

BLACKMAN HIGH SCHOOL
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Handbook

This handbook is in addition to the Rutherford County System Code of Behavior and Discipline and other federal, state, and local codes and policies. It is not an exclusive document. The administration and faculty of Blackman High School and the Rutherford County School System retain complete discretion to take any action that insures a positive and productive educational environment within the guidelines of the aforementioned codes, laws, and policies. No person shall on the basis of race, creed, ethnic origin, or sex, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, be treated differently from another person, or likewise be discriminated against in any educational program, interscholastic activity, club, or intramural athletics offered by Rutherford County Educational System.

Identification Cards:

In order to help assure safety at school, students must be in possession of their school issued identification card between the hours of 7:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. All students must present their I.D when requested by a member of the BHS staff. Students will be assigned supervised study for failing to comply with this rule. Repeated offenders are subject to further disciplinary action. ID cards are the property of Blackman High School. Defacement is considered destruction of school property. In the case of a lost I.D., temporary cards will be issued until arrangements can be made for a replacement card. Replacement cards are available at the cost of \$5.00.

Mission Statement

Blackman High School students will graduate with the academic knowledge and career technical skills needed for success in life.

Alma Mater

In the hills of Tennessee,
'neath the clear blue sky.
Grandly stands our alma mater
Banners flying high.
Over Fate and foe triumphant,
Victory is nigh.
Proudly sing our alma mater
All hail, Blackman High!
The Blaze is burning in our souls,
Blackman, we are true.
Our hearts and loyalty remain,
Burn bright, orange and blue.
Over Fate and foe triumphant,
Victory is nigh.
Proudly sing our alma mater
All hail, Blackman High!

Attendance Policy

(Rutherford County Policy)

Out-of-school suspension days will be considered unexcused absences. After five unexcused absences, the student will be referred to the county attendance office. Court action against parents may result. Students who accumulate six or more unexcused absences in a class during a semester or a total of ten excused or unexcused absences will not receive credit for the class. In the case of emergency or significant extenuating circumstances, a request for an exception may be made, in writing, to the principal.

Excused Absences (documentation required)

1. Doctor or dentist appointment (for student only)
2. A death in the immediate family (father, mother, brother, sister, aunt, uncle, or grandparent)
3. Personal illness
4. Required court appearance
5. Religious observances
6. Extenuating Circumstances - must be approved by school administration

Unexcused Absences

1. Truancy
2. Car trouble or lack of transportation
3. Suspension
4. Interviews
5. Oversleeping
6. Working
7. Driver's license
8. Family Vacations

Progressive Truancy Intervention Plan

Students with three (3) unexcused absences shall be subject to the progressive truancy intervention framework as follows:

Tier I

1. A conference with the student and the student's parent/guardian;
2. An attendance contract, based on the conference, signed by the student, parent/guardian, and an attendance officer.
3. Regularly scheduled follow-up meetings to discuss the student's progress.

Tier II

An individualized assessment by a school employee of the reasons a student has been absent from school. This may result in referral to counseling, community-based services, or other services to address the student's attendance problems.

Tier III

The Director of Schools shall develop procedures for the implementation of a progressive truancy intervention process under tier three.

Chronic Absentee Policy

BHS Policy – Students that acquire more than ten (10) unexcused absences during the year will not be permitted to participate in prom or graduation exercises.

Student Procedures to Receive an Excused Absence:

1. Take your note to the attendance office between 7:45 and 8:20 a.m., during your lunch period or after school.
2. The above procedure must be completed after a student returns to school.

Make-up Work Policy

Make-up work must be completed with the classroom teacher within five (5) days after a student returns to school. This is for excused and unexcused absences. This includes days missed due to a field trip. The time to complete the work may be lengthened at the teacher's discretion. If a student is to be absent three or more days, make-up work may be requested through the counseling office. However, a 24 hour notice will be needed.

Unexcused Tardies to School/unexcused checkouts

Students are expected to be in their 1st period class when the 8:30 a.m. bell rings. Late students should sign in through the attendance office or dean's office immediately upon arrival to school. The following list outlines the penalties assessed against students who are tardy (unexcused) to school (each semester):

First Offense - Warning

Second Offense - Warning

Third Offense – Lunch and Learn

Fourth Offense – Lunch and Learn

Fifth Offense - 3 Lunch and Learns or Friday School

Sixth Offense – ISS 1 day

The above list of consequences will apply to unexcused checkouts as well.

Excessive tardiness to school will result in notification of the county attendance officer.

Tardies are excused for the same reasons as absences, with parent verification (one parent note per semester) or official documentation required.

Perfect Attendance

To be eligible for perfect attendance, a student must be in attendance for a length of time equal to the state's minimum hourly requirement for a school day. To have perfect attendance in a particular class, a student must be present every day for over half the class period.

Attendance Incentive - Final exam exemptions

Eligibility for exam exemptions begins the first day of school in each class and is determined on an individual class basis. A student who has been suspended (ISS or OSS) is not eligible for exemptions.

