. We encourage parents to be aware of student progress by communicating with teachers, monitoring Powerschool, checking the team website, and reviewing progress reports and report cards. If there are any questions or concerns, please contact the teacher(s) first. If the issue is not resolved, please contact your grade level administrator.

Assistant Principal Tawauna Stewart – 6th grade
Assistant Principal Ernetta Cagle – 7th grade
Assistant Principal Anthony White – 8th grade
Principal Intern Tyler Albright – 7th grade

Deliveries/Messages:

In order to maximize the instructional day and minimize classroom interruptions, Rogers-Herr will not accept any deliveries for students. Classes will not be interrupted to deliver messages to students or teachers except in the case of emergencies. Please be mindful that students may not take flowers, balloons, or similar items into classrooms or onto buses as they may disrupt the learning environment or impede the view of the bus driver.

Lost and Found:

The lost and found will be located in the office. Items in the lost and found will be disposed of at the end of the school year. The school maintains no responsibility for items lost or damaged.

Office Hours:

The main office will be open Monday-Friday from 7:00am to 3:30pm. Please contact the main office at 919-560-3970 to schedule appointments with administrators. Parents may contact Student Services or the counselors directly to schedule appointments with guidance.

Posters, Banners, and Signs:

Any printed items that are planned to be posted must first be approved by administration. All printed materials should be placed in the appropriate areas.

Visitors:

All visitors are required to report directly to the main office upon entering the school building. Furthermore, they will be required to receive a visitor's identification badge in the main office

and wear the badge during their entire time on campus. Visitors will remain in the office until they are escorted to their requested location. **Parents are not allowed to visit classrooms or meet with teachers during instructional time unless previously arranged with a teacher and/or administrator.** Students from other Durham Public schools, as well as out-of-town students, are not permitted to come onto campus during school hours without prior approval from administration. All staff members are required to report any suspected unauthorized visitors to administration. **If you are visiting a classroom, please realize that the teacher(s) may not take away from instructional time to conference with you during your visit.**

ATHLETICS

Athletic Participation Form:

This form must be completed and filed with the school's athletic director prior to a student's participation in any practice sessions and/or athletic contest. A current physical examination is required and must be recorded on this form. Please note that physical examinations are valid for 365 days.

Attendance:

In order to participate in any athletic game or practice, a student must be in attendance at school for the entire day. Any student assigned to In-school Suspension (RPC) or Out-of-School Suspension will be ineligible to practice or participate in an athletic event or extra-curricular activity for the duration of the assignment.

Eligibility:

Please refer to DPS Board Policy 6860 in the DPS Student/Parent Handbook. Furthermore, **Rogers-Herr Middle School athletes must adhere to the policies and procedures outlined in the RHMS Athletic Handbook.**

School Spirit/Sportsmanship:

Rogers-Herr students are encouraged to attend sporting events and support our teams. School wide rules (including dress code) will still be in effect during after school activities and sporting events. Spectators are expected to conduct themselves in a respectful way toward visitors, coaches, and referees. There should be no booing or taunting of visiting teams, fans, or referees. Failure to abide by these expectations may result in disciplinary action, revocation of privileges, and/or removal from the game.

Sports Offered:

FALL

Cheerleading
Soccer (B)
Football
Volleyball
Cross Country (G&B)

WINTER

Cheerleading
Basketball (G&B)

SPRING

Baseball
Soccer (G)
Track (G&B)
Softball
Lacrosse (club)

ATTENDANCE POLICIES

Absences (Please reference full DPS Policy 4101 on DPS website):

Rogers-Herr students are to be punctual to school and to all classes.

DPS Board Policy 4100 states: the purpose of this policy is to encourage daily attendance in all classes. Attendance at school is essential if a student expects to do well. Regular attendance is necessary for successful completion of required class work and promotion to the next grade. Moreover, attendance and participation in class are integral parts of the teaching-learning process, and regular attendance develops patterns of behavior essential to successful personal, social and professional life.

