



**Colonial Heights  
Public Schools  
Employee Handbook  
2016-2017**

# TABLE OF CONTENTS

CLOSING & DELAYS:	
DELAYED OPENING	25
EMERGENCY CLOSING CODES	24
EMERGENCY CLOSING PROCEDURES	24
EMPLOYEE EVALUATIONS:	
EVALUATION OF CLASSIFIED PERSONNEL	17
EVALUATION PROCESS OF PROFESSIONAL & SUPPORT STAFF	16
EMPLOYEE LEAVE:	
ANNUAL LEAVE	25
CAROL MUNSCHE MEMORIAL SICK LEAVE BANK	28
COBRA	29
FAMILY AND MEDICAL LEAVE	31
LEAVE OF ABSENCE	26
MILITARY LEAVE	26
PART TIME EMPLOYMENT LEAVE	26
PERSONAL LEAVE FULL TIME EMPLOYMENT	27
SICK LEAVE FULL TIME EMPLOYMENT	27
PERSONNEL RECRUITMENT & RETENTION	
CHILD PROTECTIVE SERVICES	14
FINGERPRINTING	14
INSTRUCTIONAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF EMPLOYMENT	14
POSITION RECLASSIFICATION	16
STAFF ASSIGNMENTS AND TRANSFERS	19
STAFF DEVELOPMENT	17
SUBSTITUTES	18
SUPPORT PERSONNEL EMPLOYMENT	16
VACANCIES	13
POLICIES:	
CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT REPORTING	7
COMMUNICABLE DISEASE	7
CONFLICT OF INTEREST	8
DRUG-FREE WORKPLACE	8
EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER	9
FIREARMS AND DANGEROUS WEAPONS	9
GRIEVANCE PROCEDURE	9
HARASSMENT	9
HIPAA PRIVACY INFORMATION	10
IDENTITY THEFT IN THE WORKPLACE	10
NONDISCRIMINATION	11
POLICY CHANGES	7
SEXUAL HARASSMENT	11
STAFF ETHICS/CONFLICT OF INTEREST	13

TOBACCO FREE WORKPLACE	14
SALARIES & FRINGE BENEFITS:	
DUTY-FREE LUNCH PERIODS	20
GROUP LIFE INSURANCE	21
HEALTH INSURANCE	21
HOLIDAYS	21
HOW EMPLOYEES WHO WORK <12 MONTHS ARE PAID	20
RETIREMENT	21
SALARIES	18
SALARY SCHEDULE AND INCREMENTS	19
TRAVEL PAY	22
VOLUNTARY DEDUCTIONS	22
WORKER'S COMPENSATION	23
SCHOOL ADMINISTRATION:	
EMPLOYEE HANDBOOK	7
EMPLOYEE HANDBOOK SIGNATURE PAGE	37
QUESTIONS, CONTACT...	6
SCHOOL ADMINISTRATION OFFICES STAFF	2
SCHOOL BOARD MEMBERS	1
SCHOOL BUILDINGS, PRINCIPALS, AND DIRECTORS/COORDINATORS	3
SCHOOL CALENDAR	4
STAFF SCHEDULES:	
ABSENTEEISM AND TARDINESS	20
WORK DAYS FOR STAFF	22
TEACHERS/ADMINISTRATORS & LICENSURES:	
COURSES FOR RENEWAL CREDIT	15
EMPLOYEE RECOGNITION - Teacher of the Year	21
HOME CONTACT	18
LICENSURE RENEWAL	16
PROBATIONARY PERIOD FOR INSTRUCTIONAL PERSONNEL	16
TECHNOLOGY:	
ACCEPTABLE COMPUTER SYSTEM USE POLICY	33
ACCEPTABLE COMPUTER SYSTEM USE REGULATIONS	35
ACCEPTABLE COMPUTER SYSTEM USER AGREEMENT	37
ACCESS TO SOCIAL MEDIA ACCOUNTS	15
SOCIAL NETWORKING SITES	12

**Colonial Heights Public School Board**  
**512 Boulevard**  
**Colonial Heights, Virginia 23834**  
**Phone: (804) 524-3400**  
**Fax: (804) 526-4524**  
  
**[www.colonialhts.net](http://www.colonialhts.net)**

**SCHOOL BOARD MEMBERS**

**Mike Yates**  
**Chairman**

**Angie Woody**  
**Vice-Chairman**

**Krishan Agrawal**  
**Board Member**

**Sandra B. Coleman**  
**Board Member**

**J. Chris Kollman, III**  
**Board Member**

**Cameron Cox**  
**Student Representative**

**Nancy Boshier**  
**Clerk of the Board**  
512 Boulevard  
Colonial Heights, VA 23834  
Office: 526-0811, ext. 10

**Colonial Heights Public Schools  
School Administration Offices Staff**

**Dr. Joseph O. Cox, Jr.**  
*Superintendent of Schools*

**Mrs. Haidee Napier**  
*Assistant Superintendent for Instructional Services*

**Mr. Troy E. Hedblom, CPA, CFE**  
*Assistant Superintendent for Business Services*

**Mrs. Gwen Moseley**  
*Director of Data and Assessment*

**Mrs. Christy George**  
*Director of Support Services*

**Mr. Tim Tillman**  
*Director of Technology and Learning*

**Ms. Maria T. Yench**  
*Director of Finance and Budget*

**Dr. Joseph A. Douglas**  
*Instructional Specialist*

**Dr. Candy Llewellyn**  
*Instructional Specialist/Reading Coach*

**Mr. Jake Reynolds**  
*Instructional Specialist/Math Coach*

**Mr. Burke George**  
*Human Resource Manager*

**Mr. Jesse MacLelland**  
*Transportation Director*

**Mrs. Nancy Bosh**  
*Clerk of the Board*

**Mrs. Melissa Lynch**  
*Accounting & Special Projects*

**Mrs. Rebecca Millirons**  
*Payroll*

**Mrs. Melissa Kapinskis**  
*Accounts Payable*

**School Buildings, Principals, and  
Directors/Coordinators**

**Lakeview Elementary School**

401 Taswell Avenue  
Colonial Heights, VA 23834  
Gr K-5 (804) 524-3435  
Patrick Neuman, Principal

**Colonial Heights Middle School**

500 Conduit Road  
Colonial Heights, VA 23834  
Gr 6-8 (804) 524-3420  
William V. Hertz, Principal  
Remus James, Assistant Principal