Guidelines for Final Exam Exemptions

<u>Full Year Class</u>	<u>One Semester Class</u>
8 absences - A average	4 absences - A average
6 absences - B average	3 absences - B average
4 absences - C average	2 absences - C average
2 absences - D average	1 absence - D average

Early Dismissal/checkout procedures

1. All students must sign out through the attendance office when leaving campus.
2. Students who are eligible for early release must leave campus when dismissed.
3. Students who become ill at school are expected to get permission from their classroom teacher to report to the school nurse or attendance office.
4. Remaining in the restroom will be considered skipping class.
5. Students are not allowed to check out of school to eat lunch off campus.
6. It is recommended that all appointments be made before or after school hours.
7. A school official must excuse the student any time it becomes necessary to leave campus. The procedure is as follows:
 - A. Bring a note stating the reason necessary to leave school to the attendance office before 8:30 a.m. Make sure a parent's phone number is on the note.
 - B. Sign out in the attendance office as you leave.
 - C. All early dismissal/checkouts are UNEXCUSED until proper documentation is provided.
 - D. If you return to school, sign back in. The full responsibility for completing this procedure rests with the student.
 - E. Students whose parents do not come into the attendance office to check them out must have THE NOTORIZED FORM on file before they will be permitted to leave. These forms can be picked up in the attendance office.

Student Driving

Students who do not comply with driving/parking regulations are subject to warnings, immobilizations, or towing at the student's expense. Student driving/parking privileges shall be revoked and/or citations may be issued if the following guidelines are not followed:

1. There is a 10-mile per hour speed limit on campus.
2. Vehicles and the parking area are off limits during the school day without administrative approval. There will be no loitering in the parking lot or sitting in vehicles for any reason, before, during, or after school hours. Violators will be subject to disciplinary actions.
3. Vehicles in the student parking area MUST display a valid parking permit. These may be purchased in the bank for \$10.
4. Students parking will be first-come first-serve in the East or West parking lot. (Students may not park in spots marked "reserved".)
5. NO PARKING IN THE FRONT OF THE BUILDING
6. Vehicles leaving campus at the end of the school day must yield the right of way to school buses.
7. Drivers should always yield to pedestrians.
8. Students should operate vehicles in a safe and lawful manner at all times.
9. Students may not cut across the grass or the parking lot. They must follow the flow of traffic in exiting or coming to school.
10. Students may not play loud music from their vehicle.
11. Students who exhibit dangerous driving or do not follow the above rules will have their driving/parking privileges suspended.

Attendance and Driving

According to state law, (TCA #49-6-3017) if a minor has been absent from school for ten (10) consecutive unexcused days OR fifteen (15) total unexcused days in one semester, or if a student fails to maintain satisfactory academic progress based on end of semester grading (must have passing grades in three classes), the Department of Safety shall deny or suspend a driver's license or learner's permit to such a person. Blackman High School will send Certificates of Noncompliance to a Driver's License Review Committee of the Rutherford County Board of Education every twenty (20) days. Rutherford County will then notify the Department of Safety. When a student who is a minor applies for a driver's license, the student must take a Certificate of Compliance before a license will be issued. This certificate can be obtained in the attendance office at Blackman High School.

Medicine Policy

Prescription and non-prescription medication that must be administered during the school day must be delivered to the attendance office or nurse's office by the parent/guardian of the student. All prescription medication given in school must be brought to school in the original, pharmacy labeled container. (Students who fail to follow procedure will be subject to suspension up to 9 days).

All nonprescription medication given in school must be brought to school in the manufacturer's original container and label with the ingredients listed and the student's name affixed to the container.

Students in possession of non-prescription medication on campus are subject to serious disciplinary measures up to nine days OSS. Students in possession of prescription medication on campus are covered under the zero tolerance policy.

Zero-Tolerance Behavior (Rutherford County Policy)

In order to ensure a safe and secure learning environment free of drugs, drug paraphernalia, violence, and dangerous weapons, any student who engages in the following behaviors will be subject to suspension for a period of not less than one (1) calendar year. The superintendent shall have the authority to modify this suspension requirement on a case-by-case basis. Zero-tolerance acts are any student who, while on a school bus, on school property, or while attending any school event or activity:

1. Battery to an administrator, teacher, or other employee of the local education agency, bus driver, school resource officer, or other contracted personnel, or any authorized volunteer
2. Possession/use /transfer of dangerous weapons
3. Possessing unlawfully any narcotic or stimulant drug, prescription drug, or any other controlled substance
4. Unlawfully using or being under the influence of any narcotic or stimulant drug, prescription drug, or any other controlled substance.
5. Sale/distribution/transfer of any narcotic or stimulant drug, prescription drug or any other controlled substance.
6. Commits vandalism of school property which results in the student being criminally charged with vandalism over \$500 pursuant to T.C.A. 39-14-408
7. Sexual misconduct that results in the student being criminally charged with sexual battery, sexual assault, indecent exposure, rape or aggravated sexual battery.
8. In accordance with state law, any student who transmits by an electronic device any communication containing a credible threat to cause bodily injury or death to another student or school employee and transmission of such threats creates actual disruptive activity at school that requires administrative intervention.