DPS Board Policy 4100.1 goes further to describe absences: A student is absent from school for the purposes of this section when the student is not present for at least half of the school day, whether the absence is excused or unexcused. A student is absent from a class for the purposes of this section if the student misses more than half the class period, whether the absence is excused or unexcused. Absences resulting from participation in school-sponsored activities will not count against the minimum attendance requirement. This policy does not limit a teacher or principal from imposing disciplinary sanctions for students who miss portions of the school day or a class without excuse. A student who is absent from school shall within three days of returning to school furnish a written excuse from the student's parent/guardian, custodian, or doctor stating the dates and reason for the absences. After five consecutive or ten accumulated absences in a semester, the principal may require a written doctor's excuse for any additional absences attributed to illness.

Students must be in school for at least half of the day to be counted as present.

Absences are excused for the following reasons:

A. Illness or injury: When the absence results from illness or injury which prevents the student from being physically able to attend school.

B. Quarantine: When isolation of the student is ordered by the local health officer or by the State Board of Health.

C. Death in the immediate family: When the absence results from the death of a member of the immediate family of the student. The immediate family of a student includes, but is not necessarily limited to, grandparents, parents and siblings.

D. Medical or Dental appointments: When the absence results from a medical or dental appointment of a student. A written excuse should be presented with a doctor's signature or stamp.

E. Court or administrative proceedings: When the student is a party to or is under subpoena as the witness in the proceedings of a court or administrative tribunal.

F. Religious observances: When the student or the student's parent/guardian or custodian adheres to a religion whose tenets require, or suggest the observance of a religious event. The parent/guardian or custodian must seek prior approval of the principal for such absences [and the approval should be granted unless the religious observance or the cumulative effect of religious observances is of such duration as to interfere with the education of the student].

G. Educational opportunity: When the student obtains the principal's prior approval of a valid education opportunity, such as travel. (Dr. Rogers is willing to excuse the absence if the student submits a summary of their educational experience up to two pages. The summary serves as evidence of it being a valid educational opportunity).

Educational Absence Request:

Educational experiences may be excused ONLY if:

1. BEFORE the trip, it is approved as an educational absence by our principal, Dr. Rogers.
2. BEFORE the trip, the educational leave form found on the RHMS website is completed and submitted to our Data Manager, Ms. Richmond.
3. AFTER the trip, the student turns in a summary (up to two pages) of their educational experience to Ms. Richmond (absence will not be excused until the summary is submitted).

Returning to School Procedure:

This procedure applies to students who return to school after sustaining a medical injury (including concussion), either at or away from school, that requires some type of accommodation in the school setting.

Parents should provide the school with a medical note from the healthcare provider that clearly states that the student is medically cleared to return to school. Any necessary recommendations/accommodations should be included by the provider in the note, with clearly stated start and end dates. If this information is not provided, the nurse/school should get the parent to sign a Release of Information Consent form, which will allow the nurse to obtain the necessary information from the provider.

The student or parent should provide the healthcare provider's note to the Data Manager upon return to school. No other school staff member should accept the note, but instead, should direct the student to take the note to the Data Manager. The Data Manager will make sure the note is distributed to the appropriate teachers, counselors, nurse, etc. The nurse will maintain a copy of each note, will assess the student at her next scheduled visit to the school (or sooner, if needed), will contact the parent and/or provider (if needed), will create a health plan for the student, if indicated, and will document the accommodations provided to the student.

Morning Procedures/Tardies:

The instructional day begins at 7:30am and students should be dropped off in time to go to their locker and be in their seat, prepared, by 7:30am. Students may not enter the building until 7:00am. When a student arrives after 7:30am, he/she must sign in at the main office. The student will be marked tardy at that time. Students who eat breakfast will report to the cafeteria. Sixth

grade students will report to the gymnasium.