**North Elementary School**

3201 Dale Avenue  
Colonial Heights, VA 23834  
Gr K-5 (804) 524-3430  
Travis Ridley, Principal

**Colonial Heights High School**

3600 Conduit Road  
Colonial Heights, VA 23834  
Grade 9-12 (804) 524-3405  
Kristin Janssen, Principal  
James Burnett, Assistant Principal

**Tussing Elementary School**

5501 Conduit Road  
Colonial Heights, VA 23834  
Gr K-5 (804) 524-3440  
Remus James, Principal

**Colonial Heights High School  
Technical Center**

3451 Conduit Road  
Colonial Heights, VA 23834  
(804) 524-3405  
John Thomas, Jr., Assistant Principal

**Office of Support Services**

3451 Conduit Road  
Colonial Heights, VA 23834  
(804) 524-3445  
Christy George, Director

**Maintenance Department**

2600 Woodlawn Ave.  
Colonial Heights, VA 23834  
(804) 524-3448  
Kenneth Harrell, Director

**Food Service Office**

3451 Conduit Road  
Colonial Heights, VA 23834  
(804) 524-3453  
Aaron Robertson, Director  
Tiffany Carter, Administrator

**Transportation**

Jesse MacLelland, Coordinator  
(804) 704-7648  
Kathy Alexander, Secretary  
(804) 524-3400, ext. 31

## School Calendar 2016-2017

### JULY 2016

4 Independence Day Holiday

### AUGUST 2016

15-26 1 Flex Day – 10 month personnel (8AM-3PM)

22-26 New Teacher Orientation (8AM-3PM)

29-31 Professional Development (8AM-3PM)

### SEPTEMBER 2016

1-2 Professional Development (8AM-3PM)

1 Open House – Elementary Gr. 1-5 (3PM-6PM)

1 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Orientation (1PM-3PM)

1 Open House – Middle School Gr. 7-8 (3PM-6PM)

1 9<sup>th</sup> Grade Orientation (10AM)

1 Open House – High School Gr. 10-12 (3PM-6PM)

2 Kindergarten Orientation (10AM)

5 Labor Day Holiday

6 First Day of School

### OCTOBER 2016

6 Interim Report Day (HS, MS, ES)

10 Parent Teacher Conferences – High School (4-7 PM)

13 Parent Teacher Conferences – Middle School (4-7 PM)

### NOVEMBER 2016

4 End of First Nine Weeks

8 Student Holiday/Professional Development Day

14 Report Card Distribution Day

17 Parent Teacher Conferences—Elementary Schools (4-7PM)

23 Half Day Student/Staff Holiday

24-25 Thanksgiving Holiday

### DECEMBER 2016

8 Interim Report Day (HS, MS, ES)

16 Half Day Student/Staff Holiday

19-30 Winter Holiday

### JANUARY 2017

2 School Reopens

16 Martin Luther King Day Holiday

24-26 Secondary Exams

26 End of Second Nine Weeks

27 Student Holiday/Professional Development Day

30 Student Holiday/Teacher Work Day

## School Calendar 2016-2017

### FEBRUARY 2017

- 6 Report Card Distribution Day
- 20 Presidents Day Holiday

### MARCH 2017

- 2 Interim Report Day (HS, MS, ES)
- 6 Parent Teacher Conferences – High School (4-7 PM)
- 9 Parent Teacher Conferences –Middle School (4-7 PM)
- 16 Parent Teacher Conferences – Elementary Schools (4-7PM)
- 31 End of Third Nine Weeks

### APRIL 2017

- 10-14 Spring Break
- 17 Report Card Distribution Day

### MAY 2017

- 18 Interim Report Day (HS, MS, ES)
- 29 Memorial Day Holiday

### JUNE 2017

- 12-14 Secondary Exams
- 15 Last Day of School - ½ Day Students
- 15 End of Fourth Nine Weeks
- 15 Graduation
- 16 Teacher Work Day

*This calendar exceeds the required 990 instructional hours required by Law 22.1-98. Unless an extreme amount of time is missed due to school closing, time missed will not be rescheduled. The last day of school (June 16) will be a half day for all students. Graduation is June 15.*



**Questions, contact .....**  
**Please call or schedule an appointment if you have questions!!**

**Burke George, HR Manager**

(Burke\_George@colonialhts.net) 524-3400, Ext 18

❖ Licensure and Renewal	❖ Coursework for Licensure	❖ Adding Endorsements	❖ Contract Issues and Questions
❖ General Personnel Information/Questions		❖ Scheduling to Review Employee Files	

**Melissa Lynch/Accounting & Special Projects Specialist**

(Melissa\_Lynch@colonialhts.net) 524-3400, Ext 23

❖ Leave (Sick, Personal Business, Annual)	❖ Family Medical Leave (FMLA)	❖ Volunteers
❖ Sick Leave Bank	❖ Worker's Compensation	

**Rebecca "Becky" Millirons/Payroll and Benefits Specialist**

(Rebecca\_Millirons@colonialhts.net) 524-3400, Ext 16

❖ Payroll Information/Questions	❖ Health Insurance	❖ Virginia Retirement System
❖ Tax Sheltered Annuities (TSA), 403 B	❖ Direct Deposit and Changing Tax Withholding	

**Melissa Kapinskis/Business Services Specialist**

(Melissa\_Kapinskis@colonialhts.net) 524-3400, Ext 15

❖ Reimbursement for Travel or Supplies	❖ Credit Card Usage for School Division	❖ Invoices, Billing
❖ Vendor Questions	❖ Purchase Order Questions or Change Orders	

**Doris Swearingen/Secretary**

(Doris\_Swearingen@colonialhts.net) 524-3400, Ext 11

❖ Professional Development (courses and conferences)	❖ Field Trip Requests
❖ Tuition Assistance Requests	

**Must be submitted 30 days in advance**

## **GENERAL INFORMATION**

### **EMPLOYEE HANDBOOK**

The administration will update, publish, and make available to all employees a personnel handbook annually. The explanations contained in this booklet are intended to provide information relating to our school system, including benefits. Most information provided for benefits is in summary form only. The policies set forth in this employee handbook are merely guidelines for the employee and are provided for informational purposes only. The employer is in no way bound, contractually or otherwise, to the rules, policies and procedures contained herein and reserve the right to deviate from these guidelines without notice. This employee handbook in whole or in part does not create a written employment contract and does not modify the at-will nature of your employment or guarantee continued employment.