If the expulsion occurs during the second semester or the student has not returned to the regular school on or before the end of the third nine weeks, the student may not participate in Graduation ceremonies.

BHS procedures for students returning from alternative school due to remandment are the same.

Hazing/Harassment/Bullying

Hazing of students will not be tolerated. See Rutherford County Policy 6.304

Students shall be provided a learning environment free from sexual, racial, ethnic, disability, and religious discrimination, bullying and harassment.

The bullying of other students or staff, regardless of the method or medium used (Facebook, twitter, texting or other social media outlet), will be subject to disciplinary action up to and including expulsion from school.

Care of School PROPERTY (Rutherford County Policy)

Students are expected to help maintain the school environment, preserve school property, and exercise care while using school facilities. Students who destroy, damage, or lose school property shall be responsible for the cost of replacing or repairing such materials or equipment. Graffiti is considered destruction of school property. School property is defined as buildings, buses, books, equipment, records, instructional materials, or any other item under the jurisdiction of the Board of Education. The district will withhold the grades, diplomas, and/or transcripts until the student or the student's parent/guardian has paid for the damages. Students will be subject to suspension from school.

School Computers/Computer Usage

Every student will have an active Rutherford County computer account. Upon violation of the RCS Computer Usage policy, students are subject to consequences ranging from loss of user privileges to suspension, expulsion, and/or criminal prosecution. The full policy is available in the Student Handbook and Code of Behavior and Discipline.

Procedures for College Day

Seniors are allowed one college day. Seniors must have a good attendance record and be in good standing to graduate.

One week prior to the college visit students should:

1. Call the college admissions department to set up an appointment.
2. Bring a signed letter from the parent stating the date of the visit and the name of the college the student will be visiting to the BHS Counseling Office.
3. The student will then be given a College Day Request form that must be signed by the counselor, the attendance office and all the student's teachers.
4. The completed form should be returned to the BHS Counseling Office.
5. On the day following the college visit, the student must present a dated verification from the college that was visited to the BHS Attendance and Counseling offices.

Bus Conduct

The school bus is an extension of school activity; therefore, students shall conduct themselves in a manner consistent with the established standards for safety and classroom behavior. Students are under supervision and control of the bus driver while on his/her bus, and all reasonable directions given by him/her shall be followed. A student who is suspended from riding a bus cannot ride another bus until the suspension is complete. Parents are responsible for transporting students whose bus privileges have been suspended or denied for disciplinary reasons.

Bus misconduct is subject to appropriate disciplinary action.

Bus riding is a privilege, which may be revoked. Parents are urged to discuss this privilege with their child. By doing so, you will help to provide the safest transportation possible for children.

Student Behavior Expectations and Violations

The following regulations were developed to create a school environment conducive to learning. In order to maintain a safe learning environment, students observing any of the infractions listed below should immediately contact school staff or administration. These policies apply in school buildings, on school grounds, in school vehicles or buses, bus stops or at any school-sponsored activity at any time, whether on or off school grounds.

Behavior toward School Staff

1. **School rules**- Students are expected to follow instructions, school rules, and to cooperate with the school staff (including substitute teachers.) Students violating this policy will have appropriate disciplinary action including OSS.
2. **Defiance and misrepresentation**- Any student who refuses to accept disciplinary action, fails to give his/her correct name when asked by any staff member, or refuses to present ID when asked, will be suspended. (OSS – 3 days)
 - a. Students may not use another student's ID card or number.
 - b. Students may not use another student's lunch number in the cafeteria.
 - c. Misrepresentation of information to school officials (including forgeries) will result in suspension.
 - First offense - OSS - 3 days
 - Second offense - OSS - 5 days
3. **Obscenity and profanity** - Students who make obscene gestures or use profanity or vulgarity to any member of the school staff will be suspended.
4. Students who display **conduct unbecoming** of a student or are disrespectful to any member of the school staff in ways other than #1, 2, or 3 above will be subject to suspension or other disciplinary measures.

Banned Items/Substances

5. **Drugs and alcohol**- All substance abuse is prohibited at Blackman High School.
 - a. If a student is under the influence of or in possession of alcohol or other intoxicant, he/she will be remanded to alternative school.
 - b. Any student using, furnishing, possessing, transferring or being under the influence of any narcotic, stimulant, or prescription drug or any other controlled substance (including marijuana).
 - See Zero Tolerance Behavior
 - c. Any student in possession of drug paraphernalia or any substance which is represented to be a controlled substance.
 - First offense - OSS - 9 days
 - d. All offending students will be referred to the proper law enforcement authorities.
6. **Weapons**- Possession of any lethal or dangerous weapon (even a replica of such a weapon) will fall under Zero Tolerance Behavior.
7. **Tobacco**- By state law, students are not allowed to use or possess tobacco in any form on campus or at any school activity.
 - First offense – OSS - 3 days - referral to law enforcement authorities.
 - Second offense – OSS – 5 days - referral to law enforcement authorities.