Car Riders:

In order to maintain safety for our students and to provide a smooth flow of traffic, we ask that each vehicle adhere to the following rules:

1. All cars must pull **all the way forward** to the end of the front walkway to drop off students.
2. All cars must pull into the Rogers-Herr lot to drop off students. **Do not drop off students on Cornwallis Rd. or across Cornwallis Rd.**
3. All cars are asked to turn **right** out of the parking lot during morning drop-off and afternoon dismissal to ensure consistent traffic flow.

Early Pick-Up From School:

We encourage parents to value all instructional time and ensure students miss as little time in class as possible. If leaving school early is unavoidable, students who leave during the school day must be signed out by a parent/guardian. In no case shall a person other than an authorized parent/guardian be permitted to take a student from school until the principal is satisfied that such person has the approval of the authorized parent/guardian. Parents/guardians must show identification and be on the approved pick-up list in order to pick up a student.

Tardy Policy:

Students are responsible to report to all classes and assigned areas on time. Students that are tardy to class without a written pass or excuse are subject to consequential action to reform their inability to adhere to proper procedures and responsibilities. Each team and teacher adheres to a tardy policy that is enforced by the classroom teacher.

Hall Passes:

Students should have a written, signed, and dated hall pass from their teacher in order to be out of their assigned classroom or area.

Procedures for Absenteeism:

When a student returns to school after an absence, he/she should turn in a note from the parent explaining the absence to their first period teacher or the main office. If a student fails to bring a note within three days of the absence, the absence is counted as unexcused.

Attendance Notification:

Our automated phone notification system will be used in order to inform parents/guardians of each student absence. Parents may call the attendance office during the school day to verify attendance.

CAFETERIA

Lunch Menus:

Lunch menus are distributed in calendar form on a monthly basis. They are also available at <https://www.dpsnc.net/domain/117>.

Meal Prices:

Breakfast - Free for all students

Lunch - \$2.90

Reduced Lunch - \$0.40

Milk - \$0.50

* Free or reduced priced lunch is available for eligible students. Application forms are available in the main office. **A new application is required each school year.**

Cafeteria Procedures:

Students may bring their own lunch or purchase a school lunch. If purchasing a school lunch, pre-pay helps prevent long lunch lines. Online payment can be made at <http://www.lunchprepay.com/>

Students may bring checks payable to Rogers-Herr Middle School for pre-paid lunches. The school does not loan money for lunch. When students do not have money for lunch, the school system will charge for an emergency lunch on a limited basis. The school will then use a variety of strategies to collect the money or assist in applying for free/reduced lunch. If bringing in food from a restaurant, parents are allowed to bring food for their child only. Food must be brought to the main office and students will be called up to collect their food during their lunch period. Students will not be allowed to miss any class time to pick up food or eat food from outside the school. **Microwaves are NOT available to heat student lunches.**

CLUBS AND ORGANIZATIONS**After School Activities, including but not limited to:**

Battle of the Books

Science Olympiad

Art Club

Garden Club

National Junior Honor Society

Jazz Band

Academic Teams

DISCIPLINE**Student Behavior Expectations:**

The Rogers-Herr faculty, staff and administration hold high expectations for academics and behavior for our students. Over the years, Rogers-Herr has established a positive climate that is conducive to both student learning and academic success. You are expected to behave in a manner that is a representation of Rogers-Herr, Durham Public Schools and our community. Also, all behavior is expected to ensure the safety of others and allow all students the opportunity for academic success. At all times, you are responsible for your own actions.

Please reference DPS Policy 4301 concerning DPS behavior expectations/consequences as well as the complete Student Code of Conduct.

Hallway/Transition Procedures:

Rogers-Herr does not operate on a bell system. We have scheduled times for classes to begin and end. Teachers will dismiss students who will then be monitored as they transition from class to class.

Lockers:

Each student has the option to purchase a Rogers-Herr Middle School lock and to be given a locker assignment. Each student is expected to maintain a lock on his/her locker. Lockers are not to be shared. Lockers are the property of the Board of Education and, as such, may be inspected from time to time. Students will purchase a lock from the school for a cost of \$10.00.