### **POLICY CHANGES**

The Policy manual of Colonial Heights Public Schools is accessible by the website at: [www.colonialhts.net](http://www.colonialhts.net) or by calling the School Administration Offices at (804) 524-3400. The Policy Manual is maintained at the School Administration Office by the Clerk of the Board.

## **SCHOOL POLICIES**

### **CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT REPORTING**

Every employee of Colonial Heights School Board who has reason to suspect that a child is abused or neglected or abandoned, shall immediately report the matter to:

- the local department of social services where the child resides or where the abuse or neglect is believed to have occurred;
- the Virginia Department of Social Services' toll-free child abuse and neglect hotline; or
- the person in charge of the school or department, or his designee, who shall make the report forthwith to the local or state agency. The person making the report to the local or state agency must notify the person making the initial report when the report of suspected abuse or neglect is made to the local or state agency, and of the name of the individual receiving the report, and must forward any communication resulting from the report, including any information about any actions taken regarding the report, to the person who made the initial report.

Any person required to report cases of suspected child abuse or neglect are immune from civil or criminal liability or administrative penalty or sanction on account of such reports unless such person has acted in bad faith or with malicious purpose.

*(See School Board policies [GAE/JHG](#))*

### **COMMUNICABLE DISEASE**

The School Board, in compliance with state law, shall exclude from school attendance and school related functions or work in the school setting any person with an infectious or communicable disease.

*(See School Board policies [JHCC](#), [JHCCA](#) and [JHCCA-R](#))*

## **CONFLICT OF INTEREST**

The State and Local Government Conflict of Interests Act (the Act), applies to public school employees and officials. The Act creates uniform standards of conduct for all public employees and officials. The Act also defines and prohibits inappropriate conflicts of interest and requires disclosure of economic interests in some circumstances. The Act prohibits school employees from having a "personal interest," as that term is defined by the Act, in certain contracts and transactions that involve the division and from engaging in other specified conduct related to the schools. The prohibited personal interest also may be that of the school employee's immediate family (a spouse or any other person who resides in the same household as the employee and who is a dependent of the employee).

Under the Act, an employee may be considered to have a prohibited conflict arising from:

- a personal interest in a contract;
- a personal interest in a transaction;
- business opportunities tied to official acts;
- misuse of confidential information; or
- receipt or solicitation of certain gifts.

Examples of prohibited conduct include:

- soliciting or accepting money or other thing of value for services performed within the scope of the employee's official duties, except for the employee's compensation, expenses or other remuneration paid by the division;
- using for the employee's own economic benefit or that of another party, confidential information that the employee has acquired by reason of the employee's public position and which is not available to the public;
- accepting any money, loan, gift, favor, service or business or professional opportunity that reasonably tends to influence the employee in the performance of the employee's official duties;
- accepting any business or professional opportunity when the employee knows that there is a reasonable likelihood that the opportunity is being afforded to influence the employee in the performance of the employee's official duties;
- entering into contracts with the school division under certain circumstances;
- accepting a gift from a person who has interests that may be substantially affected by the performance of the employee's official duties under circumstances where the timing and nature of the gift would cause a reasonable person to question the employee's impartiality in the matter affecting the donor; and
- accepting gifts from sources on a basis so frequent as to raise an appearance of the use of the employee's position for private gain.

*(See School Board Policy [GAH](#))*

## **DRUG-FREE WORKPLACE**

The Colonial Heights Public School Board is committed to maintaining a Drug-Free Workplace.

The unlawful manufacture, distribution, dispensing, possession or use of a controlled substance by any employee on school property, at any school activity, or on any school-sponsored trip is prohibited. A controlled substance means any narcotic drug, hallucinogenic drug, amphetamines, barbiturates, marijuana, anabolic steroids, alcohol, or any other controlled substance as defined in the "Drug Control Act" in the Code of Virginia. Any employee convicted of any drug related

crime occurring under the circumstances described above shall notify the superintendent within five (5) days after such conviction. Compliance with this provision is a condition of employment.

The superintendent and School Board will take appropriate personnel action up to and including dismissal of any employee found in violation of this provision.

*(See School Board Policies [GBEA](#) and [GBEA-R](#))*

### **EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER**

The Colonial Heights School Board is an equal opportunity employer, committed to non-discrimination in recruitment, selection, hiring, pay, promotion, retention or other personnel actions affecting employees or candidates for employment. Therefore, discrimination in employment against any person on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, ancestry, political affiliation, sex, gender, gender identity, age, marital status, genetic information or disability is prohibited. Personnel decisions shall be based on merit and the ability to perform the essential functions of the job, with or without reasonable accommodation.

*(See School Board Policy [GB](#))*

### **FIREARMS AND DANGEROUS WEAPONS**

The Colonial Heights School Board is committed to maintaining a safe and secure working and learning environment.

**Violation:** Staff is prohibited from possessing or using any firearm or weapon in any school building, on school property, in any school vehicle or at any school-sponsored activity without the authorization of the Superintendent or his designee.

**Disciplinary Action:** The superintendent and School Board will take appropriate personnel action up to and including dismissal of any employee found in violation of this provision. Violators may be prohibited from returning to school property. All illegal conduct shall be reported in accordance with state law.