- a. Electronic cigarettes and/or vapes are strictly prohibited and will be treated the same as tobacco cigarettes (see above).
- b. Possession of a lighter is also prohibited.

8. **Fireworks or self-defense devices**- Possession, use, or transfer of fireworks or self-defense devices (mace, pepper spray, shockers, etc.) shall be subject to remandment to an alternative school or an immediate suspension of up to 9 days.

9. **Skateboards, roller blades, and scooters** are not allowed in the building and will be held in the front office.

10. Students cannot bring stuffed animals, blankets, or pillows to school.

Prohibited Behaviors

11. **Bullying**- Participating in, inciting, advising, engaging in bullying, or counseling with others to engage in any act disruptive to regular school activities on or off campus will result in serious disciplinary measures.

12. **Horseplay**- Students who engage in horseplay will be appropriately disciplined.

13. **Obscenity and profanity**- Students who make obscene gestures or use profanity or vulgarity will be appropriately disciplined. Racial/cultural slurs will not be tolerated.

14. **Fighting**- Students fighting or committing an assault on school grounds or at a school activity are subject to immediate suspension and may be transported to a detention facility and prosecuted.

First offense - OSS - 5 days

Second offense - 9 days OSS or referral to alternative school.

15. **Threats**- Written or verbal threats to another student or staff member will not be tolerated. The student will be removed from the school setting pending the results of an investigation. Following the investigation, appropriate disciplinary action will be taken.

16. **Gambling**- Gambling will result in serious disciplinary measures.

First offense - ISS - 3 days

Second offense - OSS - 3 days

Possession of gambling devices (such as dice, poker cards, etc.) is also prohibited. Items will be confiscated and returned only to the parent/guardian.

17. **Theft**- Theft of any kind will result in automatic suspension. The offending student will be held responsible for compensation of stolen property and law enforcement authorities may be notified.

First offense - OSS- 5days

Second Offense – Remandment to alternative school

18. **Cheating**- Any form of cheating, including copying will result in a violation of BHS's Honor Code.

- a. Offending students may be subject to disciplinary action in accordance of the Honor Code. The complete Honor Code policy can be found on Blackman High School's website.
- b. Rutherford County has adopted a plagiarism policy. Please refer to the Rutherford County Student Handbook and Code of Behavior and Disciplines.

19. **Leaving Campus without permission**- Once a student has arrived on school grounds, leaving campus at any time before dismissal without permission will result in immediate suspension. Students leaving campus without permission may have their driving privileges revoked.

First offense - ISS - 3 days

Second offense - OSS - 3 days

20. **Skipping Class** – Remaining out of class or not reporting to an assigned location (while on campus) without an authorized excuse note will be considered skipping. This includes remaining in the restroom, counseling office, SRO's office, graduation coach, library, cafeteria, gym, or any other area.

First offense - ISS - 1 days

Second Offense - ISS - 3 days

21. **PDA**- Public displays of affection are limited to handholding only. Offending students will be disciplined and parents will be contacted. Students who violate this policy will be suspended.

First Offense- 1 day ISS

Second Offense- 3 days ISS

Third Offense- 1 day OSS

22. **Posting of unauthorized publications**- Non-school publications may not be distributed or posted without prior approval of the school administration. All approved school-related signs or posters must be attached to cork strips and must be removed promptly after the event. Anything that is posted must be signed by an administrator. Students who pass out flyers are subject to suspension.

23. **Vandalism**- Students who destroy or damage personal property of others shall pay for such damage according to the value set by school authorities and be subject to suspension from school and referral to law enforcement officials.

24. **False alarms**- Anyone activating a false fire alarm will be suspended for a minimum of 3 days OSS and reported to law enforcement officials.

25. **Gang Activity** - Gang activity will not be tolerated. This includes gestures, clothing, writings, or materials suggestive of or relating to gangs. Violators are subject to disciplinary action.

26. **Risks**- Conduct that poses a risk to self or others will not be tolerated.

27. **Tardiness** – Students are expected to be in their assigned classroom when the bell rings. If a student is excessively late, without prior teacher authorization, the tardy will be considered skipping.

The following list outlines the consequences for tardies (each semester):

1st Offense – Warning

2nd Offense – Warning

3rd Offense – Lunch and Learn

4th Offense – Lunch and Learn

5th Offense – 3 Lunch and Learns or Friday School

6th Offense – ISS 1 day

One Month Grace Period for Tardies

A student who has gone one month without a tardy will repeat the previous consequence instead of moving forward to the next consequence.