Do not bring valuables to school! The school cannot be held liable for money or other valuables that you leave in your locker, clothing, or book bags. Due to student safety, students are not allowed to carry bookbags from class to class during the school day.

Dress Code:

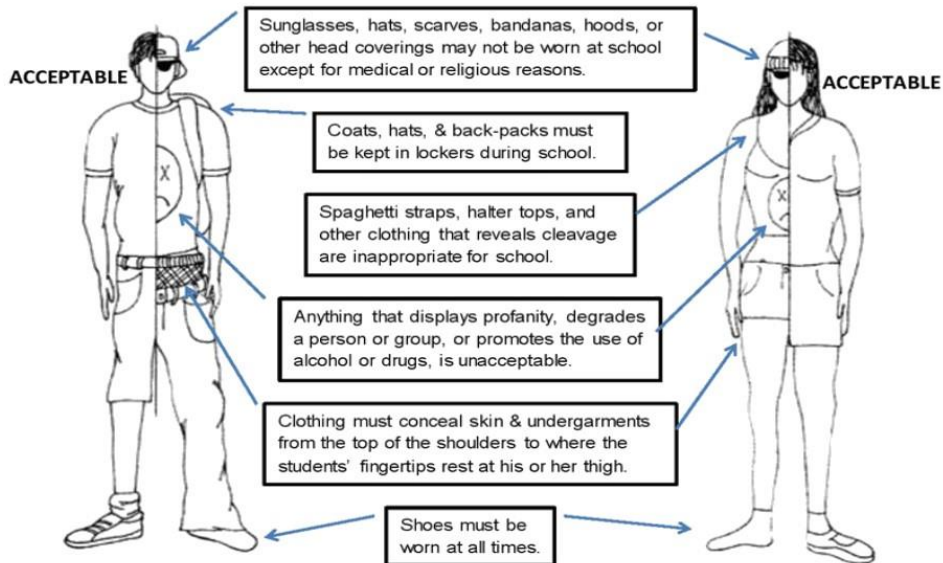
Students are prohibited from wearing clothing, jewelry, book bags, or other articles of personal appearance which:

- depict profanity, vulgarity, obscenity, or violence
- promote use or abuse of tobacco, drugs, or alcohol
- may create a threat to the health or safety of the student or others
- are associated with intimidation, violence or violent groups and about which students have been notified, or may create a significant risk of disruption to the educational process or to the operation of the school.

The following specific items are also not permitted:

- a. clothing worn in such a manner so as to reveal underwear, cleavage, or bare skin between the upper chest and mid-thigh*
- b. bare feet, bedroom slippers
- c. spaghetti straps, strapless tops, halter tops; see-through, mesh garments
- d. trousers, slacks, or shorts worn below waist level
- e. clothing that is excessively baggy or tight
- f. skirts and shorts shorter than mid-thigh
- g. sunglasses worn inside school building
- h. hats, caps, hoods, sweat bands and bandannas or other head wear worn inside school building
- i. any other article of appearance that is physically revealing or provocative.

DRESS CODE **Unacceptable**



***All shorts, dresses, skirts (even under sheer over lays) must be as long as your fingers with your arms straight down your side.**

If a student's dress or appearance violates this dress code, the principal or principal's designee may require the student to change his or her dress or appearance. Repeated violation of this policy could result in disciplinary action. The principal may make reasonable accommodations to the policy based upon a student's religious beliefs or medical conditions. This policy shall apply to all students in all school buildings during the regular school day, on field trips, and when students represent the school. This policy shall also apply to all students at all times on all Board of Education property; including in school buildings and on school grounds; on all school buses and other school vehicles. This policy does not apply to school sanctioned uniforms and costumes approved by the principal for athletic, choral or dramatic performances.