*(See School Board Policy [GBEB](#))*

### **GRIEVANCE PROCEDURE**

The Colonial Heights School Board honors the procedures for adjusting grievances as prescribed by the Board of Education of the Commonwealth of Virginia and amended by that body from time to time. Grievances must be initiated in writing and describe the event or action complained of, the date of the event or action, a concise description of the basis for the claim and the relief requested on the form provided by the School Board. The term grievance does not include a dispute relating to the establishment and revision of wages or salaries, position classifications or general benefits; suspension; the establishment or contents of personnel policies, procedures, rules and regulations; failure to promote; or discharge, layoff, or suspension from duties because of decrease in enrollment, decrease in enrollment in a particular subject, abolition of a particular subject, budget cuts or insufficient funding; hiring, transfer, assignment, and retention of employees within the school division; suspension from duties in emergencies; or the methods, means, and personnel by which the school division's operations are to be carried on.

*(See School Board Policies [GBM](#), [GBM-BOE](#), [GBMA](#) and [GBMA-R](#))*

### **HARASSMENT**

The Colonial Heights School Board is committed to maintaining an educational environment and workplace that is free from harassment. In accordance with law, the Board prohibits harassment

against students, employees, or others on the basis of sex, gender, race, color, national origin, disability, religion, ancestry, age, marital status, genetic information or any other characteristic protected by law or based on a belief that such characteristic exists at school or any school sponsored activity.

The School Division shall promptly investigate all complaints of harassment, written or verbal, promptly take appropriate action to stop any harassment and take appropriate action against any student or school personnel who violates this policy and take any other action reasonably calculated to end and prevent further harassment of school personnel or students.

The School Board has designated **Christy George**, Director of Office of Support Services, 3451 Conduit Road, Colonial Heights, Virginia 23834, Christy\_George@Colonialhts.net, (804)524-3445 as the Compliance Officer responsible for identifying, preventing and remedying prohibited harassment. Complaints of harassment can also be made to the Alternate Compliance Officer, **Dr. Joe Douglas**, Instructional Specialist, 401 Taswell Avenue, Colonial Heights, Virginia 23834, Joe\_Douglas@Colonialhts.net, (804)524-3435.

(See School Board Policies [GBA/JFHA](#) and [GBA/JFHA-R](#))

### **HIPAA PRIVACY INFORMATION**

Colonial Heights School may have access to certain limited medical information related to your employment and to absences for medical reasons. In addition, we receive medical claims information from our health insurance provider that is NOT identifiable by employee. The Department of Health and Human Services has established a "Privacy Rule" to help insure that personal health information is protected for privacy. We are required by law to maintain the privacy of your personal health information. We will secure and protect your personal health information in accordance with HIPAA guidelines.

### **IDENTITY THEFT IN THE WORKPLACE**

The Colonial Heights Schools has an anti-theft program in the workplace to protect personal information. "Identity theft" occurs when one individual misappropriates another's identifying information and uses that information for criminal or fraudulent purposes. The majority of identity theft cases involve some type of financial crime. There are also more subtle forms of identity theft, such as using another person's driver's license, social security or employee identification number to pass background checks, get health insurance, gain security clearance or employment authorization, etc.

The Federal Trade Commission has published a guide for "*Protecting Personal Information, A Guide for Business.*" It basically addresses five key principles:

	<b>Take Stock.</b> Know what personal information you have in your files and on your computers. Evaluate the necessity of maintaining the data in your files.
	<b>Scale Down.</b> If you don't need the information, don't collect the information. Keep only what you need for the file, try to avoid duplications.
	<b>Lock It.</b> Protect the information that you keep. Follow the guidelines as established in the Computer Usage Agreement in regards to password protection and data security. Keep all confidential information out of the sight and locked.

	<b>Pitch It.</b> Properly dispose of what you no longer need. Get in the practice of shredding documents, not disposing of them in wastebaskets. Each location maintains a locked shred bin.
	<b>Plan Ahead.</b> Create a plan to respond to security incidents. Notify your supervisor immediately if personal information is compromised.

Above all else in the general workplace, social security numbers cause the most problems and must be protected. When reviewing, filing, sorting, and copying documents, please make sure they are kept private and out of view to the general public. A good rule of thumb is to treat this sensitive material as if it were cash -- you would not leave it sitting out.

### **NONDISCRIMINATION**

The Board is committed to a policy of nondiscrimination in relation to race, color, religion, national origin, ancestry, political affiliation, sex, gender, gender identity, age, marital status, genetic information, or disability. This commitment will prevail in all of its policies and practices concerning staff, students, educational programs and services, and individuals and entities with whom the Board does business.

The Board will designate an individual(s) to act as the division's compliance officer under the provisions of Title IX and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act. The School Board has designated **Christy George**, Director of Office of Support Services, 3451 Conduit Road, Colonial Heights, Virginia 23834, Christy\_George@Colonialhts.net, (804)524-3445 as the Compliance Officer responsible for identifying, investigating, preventing and remedying prohibited discrimination. Complaints of discrimination can also be made to the Alternate Compliance Officer, **Dr. Joe Douglas**, 401 Taswell Avenue, Colonial Heights, Virginia 23834, Joe\_Douglas@Colonialhts.net, (804)524-3435.

*(See School Board Policy [AC](#) and [GB](#))*

### **SEXUAL HARASSMENT**

It is the policy of the Colonial Heights School Board to maintain a working and learning environment for all its employees and students which provides for fair and equitable treatment, including freedom from sexual harassment. It is prohibited for any employee or student, male or female, to harass another employee or student by making unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors, sexually motivated physical conduct or other verbal or physical conduct or communication, which may include the use of cell phones or the internet, of a sexual nature, when (1) submission to such conduct or communication is made a term or condition, either explicitly or implicitly, of obtaining or retaining employment or education, (2) submission to or rejection of such conduct or communication is used as a factor in decisions affecting that individuals employment or education, or (3) such conduct or communication substantially or unreasonably interferes with an individual's employment or education, or creates an intimidating, hostile or offensive employment or educational environment.