Electronic devices, cell phones, and earbuds

1. Cell phones are allowed in the cafeteria before school, during lunch, and after school.
2. Earbuds are permitted in the hallways during class changes. Volume must be kept at a personal level as to not disturb others.
3. Cell phone/earbud use is not permitted in the classroom unless permission is granted by the teacher for instructional purposes.
4. Unauthorized use of cell phone/earbuds will result in confiscation of the device and the following disciplinary consequences:
 - First offense – confiscation and warning
 - Second offense – confiscation and Lunch and Learn
 - Third offense – confiscation and Friday School/ISS
5. Confiscated device will be available for pick-up at 3:30 in the main office.
6. Refusal to turn over a device will result in 3 days OSS.
7. Any student who uses their phone or recording device to video/photograph without permission on school grounds will be suspended a minimum of 5 days OSS. Students may be remanded to alternative school based on the nature of the video/photo.
8. Participating in, inciting, advising, engaging in cyber-bullying (through social media, text messages, or other online forums), or counseling with others to engage in any act disruptive to regular school activities on or off campus will result in disciplinary measures.

Student Dress and Grooming

In keeping with the educational purpose of this school, students are expected to dress and groom themselves appropriately. Each student is expected to keep his or her person and clothing clean and neat. The following rules will be enforced for all Blackman students, male and female:

1. Holes, or the appearance of holes, above the knee in pants or shorts are not permitted.
2. Clothing and accessories with slogans, symbols, or displays about (or suggestive of) drugs, alcohol, sex, obscenities, gangs, sororities, fraternities or which prove to be a disturbing influence shall not be allowed.
3. Sleepwear, loungewear, and pajamas are not permitted. This includes house shoes.
4. Exposed undergarments are not allowed. This includes bra straps, bralettes, underwear, shorts under pants.
5. Visible cleavage is not allowed.
6. Bare midriffs, sheer or see-through clothing, bare backs, off-the-shoulder tops, tank tops, spaghetti straps, muscle shirts, and other revealing garments are not allowed. Sheer shirts with a tank top underneath are allowed.
7. Headwear that covers the majority of the hair area of the head is prohibited. Examples of headwear are hoods, hats, bandanas, head wraps (religious garments are the exception). Hooded sweatshirts may be worn, but students may not wear the hood up. Students violating this policy will have the article confiscated.

8. Rakes, picks, combs, curlers, athletic headbands, bandanas, chains, animal tails, or sunglasses may not be worn inside the building. Students violating this policy will have the article confiscated and held until the end of the year.
9. Leggings, jeggings, yoga pants, spandex, and form-fitting clothes are not suitable school wear. However they are allowable if worn in conjunction with skirts or dresses that meet school requirements for length (see below).
10. The length of shorts and/or skirts must be equal to or longer than the fingertip of the individual while standing in a relaxed position. This includes open slits in skirts.
11. Running shorts/soccer shorts are prohibited unless they are being worn as part of a school uniform during an athletic contest.
12. Baggy pants should be cinched with a belt and worn at the waist. Sagging is not permitted.
13. Long outerwear, such as trench coats, should be removed upon entering the building and may not be worn during the school day.
14. No face paint or masks are allowed.

Disciplinary Action for Violating Dress Code

First offense — Lunch and Learn

Second offense — Friday School

Third offense -- Suspension

Repeated/intentional dress code violations will be treated as defiance and will result in OSS.

Suspension

There are two types: in-school suspension (ISS) and out-of-school suspension (OSS). All students who are suspended at any time during the school year (ISS or OSS) must take final exams.

Students assigned to ISS should come to school at the regular time, but they must report to the ISS room by 8:30 a.m.

Co-op students MUST stay the entire day. Students present in ISS are not counted absent, and all schoolwork that is completed will count toward the nine-week grade. Teachers will send assignments to the ISS supervisor, and students should prepare for a full day of academic study. The most serious level of school discipline is OSS. During OSS, students are completely removed from the school environment and are not permitted to participate in any school-sponsored activity (including extra-curricular activities and sports). OSS is considered an unexcused absence.

Students will be given an opportunity to make up academic work for 80 % credit, and they must ask their individual teachers for assignments. They have five days to make up this work. Students are not permitted on campus for any reason during an OSS suspension.

Friday School (3:30-5:30 on designated Fridays)

Friday School may be an alternative to ISS assigned by administration for such offenses as tardiness, dress code, missed Lunch and Learn, and/or electronic device.

Lunch and Learn

Completion of class assignments and being on-time to class are important for student learning. If a student has a missing assignment or excessive tardies, he/she will be assigned to an academic support session during their lunch period called Lunch & Learn. Failure to attend Lunch & Learn will result in further disciplinary action. A student assigned Lunch & Learn must report to the Bistro before the tardy bell of his/her assigned lunch period. Students will be permitted to eat lunch during their Lunch & Learn period.

Pep Rallies

Students not participating must stay in designated departmental areas under supervision.

Students who choose to attend should observe the following guidelines:

- A. All students must stand with their class.
- B. Students must remain off the playing floor.
- C. No objects can be thrown, including paper confetti.
- D. Students should stand respectfully during the Alma Mater.
- E. Classes that exhibit un-sportsmanlike conduct will be disqualified from the spirit competition.
- F. Friday is blue and orange day. Students should wear clothes that promote Blackman High School. Students may not wear shirts, sweatshirts or items depicting opponent schools.

Students violating these guidelines will forfeit their right to attend future pep rallies.