Respect for School Personnel:

Students are to respect all school personnel. Students must comply with reasonable directions given by principals, teachers (including substitutes, assistants, and student teachers), bus drivers, and all other authorized personnel. Students are prohibited from the following behaviors toward any school personnel:

- using vulgar or abusive language
- attempting personal injury, making threats which convey intent to cause harm or violence, or engaging in sexual harassment or any other behavior of a sexual nature

Respect for Other Students

Durham Public Schools expects students to treat each other with dignity and respect (**see DPS Policy 4301**).

Verbal Threats/Verbal Assaults/Bullying/Harrassment:

Verbal Threats/Verbal Assaults/Bullying/Harassment occurs when a person threatens to physically injure another person or damage the property of another. The threat is communicated by any means and the threat is made in a manner and under circumstances which would cause a reasonable person to believe that the threat is likely to be carried out. (see **DPS Policy 4301**).

Public Displays of Affection:

Being overly affectionate in school creates an environment that is not conducive to concentration and learning, therefore students should refrain from inappropriate, intimate behaviors on school campus or at any school-sponsored activity. Students are expected to show good taste and conduct themselves respectfully at all times. Students are not allowed to kiss each other in any way. Public displays of affection deemed inappropriate include, but are not limited to, kissing, excessive hugging, inappropriate touching, grabbing, or groping. Students failing to comply will be subject to disciplinary action.

Drugs (DPS Policy 4301):

No student shall possess, use, transmit, conspire to transmit, or be under the influence of any narcotic drug, hallucinogenic drug, amphetamine, barbiturate, marijuana, anabolic steroids or any other controlled substance, or any alcoholic beverage, malt beverage, or fortified wine or other intoxicating liquor, or possess, use or transmit drug paraphernalia or counterfeit drug, or inhale or ingest any chemicals or products with the intention of bringing about a state of exhilaration or euphoria or of otherwise altering the student's mood or behavior. No student shall be at school with the odor of alcohol or illicit drugs about their person. The proper use of a drug authorized by valid medical prescription from a legally authorized health care provider shall not be considered a violation of this rule when the drug is taken by the person for whom the drug was prescribed and in the manner in which the drug was prescribed. (see **DPS Policy 4301**)

Fidgets/Spinners:

Fidgets/spinners are intended to be used as a learning tool for students who learn best when keeping their hands busy by touching or holding a fidget. If a fidget is not used properly, it can interrupt learning, students, and teachers. Therefore, we have established reasonable rules for using fidgets in school. Rules for fidget/spinner use include:

1. A fidget/spinner can be used in school if a student's IEP/504 plan specifies its use is helpful in focusing a student's attention. Students must not share their fidget/spinner with other students. If students are caught sharing, the fidget/spinner will be confiscated.
2. The fidget/spinner needs to stay in the student's hands, lap, or in a desk, unless stored in their locker.
3. A fidget/spinner is not to be thrown, dropped or bounced. Students are asked not to use their fidget/spinner as a toy or weapon.
4. Teachers can take the fidget/spinner from a student at any time if a student breaks one of the above rules or at the teacher's discretion, should it be a learning obstacle instead of a help.

EXPLANATION OF CONSEQUENCES

Office Referrals:

This document in no way limits the discretion of administration and teachers to make rules. Each situation is unique and sometimes requires special provisions and consequences.

After School Detention (ASD):

ASD can be assigned by individual teachers. Notice will be given to parents before students stay for ASD so that transportation can be arranged. This is a serious assignment that takes precedence over all school-related activities. Failure to attend on the assigned day will result in further disciplinary consequences, included, but not limited to a parent conference, additional ASD time, or assignment of RPC. Students receiving ASD will be expected to arrive at their teacher's classroom at the time scheduled by the teacher. Students arriving after the designated time may be assigned an extra hour of ASD. Parents are expected to pick up their child at the time designated by the teacher.

Restorative Practice Center (RPC):

Certain major infractions listed in the discipline code of conduct will result in an assignment to RPC. An assignment to RPC can only be given by an administrator. When assigned to RPC, parents will be notified by phone and a letter sent home with the student. A RPC assignment means that the student will be removed from class(es) and/or school related activities and spend the time working quietly while supervised by the Restorative Practice Center Coordinator. Assignments will be provided by classroom teachers which parallel the work being done in the classroom. Students assigned to RPC will be excluded from participating in after-school activities such as athletics, dances or other after school related activities.