Any employee who believes that he/she has been subjected to sexual harassment should file a written complaint of the alleged act immediately with his/her immediate supervisor/principal or to the Title IX compliance officer. If the complaint is against the supervisor/principal or the Title IX compliance officer, the complaint shall be filed with the Superintendent. The written complaint should state in detail the basis for the complaint, the names of the persons involved, and the dates of any specific incidents. A thorough confidential investigation of all reported incidents to

determine the nature and extent of any alleged sexual harassment will be undertaken immediately. The question of whether a particular action or incident is prohibited behavior requires a determination based on all the available facts in the matter. A written report shall be filed at the conclusion of any investigation of sexual harassment regardless of the outcome of that investigation.

Any administrator, teacher or employee who is found, after appropriate investigation, to have engaged in sexual harassment of another employee or student will be subject to disciplinary action appropriate to the offense, from a warning up to discharge. Any act of retaliation against individuals filing a sexual harassment complaint or testifying, assisting or participating in the handling of a complaint is prohibited. Retaliators will be subject to discipline up to discharge.

The School Board has designated **Christy George**, Director of Office of Support Services, 3451 Conduit Road, Colonial Heights, Virginia 23834, Christy\_George@Colonialhts.net, (804)524-3445 as the Compliance Officer responsible for identifying, investigating, preventing and remedying prohibited harassment. Complaints of discrimination can also be made to the Alternate Compliance Officer, **Dr. Joe Douglas**, Instructional Specialist, 401 Taswell Avenue, Colonial Heights, Virginia 23834, Joe\_Douglas@Colonialhts.net, (804)524-3435.

*(See School Board Policies [GBA/JFHA](#) and [GBA/JFHA-R](#))*

## **SOCIAL NETWORKING SITES**

Colonial Heights Public Schools recognizes the value of student, teacher, parent, and community interaction. Collaboration, resource and information sharing, online tutoring, and other instructional applications can be facilitated by the judicious use of Internet tools.

A Colonial Heights Public School employee may communicate through electronic media with current CHPS students for educational purposes. All online communication in which an individual hold him/herself out as a CHPS employee must be consistent with CHPS policies and regulations.

Any CHPS employee who communicates through electronic media with one or more current CHPS students for educational purposes or as a CHPS employee shall not include in his communication any language or symbols of a religious, political, social, or other nature that are improper to use in a non-electronic forum. This includes the avoidance of inappropriate or illegal postscripts and footnotes at the end of electronic communications.

### Employee Use of Personal Social Networking Sites

Employees shall make student internet safety, including the protection of students' personal information, a priority. CHPS discourages any employee from establishing an online social networking relationship with a currently enrolled CHPS student on his or her personal social networking site(s), such as Facebook, Twitter, and MySpace. For the protection and safety of both employees and students, employees should consider limiting internet contact and communication with such students to available school division-approved, work related social networking resources made available through the CHPS network.

In all use of personal social networking sites, employees should:

- Maintain appropriate professional boundaries and authority as a classroom teacher, administrator, or supervisor;
- Practice online reputation management by considering the personal, professional and



social impact of what you post;

- Establish appropriate privacy settings to limit access to personal information contained on your social networking site;
- Establish social networking relationships with caution and consider "unfriending" those who post inappropriate content that may be viewed on your social networking site;
- Refrain from inappropriate electronic communications with students;
- Recognize that students may not exercise good judgment and may use social media inappropriately;
- Avoid the appearance of impropriety;
- Refrain from posting negative information about students, fellow employees or the school division;
- Refrain from uploading inappropriate content; exercise caution when posting links to other Internet or social networking sites and consider ad-free sites for hosting videos to eliminate inadvertent access to inappropriate advertisements and content.

#### Consequences of Inappropriate Use of Social Networking

All employees are expected to know and are responsible for observing federal and state laws as well as the School Board's policies and regulations pertinent to their work activities. Accordingly, employee use of social networking found to be in violation of one or more CHPS policies, regulations or procedures and/or in violation of any applicable state or federal law may result in disciplinary action, up to and including termination.

*(See School Board Policies [IIBEA-R2/GAB-R2](#))*

### **STAFF ETHICS/CONFLICT OF INTEREST**

The Board expects members of its professional staff to be familiar with the code of ethics that applies to their profession and to adhere to it in their relationships with students, parents, co-workers, and officials of the division. The Virginia General Assembly has enacted the State and Local Government Conflict of Interests Act (Code of VA § 2.2-31) so that the standards of conduct for state and local government employees may be uniform throughout the Commonwealth. The Board recognizes the Act as the single body of controlling law for which it has been enacted and endorses its intent, purpose and requirements.

**Conflict of Interest:** Employees of the Board will not engage in, or have financial interest in, any activity that raises a reasonable question of conflict of interest with their duties and responsibilities as members of the school staff. The following is prohibited:

- Solicit or accept money, or anything else of value, for services performed within the scope of his or her official duties other than his or her regular compensation, expenses or other remuneration;
- Offer or accept money, or anything else of value, for or in consideration of obtaining employment, appointment, or promotion in the school division;
- Offer or accept any money or anything else of value for or in consideration of the use of his public position to obtain a contract for any person or business with the school division
- Use for his or her own economic benefit, or anyone else's, confidential information gained by reason of his or her office, and which is not available to the public;
- Accept any money, loan, gift, favor or service that might reasonably tend to influence the discharge of duties;



Accept any business or professional opportunity from which a School Board member may gain a financial benefit, where the member knows or should know that there is a reasonable likelihood that the opportunity is being offered with intent to influence his or her conduct in the performance of official duties. *(See School Board policy [BBFA](#) & [State and Local Government Conflict of Interests Act](#))*

### **TOBACCO FREE WORKPLACE**

Smoking, chewing or any other use of any tobacco products by staff, students, and visitors is prohibited on school property. The use of electronic cigarettes is prohibited on school buses, on school premises and at school-sponsored activities.

School property means any building, property or vehicle owned, leased, contracted for and used regularly by the school system.