Assemblies

Students are expected to conduct themselves properly before, during, and after assemblies. Any student causing a disturbance during an assembly, including pep rallies, will face suspension.

Visitors on Campus

Blackman High School is a closed campus. Visitors are not permitted except for official reasons (those approved by the principal's office). Guests should not be brought to school, as our full-time efforts must be directed toward our own students. This includes babies and small children. Social visits are not allowed. Parents should report to the main office and check in with a school official. Trespassers may receive a citation or be subject to arrest by the SRO.

Food and Drinks

Food is not permitted in classrooms. Drinks with tops are allowed in the classrooms at the teacher's discretion. Breakfast and lunch items are to be consumed only in the cafeteria. Students are responsible for keeping the cafeteria clean at all times and disposing of trash properly. Food and drinks are not allowed in the auditorium or near computers. Food deliveries from outside the school are not allowed without administrative approval. Students may not bring in outside food or drink during the school day.

Lunch

Food may not be taken out of the cafeteria. Parents may pay online by going to [Mealpayplus.com](https://mealpayplus.com), to put money on their student's account. You must know the student's ID number. There is a fee for this transaction. You must allow 24hrs for money to show up in the student account. If you want your child to get a meal only, then put money in meal account. If you want them to get other items then put money in general account.

Please feel free to call Blackman High Nutrition @ 615 904-3852 for any questions.

Lockers

Lockers and locks may be rented for \$5. Any other lock is not to be placed on the locker. The locker and combination lock are the student's personal responsibility. The school will not be responsible for its contents. If a student cannot open his/her locker, contact the bank. Loss of lock will result in a \$5 replacement fee. Students may not put stickers on their lockers.

Lost and Found

Unattended items should be turned in to the office immediately. Failure to do so will be considered theft. Blackman High School is not responsible for lost or stolen personal property. Students should not bring large amounts of money or other valuables to school.

Sales

Students may be asked to participate in school-sponsored sales. Selling for out-of-school groups (such as churches, clubs, fraternities, and sororities) will not be permitted. Only approved materials may be sold during designated times. Students who accept such materials are held responsible for either turning in money or returning the items to the teacher in charge. Items (and/or money) must be returned by a specified deadline. Failure to turn in items or money in a timely manner will result in withholding of grades or diplomas.

Student Insurance

Blackman High School does not sell insurance. However, as a convenience to students and their families, insurance is offered to interested students through an independent insurance agent.

Students participating in school athletics must either show proof of family coverage or subscribe to the school insurance.

Library

1. BHS library is open daily from 7:45-3:45. Students may choose to spend their lunch time in the library to work on assignments.
2. Students may check out up to 5 books and keep them for 3 weeks. If a student needs more time they may renew the book if the book is not on hold. Overdue books are assessed a fine of \$.10 a day, per book (maximum \$5 fine per book).
3. Students may print in the library for a cost of \$.10 a page for black and white or color printing.
4. The BHS Library's online resources can be found at galepages.com/tel_k_bhhs

Rutherford County Grading Scale:

A 93-100

B 85-92

C 75-84

D 70-74

F Below 70

Report Cards

Report cards are issued at the end of each nine-weeks grading period. Progress reports are issued at the midpoint of each nine weeks.

Grade Classification

A student must have earned these credits to be classified as:

5 credits 10th Grade

11 credits 11th Grade

17 credits 12th Grade

Grade Point Average (GPA) and Class Rank

All students and all subjects are included in class rank and GPA. The following 4-point scale is used for semester grades. GPA and class rank are based on semester averages only.

A	4 quality points
B	3 quality points
C	2 quality points
D	1 quality point
F	0 quality points

Class rank is computed at the end of the 5th and 7th semesters. When a course is failed and repeated, BOTH grades become a part of the GPA.

Connect and Impact (C&I)

Connect meets on Mondays for character development and academic progress monitoring. Students will not be allowed to change locations on Mondays. Impact meets on Tuesdays through Fridays for intervention, remediation, and enrichment in academic content areas. Tutoring services will be offered at this time. Students must have a C&I pass in order to change locations.

Withdrawal from School

To officially withdraw from school, a parent or guardian must notify their student's counselor in the counseling office. On the last day of attendance, the student should report to the counseling secretary in the counseling office to pick up a withdrawal form. This form must be signed by the student's teachers, guidance counselor, and principal when completed. When a student withdraws from school during the school term, all records must be cleared, textbooks returned, and indebtedness paid. A transcript will not be forwarded to another school for admission until the above criteria are met in the counseling office. A student will not be officially withdrawn until notification has been received of re-enrollment.

Exams

Exams are given at the end of a semester and at the end of the year. Only a medical excuse will be accepted for missing a mid-term or final exam.

Required Examinations

END OF COURSE TESTS: Students will take End of Course tests administered at the completion of following courses: English I and II, Integrated Math I, II, and III, Biology I, and U.S. History. These exams will count as the final exam grade for these classes.

ACT: ACT College entrance exam now required for all students in grade 11. The in-school ACT test given each spring is free of charge.