Cellphone Policy:

Students are allowed to bring cell phones to school. They are not allowed to be out for any reason during the school day. **Students are to store cellphones in their lockers in the morning before reporting to class and can retrieve their cell phones at the end of the school day.** If a student is caught with a cellphone during the school day, the phone will be confiscated and turned in to the main office. Parents will be notified and must pick up the phone from the school. Students may face further consequences from administration including in-school or out of school suspension if habitual cellphone use occurs. Cellphone use is permitted on school related fieldtrips. However, the misuse of cellphones on fieldtrips will result in consequences such as cellphones being banned for the remainder of the year and/or fieldtrip privileges being revoked.

Sexting:

Rule II – 11 Sexting: Students shall not transmit any sexually explicit messages or any nude, partially nude, sexually explicit, or sexually suggestive photographs, video recordings, or other visual depictions of themselves or others. Students are reminded that, in addition to violating this Code of Student Conduct, the transmission of such images or messages to, among, or depicting minors may cause grave psychological or emotional harm and may violate state or federal child pornography laws, even when sent or received consensually. Depending on the circumstances, the transmission of such images or messages may also constitute sexual

harassment under Rule II-3 and Policy 4410. Students who receive such images or messages electronically but promptly report them to a teacher or administrator and do not otherwise share or transmit them will not be in violation of this rule, Rule II-3 (Sexual Assault or Harassment), or Rule I.C-12 (Disruptive or Indecent Images, Literature or Illustrations).

Student taking and/or distributing pictures or videos:

Due to privacy rights of all students and faculty, no student shall take and/or distribute any picture or video at any time while at Rogers-Herr Middle School. This includes before, during, and after school on the school campus, on school sponsored fieldtrips, during school sponsored athletic events, and during school sponsored dances. Failure to comply will result in an immediate discipline referral to administration and may result in in-school or out of school suspension and/or the revocation of any phone privileges.

Computer Misuse:

Students may not send or display offensive or vulgar messages or pictures, use obscene language, harass or attach others, damage computers or software, violate copyright laws, use another's ID or password, illegally use data in folders or work files, waste resources (mass emails, storing files on servers without permission), or use the school network for commercial purposes. The use of technology is a privilege, not a right. Misuse of technology will result in the use of technology being restricted or eliminated.

False Alarms:

Students are prohibited from setting off or assisting anyone else in setting off a fire alarm at the school.

School Resource Officers:

Rogers-Herr is monitored by the Durham County Sherriff's Department. The officer(s) will constantly be monitoring the building, providing security and ensuring safety on our campus.

Out of School Suspension (OSS):

Out-of-School Suspension is assigned by an administrator when offenses are chronic, serious, or directed towards a staff or faculty member. Any behavior which results in OSS will also result in exclusion from school activities for the duration of the suspension period. (see **DPS Policy 4303**).

Long-Term Suspensions (see DPS Policy 4303):

The following specific actions will result in automatic recommendation for long-term (more than 10 days) suspension:

- Assault with a weapon or another method resulting in injury
- Assault on another student by two or more students
- Assault on school personnel
- Threats of abusive action such as violence or extortion
- Possession of a weapon, illegal drugs, or drug paraphernalia

GRIEVANCES

(DPS Board Policy 1740/4010) A grievance is defined as the formal written claim by a Durham Public Schools student or parent/guardian that there has been a violation, misinterpretation, or misapplication of federal or state law or regulation, or Durham Public Schools policies. A grievance also includes any matter subject to appeal under Legal Reference: G.S.115C-45(c) or Legal Reference: G.S.115C-305. A grievance does not include an appeal from a recommendation for a student's long-term suspension, expulsion, 365-day suspension, or other decisions of school employees for which other avenues of appeal to the Board exist. The intent of this policy is to secure, at the lowest possible level, equitable solutions to problems periodically affecting students and employees. These grievance proceedings shall be kept as informal and confidential as possible at all levels of the procedure.