*(See School Board Policies [GBEC/JFCH](#), [GBECA](#) and [JFCH](#))*

## **CONDITIONS OF EMPLOYMENT**

### **CHILD PROTECTIVE SERVICES**

Each new employee will have a background check done by the Virginia Department of Social Services through the Child Protective Services division. The School Board will pay the required fee. The report cannot be disseminated to any other agency.

### **FINGERPRINTING**

By law, a Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) criminal history record check/ fingerprinting is a condition of employment for employees hired as of July 1, 2000. Failure to meet this requirement will result in dismissal. The School Board will pay the required fee. Fingerprints are kept on file permanently. The report cannot be disseminated to any other agency.

Two reports for fingerprinting are received; one from the Virginia State Police and the other from the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI).

## **PERSONNEL RECRUITMENT AND RETENTION**

### **VACANCIES**

Information on job openings within the Colonial Heights Public Schools can be obtained by reviewing our website at: [www.colonialhts.net](http://www.colonialhts.net) or the website at: [www.teachers-teachers.com](http://www.teachers-teachers.com). Positions are posted within the school system.

### **INSTRUCTIONAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF EMPLOYMENT**

Upon recommendation of the superintendent, the Board will approve the employment of all instructional and administrative personnel. Contracts will be issued in compliance with state laws and regulations and will be binding and can be broken only by mutual consent.

The State Board of Education or the Colonial Heights School Board shall, by regulation, prescribe the requirements for certification of teachers and other school personnel. No teacher shall be regularly employed by a School Board or paid from public funds unless such teacher holds a license or provisional license issued by the State Board of Education. Requirements for classroom teachers, special educators, vocational educators, guidance counselors, reading specialists, school psychologists, visiting teachers/social workers, etc., are stated in the Licensure Regulations for School Personnel (8 VAC 20-22-10 et seq.) adopted by the State Board of Education and effective September 21, 2007, revised August 28, 2013.

It is the responsibility of the teacher to keep his/her license in force. All licenses except the Provisional License are renewable. Renewal is based on the completion of 180 professional development points every five years. All new professional staff members are required to meet the State Technology Standards for Instructional Personnel (8 VAC 20-25-30) by April 15 of the current school year.

Once a contract is signed for a school year, a release will not be granted until a suitable replacement can be found. After your contract is signed, you must obtain written permission to interview outside of the school division.

### **ACCESS TO EMPLOYEE SOCIAL MEDIA ACCOUNTS**

The Colonial Heights School Board does not require current or prospective employees to disclose the username or password to the employee's personal social media accounts or to add an employee, supervisor or administrator to the list of contacts associated with the employee's personal social media account. If the School Board or a School Board employee inadvertently receives an employee's username and password to, or other login information associated with, the employee's personal social media account through the use of an electronic device provided to the employee by the School Board or a program that monitors the School Board's network, the Board will not be liable for having the information but will not use the information to gain access to the employee's social media account. This policy does not prohibit the School Board and its agents from viewing information about a current or prospective employee that is publicly available. This policy does not prohibit the School Board from requesting an employee to disclose the employee's username and password for the purpose of accessing a personal social media account if the employee's social media account activity is reasonably believed to be relevant to a formal investigation or related proceeding by the Board of allegations of an employee's violation of federal, state or local laws or regulations or of the Board's written policies. If the Board exercises its rights under this paragraph, the employee's username and password will only be used for the purpose of the formal investigation or a related proceeding.

*(See School Board Policy [GAD](#))*

### **COURSES FOR RENEWAL CREDIT**

Courses taken for recertification by a teacher must be approved by the teacher's advisor, the building principal or site supervisor. This requirement is established to ensure that teachers enroll in classes in their academic teaching area or classes required to improve a deficient area.

## **LICENSURE RENEWAL**

It is the employee's responsibility to maintain a valid license. Instructional and professional licenses for renewal are sent to the Virginia Department of Education. Paperwork for license renewal must be sent to the personnel office. It is the employee's responsibility to provide the necessary information and documentation. The School Board will assist the employee by paying the licensure fee for all current employees. Any license renewals received after May 31 will not be paid by the School Board. All requirements for license renewal **must** be completed and filed with the Virginia Department of Education prior to July 1 for the individual to be employable. Please reference the Licensure Renewal Manual published by the Department of Education. ([http://www.doe.virginia.gov/teaching/licensure/licensure\\_renewal\\_manual.pdf](http://www.doe.virginia.gov/teaching/licensure/licensure_renewal_manual.pdf))

## **SUPPORT PERSONNEL EMPLOYMENT**

Support staff personnel are those employees who need not hold a license issued by state education authorities in order to obtain their positions. This category includes, but is not limited to, non-licensed administrative, clerical, maintenance, transportation, food service, and paraprofessional positions.

Full-time support personnel receive a contract annually. If the Board or the employee wishes to terminate employment, two (2) weeks' notice must be given by either party.

## **POSITION RECLASSIFICATION**

Whenever a position is reclassified, meaning changed from one level to another, the position will be advertised, unless the change in level is less. In such cases, the superintendent has the latitude to fill the position without advertising.

## **PROBATIONARY PERIOD FOR INSTRUCTIONAL PERSONNEL**

Teachers who are beginning their teaching careers in Colonial Heights will serve a minimum of three years of probation before they are eligible to be recommended for a continuing contract. Teachers who have attained a continuing contract in another school division in the Commonwealth of Virginia need not serve another probationary period unless such probationary period, not to exceed two years, is made a part of the contract of employment. If a teacher separates from service and returns to teaching service in Virginia public schools by the beginning of the third year, the person shall be required to begin a new probationary period, not to exceed two years, if made part of the contract.

In order to achieve continuing contract status, every teacher must successfully complete training in instructional strategies and techniques for intervention for or remediation of students who fail or are at risk of failing the Standards of Learning assessments. Colonial Heights School Board provides said training at no cost to teachers it employs. If such training is not offered in a timely manner, no teacher will be denied continuing contract status for failure to obtain such training.