Optional Enrichment Testing for Students

Grade 10-11 - PSAT (given once each Fall semester) Used as a practice for the SAT. Measures Verbal and Mathematical abilities. Must be taken in 11th grade to compete for National Merit Scholarships.

Types of Diplomas

Rutherford County Valedictorian Requirements- 4.0 Grade Point Average, 12 Honors or Above Courses

Graduate with Honors- ACT minimum score of 18-English, 22-Math, 22-Reading, 23-Science

Graduation with Distinction – Students who attain a 3.0 average and complete at least one of the following:

- Earn a nationally recognized industry certification

- Participate in at least one of the Governor’s Schools
- Participate in one of the state’s All State musical organizations
- Be selected as a National Merit Finalist or semi-Finalist
- Attain a score of 31 or higher composite score on the ACT
- Attain a score of 3 or higher on at least two advanced placement exams
- Successfully complete the International Baccalaureate Diploma Programs
- Earn 12 or more semester hours of transcribed postsecondary credit

Tennessee Graduation Requirements

English	4 credits
Math	4 credits (must be enrolled in a math every year)
Science	3 credits
Social Studies	3 credits
Wellness	1.5 credits
World Language	2 credits
Fine Art	1 credit
Personal Finance	.5 credit
Elective Focus	3 credits
<u>Elective</u>	<u>1 credit</u>
Total	23 credits

What is Renaissance?

Renaissance is a nationally known program sponsored by Jostens, Inc. Its purpose is to promote excellence in schools.

Mission Statement

The mission of Renaissance is “to increase student performance and teacher enthusiasm and the level of community participation in schools.”

Goals

- Improve academic excellence
- Encourage, recognize, and reward good behavior
- Motivate students and teachers
- Instill pride in our school
- Increase student attendance rates

Renaissance Recognition Wall

The Renaissance Recognition Wall is located across from the cafeteria. Its purpose is to recognize students, faculty, and staff at BHS for their positive contributions. Students of the Week and Teacher and Staff of the Month are featured on the wall. Every grading period, students who earn high marks and exhibit good behavior have their names displayed on the wall.

Corporate sponsors are also featured on the Renaissance Recognition Wall for their contributions.

To be a corporate sponsor, please contact a Renaissance sponsor.

What is a BRAT?

A BRAT (Blackman Renaissance Action Team) is a positive role model for Blackman High School.

The BRAT pack (collection of BRATs) runs the Renaissance Program at BHS.

The BRAT pack is the best of the best, representing each grade level at BHS. To qualify, a student must earn a 3.25 GPA or above, have no ISS or OSS, and have three teacher recommendations.

Applications are accepted early in the spring semester. A member must have a minimum of 3 hours of service work per nine weeks.

Reward Programs

BRAT stickers

The BRAT sticker program rewards students for maintaining good grades and good behavior on the six weeks level. Higher grades will result in better rewards. Three levels of stickers are available: orange stickers are awarded for all A's (Principal's List), blue stickers are awarded for all A's and B's (Honor Roll), and perfect attendance. Students who have in-school or out-of-school suspensions during a grading period are not eligible for stickers.

B - Bonus for perfect attendance-FREE admission to BHS sponsored sporting events, ice cream reward at lunch.

R - Reward \$1 worth of credit in the BHS bookstore to be used towards a purchase.

A - Academic pass to be used @ the teacher's discretion for extra credit, homework passes, dropped daily grades, etc. Teacher initials sticker once reward is used.

T - Tardy pass to be used without penalty @ the teacher's discretion or no ID or missing agenda.

All other rewards (R, A, and T) are the same for perfect attendance sticker holders (see above).

Students who earn orange stickers are also treated to a Principal's List luncheon provided the principal and one of our sponsors. The luncheon takes place one week after the reward stickers are given out.

Perfect Attendance-awarded to students who have had no absence, no tardies to school, no checkouts (excused or unexcused) and no skipping class for a grading period. Students who earn stickers (listed above) are also eligible for perfect attendance stickers thus doubling their rewards.

Student of the Week and Teacher and Staff of the Month – Each week teachers nominate students for the coveted award of Student of the Week. One student per grade level is selected.

These students are then celebrated by a brief award presentation called a “hit-n-run” where they receive gifts from local businesses and Renaissance. Each month, Renaissance has an advertising promotion in the school newspaper featuring their pictures.

Every month students nominate teachers to be awarded Teacher of the Month; students and teachers nominate staff members to be honored as Staff of the month. The recognition and rewards for teachers and staff are similar as those for students.