It is desirable for grievances to be resolved through free and informal communications. **A student or parent/guardian should first attempt to resolve any grievance through discussion with the teacher first, then assistant principal and principal.** If a grievance cannot be resolved at this level, the aggrieved student may request a grievance conference with the principal. Failure of a student to comply with timelines will result in denial of the grievance or appeal. Failure of the school administration to comply with timelines will result in automatic right of appeal to the next level. Timelines and the complete DPS Grievance Policy (1740/4010) can be found at https://boardpolicyonline.com/bl/?b=dps_new#&&hs=606131

MEDIA CENTER

The Rogers-Herr Media Center offers a wide range of programs and multimedia resources to encourage students to enjoy reading and become effective users of information. The media center is open on a flexible schedule. In addition to visiting with their classes, students are welcome during our “early bird” hours (7:00-7:20 most days), during their grade level lunch by signing out a lunch pass ahead of time, and throughout the day with a pass from their teacher. After school hours will be available upon request. It is expected that students will be respectful of the media center and all of its resources, as well as come prepared with necessary materials. Students may check out as many resources as they can read and keep up within a two-week circulation period. All students are granted full check-out privileges unless they have overdue materials or special parental requests have been made. Overdue charges must be cleared at the end of each quarter (by returning the book or paying replacement cost for lost book) in order for students to maintain full library privileges.

MEDICATION

The Durham Public Schools Board of Education (Policy 4400) discourages administration of medication to students during the school day when medication could be taken at home. Students will be given medication during the school day only with precise attention to regulations of this policy. The policy covers over-the-counter medications as well as prescription drugs, including oral, topical, inhaled, or injected. Medications can only be administered by school personnel during school hours if the medication is accompanied by a doctor’s signature certifying that the medication must be dispensed during school hours. Medication prescribed by a doctor should be delivered by the parent/guardian to the school in its original container with the completed

“Administration of Medication” form signed by a doctor. Full policy details can be accessed at https://boardpolicyonline.com/bl/?b=dps_old#&&hs=570643

PARENT ORGANIZATIONS

Rogers-Herr Middle School parents are vital to the success of our students’ athletic, artistic, and academic pursuits. Parents are encouraged to support RHMS by joining the PTA. There are many opportunities to help out and volunteer, please fill out a volunteer application on the DPS website.

PRIVACY

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) requires that at the beginning of each school year parents (and eligible students) must be notified of their rights under the Act, mainly to examine and control the student's record.

SAFETY

Asbestos Management:

Asbestos containing materials (ACM) such as floor tiles and pipe insulation have been used as a construction material in public buildings and schools for the past 75 years because material provides durability, superior insulation, and fire resistive properties. The State of North Carolina and the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) regulates ACM in schools and requires regular inspections because asbestos dust is a potential health hazard. The regulations ensure that the general public and building occupants are protected from the potential health hazards associated with airborne asbestos fibers. The EPA Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act (AHERA) mandates DPS to develop and maintain an inspection and monitoring program. The district’s Asbestos in Schools Program is designed to protect the general public, students, employees, and environment against any potential accidental exposure to asbestos fibers. The cooperation and understanding of parents/guardians, teachers, employees and students in complying with our program is appreciated.

School Functions/Events:

School functions, such as dances, concerts, and athletic events are extensions of the school day. All school rules must be followed at all school events that occur after the regular instructional day. Dances are planned and produced for Rogers-Herr students only.

Searches:

Rogers-Herr administration has the authority to search a student and/or a student’s belongings whenever there is reasonable suspicion to believe that the student is in possession of illegal or unauthorized materials.

Trespassing:

No student shall be on the Rogers-Herr campus or the campus of any other school in DPS during the school day without the knowledge and consent of the officials of the school that he/she is visiting.