*(See School Board Policy [GCG](#))*

## **EVALUATION PROCESS OF PROFESSIONAL & SUPPORT STAFF**

Every employee of the Colonial Heights School Board will be evaluated on a regular basis at least as frequently as required by law.

The superintendent shall assure that cooperatively developed procedure for professional staff evaluations are implemented throughout the division and included in the division's policy manual. The results of the evaluation shall be in writing, dated and signed by the evaluator and the person being evaluated, with one copy going to the central office personnel file and one copy to the person being evaluated.

The primary purposes of evaluation are:

- a) to optimize student learning and growth;
- b) to contribute to the successful achievement of the goals and objectives of the division's educational plan;
- c) to improve the quality of instruction by ensuring accountability for classroom performance and teacher effectiveness;
- d) to provide a basis for leadership improvement through productive performance appraisal and professional growth;
- e) to implement a performance evaluation system that promotes a positive working environment and continuous communication between the employee and the evaluator that promotes continuous professional growth, leadership effectiveness, improvement of overall job performance and improved student outcomes; and
- f) to promote self-growth, instructional effectiveness, and improvement of overall professional performance.

The procedures will be consistent with the performance objectives included in the Guidelines for Uniform Performance Standards and Evaluation Criteria for Teachers and the Guidelines for Uniform Performance Standards and Evaluation Criteria for Principals. Evaluations shall include student academic progress as a significant component and an overall summative rating.

Any teacher whose evaluation indicates deficiencies in managing student conduct may be required to attend professional development activities designed to improve classroom management and discipline skills.

If a teacher's performance evaluation during the probationary period is not satisfactory, the School Board shall not reemploy the teacher.

*(See School Board Policy [GCN](#) and [GDN](#))*

### **EVALUATION PROCESS OF CLASSIFIED PERSONNEL**

The evaluation process for paraprofessionals, maintenance and custodial employees, bus drivers and food service employees is designed primarily to assist in the improvement of job performance and to assist classified employees to overcome identified weaknesses and to assist in the retention of employees who have demonstrated performance which is satisfactory or above.

*(See School Board Policy [GDN-R2](#))*

### **STAFF DEVELOPMENT**

The Colonial Heights School Board provides a program of high-quality professional development in the use and documentation of performance standards and evaluation, as part of the license

renewal process, in educational technology, for proficiency increase in instructional leadership and management and to educate School Board employees about bullying and the need to create a bully-free environment.

In addition, the board provides teachers and principals with high-quality professional development programs in instructional content, the preparation of tests and other assessment measures, methods for assessing the progress of individual students, instruction and remediation techniques, interpreting test data for instructional purposes, technology applications to implement the Standards of Learning, and effective classroom management

All instructional personnel are required to participate each year in professional development programs. The board will annually review its professional development program for quality, effectiveness, participation by instructional personnel, and relevancy to the instructional needs of teachers and the academic achievement needs of the students in the school division.

*(See School Board Policy [GCL](#))*

### **HOME CONTACT**

Each teacher will be expected to engage in activities that acquaint him/her with the home environment of assigned students. These activities may vary from teacher to teacher and from school to school. These contacts should be informal and positive, not necessarily precipitated by disciplinary or other problems with the student.

### **SUBSTITUTES**

Substitutes for personnel must be authorized by the Personnel Office.

*(See School Board Policy [GCE](#))*

## **PERSONNEL SALARIES AND ASSIGNMENTS**

### **SALARIES**

It is the goal of the Colonial Heights School Board to establish and maintain an internally and externally equitable compensation system within budgetary and other constraints that allow Colonial Heights Public Schools to attract, motivate, and retain *highly qualified teachers* and above average employees at all levels of service.

Teachers employed by the Colonial Heights Public Schools will be placed on an appropriate pay scale and step with consideration given to full time contractual experience in an accredited public or private school for related experience and internal alignment of existing school division personnel. Any placement of a teacher above Step (10) of the salary scale must be approved in advance by the Superintendent. Personnel other than teachers may be placed on the mid-range of the respective salary scales based upon related full-time experience. The Superintendent has the authority to grant additional credit for experience to acquire the most qualified and best suited candidate for all positions with approval and ratification by the Board. Once hired and placed on a salary scale, full-time employees will progress one step for each year of full-time experience unless steps are not authorized by the School Board for a particular school year.

The School Board will pay an additional salary supplement (amount to be set annually) to professional instructional and administrative staff who have earned 20 semester hours of graduate credit toward a master's degree, advanced graduate certificate, or doctoral degree. These 20 semester hours must be in a degree program. Official transcripts along with Form GCBA-E verifying completion of coursework should be completed and returned to the Personnel Department by August 31 for 10-month employees, July 31 for 11-month employees, and June 30 for 12-month employees.

*(See School Board Policy [GCBA-R1](#))*

### **SALARY SCHEDULE AND INCREMENTS**

The Colonial Heights School Board shall set annually before the issuance of contracts, a salary schedule for all personnel with annual increments based on training, experience, and certificate held. Personnel who are employed for 75% or more contractual days in any school session shall receive credit for a full year's service at the beginning of the next regular session. All contracted employees will receive compensation in equal installments.

### **STAFF ASSIGNMENTS AND TRANSFERS**

1. Upon recommendation of the superintendent, the Colonial Heights School Board shall place all employees within the various schools and facilities located in the school division. The superintendent shall have the authority to assign such employees to their respective positions with the school or facility wherein they have been placed by the School Board.
2. The superintendent, subject to School Board approval, is authorized to transfer employees to any location and to any position for which they are qualified. However, an immediate family member may not be employed or reassigned to a situation where he/she is directly supervised by an immediate family member. The superintendent may also reassign any such employee for that school year to any school or facility within such division, provided no change or reassignment during a school year shall affect the salary of such employee for that school year.
3. Principals and other supervisory personnel may submit recommendations to the superintendent for the appointment, assignment, promotion, transfer, or dismissal of all personnel assigned to his/her supervision.
4. Instructional staff seeking a transfer of assignment to another location must make a request in writing to the superintendent or his/her designee, with copies to the current supervisor not later than April 1 of that calendar year. A change of assignment within an immediate work station is the responsibility of the immediate supervisor.