Faculty Sponsors

Kim Garrott ext. 22904

BHS CLUBS/MISSION STATEMENTS/FEEES

- FCCLA: To promote personal growth and leadership development through Family and Consumer Sciences education. Dues - \$15
- JROTC: To motivate young people to be better citizens. Dues - \$17
- National Honor Society: The purpose of this society is to create enthusiasm for scholarship, to stimulate a desire to render service, to promote leadership, and to develop character in the members of the chapter and the school at large. Fee - \$22
- DECA: The guiding principles of DECA are to integrate activities into classroom instruction, apply learning, connect to the business community, and promote competition; as a result of these principles students become academically prepared, community oriented, professionally responsible, experienced leaders. Fee - \$35
- Ice Hockey: The BHS Ice Hockey club is to provide students of BHS the opportunity to play ice hockey on a school based team which gives them the opportunity to identify with and become a part of their school. Fees: \$1,000
- Psychology Club - The purposes of Psychology Club are to learn more in-depth aspects of psychology than covered in a normal class and to meet various practitioners in the field of psychology. Fee \$0
- Book Club - The purpose of Book Club is to share our love of reading. Fee \$0
- Ultimate Frisbee: An athletic club that strives to teach health and wellness as well as the fundamentals and spirit of the game through competition. Fee - \$183
- FFA: Makes a positive difference in the lives of students by developing their potential for premier leadership, personal growth and career success through agricultural education. Dues - \$12
- FBLA: Our mission is to bring business and education together in a positive working relationship through innovative leadership and career development programs. Fees - \$20
- Creative Writing Club: Will promote writing endeavors, provide peer feedback, and encourage publishing for young writers. Fee - \$0
- Student Council: The purpose of the Blackman High School Student Council is to act as a means of communication for and between the students, faculty, administration, and public, to provide students an opportunity to learn about and be part of a governing body, to aid students in developing and to exhibiting leadership qualities, and to promote school loyalty and spirit. Fee - \$0
- Timothy Club: A Bible Study club that meets together once a week to discuss a biblical lesson. Fee - \$0
- Key Club: Key Club is a community service oriented program run through Key Club International and Kiwanis. Fee - \$30
- Quizbowl/Quizbusters: The Quizbowl team is an academic competition team. Fee - \$25
- National Art Honor Society: The purpose of the BHS chapter of NAHS is to provide the students with an opportunity to expand their knowledge of art and provide meaningful information about the visual arts. Fee - \$10

- Future Aviators of America: To provide high school students who are interested in aviation opportunities to hear from career aviators and visit aerospace facilities and to heighten their awareness to possible employment in the aviation field. Fee - \$20
- Blaze Buddies: To establish and create opportunities for one-to-one friendships by matching high school student volunteers in mutually enriching friendships with persons with intellectual and developmental disabilities. Fee - \$0
- Skills USA: Skills USA is a partnership of students, teachers and members of industry working together to help students develop leadership skills, technical skills, and a solid work ethic needed for success in industry. Fee - \$20
- Spanish Club: To enhance the knowledge of cultural diversity of Spanish speaking countries through participation in games, crafts, stories, music, and food. Fee - \$7
- SWAG: The purpose of SWAG is to practice the art of dance and entertain. Fee - \$5
- First Priority: Is a student led Christian fellowship club that meets once a week for Bible study and prayer before school. Fee - \$0
- Beta Club: Is an academic organization that provides community service and competitive opportunities for our members. Fee - \$30
- Chess Club: Endeavors to provide a player friendly environment where chess players of all ability levels can play chess in a supportive atmosphere. Fee - \$10
- Dance Team: Mission of the BHS Dance Team is to entertain at sporting events, pep rallies, and school functions by displacing school spirit in the form of dance. Fee - \$800
- Mu Alpha Theta: This is the National Math Honor Society. Fee - \$15
- Science Olympiad: Our purpose is to bring science to life, to show how science works, to emphasize problem solving aspects of science and the understanding of science concepts, and to develop teamwork and cooperative learning strategies among students. Fee - \$0
- Blackman Information Technology: Club was formed to allow opportunities for students to further pursue technology training, career options, job sources and additional support for research in the IT and related fields. Fee - \$25
- French Club: To celebrate and explore French-speaking cultures and develop leadership skills in its members. Fee - \$6
- Swing Club: Provides BHS students with the opportunity to learn and enjoy swing dancing. Fee - \$15
- Math Team: The purpose of the team is to expose students to more challenging problems than they might have in their regular class and to prepare them for math competitions on the county and state levels. Fee - \$0
- HOSA: Provides opportunities for students to meet the needs of the health care communities. Fee - \$25
- Criminal Justice: The purpose of this club is to gather a collection of students who have an interest in Criminal Justice and share open discussions and gain knowledgeable insights into this career field. Fee - \$10
- Fellowship of Christian Athletes (FCA): The largest Christian sports organization in the world, challenges coaches and athletes on the professional, college, high school, junior high and youth levels to use the powerful medium of athletics to impact the world for Jesus Christ. Fee - \$0
- Trap: The purpose of the Trap Team is to educate students on the shooting sports, gun safety and awareness. Fee - \$1,000
- Latin Club: Promotes the love of the Latin language and exchange thoughts and ideas concerning the classics. Fee - \$8
- Stem Club: The mission of STEM club is to ignite student passion for science, technology, engineering, and math, and to provide them an outlet for curiosity in these fields. Fee-\$10
- Cause for PAWS: The purpose of this club is to educate and help animals in our community. Fee - \$0
- Film: The purpose of this club is to learn about film making and encourage students to make their own film. Fee - \$0