Students who loiter at any school after the close of the school day without a specific reason or

adult supervision will be considered trespassers. Therefore, they will be prosecuted in the case of not leaving the campus when instructed to take such action.

Any student who has been suspended from Rogers-Herr Middle School will be considered trespassing if he/she appears on the school campus during the suspension period without the permission of the principal.

STUDENT SERVICES

Appointments:

Students and parents may call or schedule an appointment to meet with a counselor or other member of the Student Services staff. Students may come before or after school, or during their lunch period to make appointments.

Emergencies/Illnesses:

In the event of emergency or illness, a counselor or other school official will contact the parent immediately. If unable to reach the parent, school officials will contact the person listed as the “emergency contact” on file. Please make sure to keep this information current.

Exceptional Children’s Department:

Rogers-Herr serves students with a variety of educational needs in both the general education and separate settings. Eligibility for Exceptional Children’s services is a team decision, dependent upon response to prior interventions as well as a full evaluation conducted by our school psychologist and the special education department. Placement for students receiving special education services is determined by the IEP team. We strive to serve our students in the least restrictive environment at all times. For more information, visit <https://www.dpsnc.net/Page/169>

Deaf and Hard of Hearing Department:

The Deaf and Hard of Hearing program at Rogers-Herr offers various support services to deaf or hard of hearing students. Rogers-Herr has DHH teachers on staff, interpreters and Spoken Language Facilitators. The DHH staff are committed to ensuring that every student has the opportunity to be successful in the classroom. This program includes opportunities to work in a small group setting as well as implementation of Individual Education Plan (IEP) goals.

English as a Second Language:

It is the intent of the ESL program to provide English Learners the opportunity to participate effectively in the regular instructional program by creating a learning environment that encourages students' pride in their cultural heritage and provides the cognitive and affective support to help them become contributing members of our society. Our primary focus is to provide language assistance services and classroom environments that promote English proficiency. Our purpose is to nurture and to encourage English Language Learners to achieve their highest potential. For more information, visit <https://www.dpsnc.net/Page/171>

Academically/Intellectually Gifted:

The purpose of the AIG Program is to ensure that all gifted learners make continuous progress from a strong foundation through a rigorous and challenging middle school curriculum which

transitions into a high school program that offers the opportunity to complete college-level work before graduation. At Rogers-Herr we challenge all students to aim for academic excellence and expect that academically or intellectually gifted students perform or show the potential to perform at substantially high levels of accomplishment when compared with others of their age, experience, or environment. For more information, visit <http://www.dpsnc.net/programs-services/advanced-academics>

Student Services Staff:

Guidance Counselors: Ryanne Logan & Chancie Chaney

School Nurse:

School Psychologist: Emily Avetta

School Social Worker: Shaneicia Taylor

Exceptional Children's Facilitator:

ESL Teacher: Barbara Isasi-Brown

TRANSPORTATION

Bus Policy

Students are expected to comply with all rules and regulations as established by DPS Transportation Services and Rogers-Herr Middle School. Failure to comply with school/transportation policies may result in loss of privileges and other disciplinary action. Please see DPS Student Code of Conduct.

Bicycles/Skateboards/Rollerblades

Skateboarding and roller-skating/rollerblading are not permitted on campus at any time. All bicycles should be parked in the area designated for that purpose. Students are strongly encouraged to lock their bicycles to the bike rack. The school is not responsible for stolen and/or damaged bicycles or bicycle locks.

NON-DISCRIMINATION STATEMENT

Durham Public Schools does not to discriminate on the basis of race, ethnic origin, gender, or disability in its educational programs, activities, or employment policies as required by Title IX of the 1972 Education Amendments, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, and Title II of the 1990 Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA).

Durham Public Schools expects all employees, students, and other members of the school community to conduct themselves in an appropriate manner with concern and respect for all members of the school community. Discrimination and harassment on the basis of race, sex, religion, creed, disability, national origin, or language minority status will not be tolerated.