*(See School Board Policies [GCI](#), and [GCI-R](#) bullets 1-4)*

5. A division initiated transfer may result from failure to meet enrollment projections, a change in the school's program, closing of a school, or any other condition which would require reducing the number of employees allocated to a school or work location.
  - The principal or supervisor and personnel department shall be responsible for developing a written plan to adjust staff.
  - Recommendations to retain personnel at a work location shall be made after careful consideration of the program needs and may include the balancing of staff

- (qualifications, experience, or endorsement), extracurricular requirements, seniority in the division, and length of time since last transfer.
- A current list of vacancies shall be provided to personnel assigned to grade levels, subject areas, or department where the reduction shall occur. Time will be allowed to determine if there is a staff member in the identified area who is willing to accept involuntary transfer status.
  - When the above measures have not resulted in the assignment of employees, the principal or supervisor shall designate the employee who has the least division-wide seniority in the grade level, subject area, or department for involuntary transfer.
6. In order to meet division needs, administrative employees may be transferred by the superintendent or designee to an assignment for which the employee is qualified.
  7. Support staff shall be assigned to positions for which their qualifications meet the needs of the school division's operations. Support staff personnel are entitled to initiate a transfer request for a position within their area of competence and for which they are qualified. The request must be made in writing to the superintendent with copies to the current supervisor. Prior to an employee initiated transfer, the principal/supervisor of the receiving school/department shall be consulted.

*(See School Board Policy [GDI](#) for bullet 7)*

### **ABSENTEEISM AND TARDINESS**

The division expects all employees to assume diligent responsibility for their attendance and promptness. Recognizing, however, that illness and injuries may occur, the division has established sick leave. An employee who needs to be absent for medical reasons should notify his or her principal, department administrator, or other designated supervisor as soon in advance as possible so that arrangements can be made to cover his/her position.

It is important that all employees report to work on time. Excessive tardiness has a detrimental impact on the accomplishment of the division's goals and objectives. Accordingly, principals, department administrators, and other supervisors are requested to closely monitor prompt reporting to work. Absenteeism or tardiness that is unexcused or excessive in the judgment of Colonial Heights Public Schools is grounds for disciplinary action, up to and including dismissal.

*(See School Board Regulation [GCBD-R](#))*

### **How Employees Who Work Less Than 12 Months Are To Be Paid**

The annual contract with "professional personnel" notifies the employee that Colonial Heights school division requires him or her to be paid over 12 months regardless of the fact that he or she will actually work over a shorter time period.

*(See School Board Regulation [GBC](#), [GBC-E2](#))*

## **PERSONNEL FRINGE BENEFITS**

### **DUTY-FREE LUNCH PERIODS**



Principals in each school will make every reasonable effort to develop cooperatively with the teachers a plan to provide lunch periods without supervisory duties.

### **EMPLOYEE RECOGNITION-TEACHER OF THE YEAR**

Each school nominates a teacher to represent their school as the Teacher of the Year. The nominations are then submitted to a committee, which selects the Colonial Heights Teacher of the Year. This nominee is then submitted to the state level to hopefully be the Virginia Teacher of the Year.

### **GROUP LIFE INSURANCE**

The Board of Trustees of the Virginia Retirement System, under a contract with a private insurance company, provides a contribution plan of group life and accidental death and dismemberment insurance to all full time employees. As a fringe benefit, the insurance premium is paid by the Colonial Heights School Board.

### **HEALTH INSURANCE**

At the present time Anthem is the provider for all eligible employees as a fringe benefit by the Colonial Heights School Board. Further information is available through the Payroll Office. All forms must be completed and sent to the School Administration Offices by the specified date as set forth upon employment. When an individual leaves the Colonial Heights School System they may keep this coverage as defined under COBRA. The premiums must be submitted to the Payroll Office at the School Administration Offices.

Anthem defines an ineligible employee as one who has not returned to a work schedule that meets the division's or Anthem's minimum hourly requirements, whichever is higher, after six months due to illness or injury, or for 12 weeks due to leave of absence or temporary layoff. These rules apply even if the employee is covered by long-term disability coverage or workers' compensation coverage. These rules apply even if the employee has compensatory time. An employee who falls under these scenarios, must COBRA health insurance coverage.

Upon retirement, any employee under the Colonial Heights Schools' Health Insurance Plan can remain part of the Group Health Insurance Plan until Medicare eligible as long as they pay the premiums as established for all employees with health insurance coverage. For retirees with at least fifteen years of VRS Credit, the School Board will pay \$4.50 per year of earned VRS service up to a maximum of \$135.00. To be eligible for this credit, the retiree must have been employed with the Colonial Heights Public Schools for at least 5 years immediately preceding retirement. The retiree must be enrolled in one of the plans offered by the School Board. The credit is not available for any other plan.

### **HOLIDAYS**

All full-time employees of the Colonial Heights School Board are granted holidays in accordance with the adopted school calendar. *(Please refer to school calendar on Page 4.)*

### **RETIREMENT**

The Colonial Heights School Board is a member of the Virginia Retirement System (VRS) inclusive of all full-time employees. Employee retirement benefits shall be governed by the rules and



regulations established by the Virginia Retirement System. All employees participate in Social Security retirement benefits.

Employees under the Hybrid Retirement Plan are enrolled in the Virginia Local Disability Program. VLDP provides income protection if you can't work because of a non-work related or work-related illness, injury or other condition, such as surgery, pregnancy, complications from pregnancy or a catastrophic or major chronic condition. For more information on the Disability program, please refer to the [Virginia Local Disability Program Handbook](#).

### **TRAVEL PAY**

Employees required to use their personal car for approved school travel will be reimbursed for the actual number of miles traveled at the rate of 40.5 cents per mile. Travel between residence and established work location is excluded.

### **VOLUNTARY DEDUCTIONS**

There are several voluntary deduction programs, including cancer insurance premiums, annuities, health insurance premiums, membership dues (CHEA, NEA, etc.), life insurance premiums, short-term disability insurance, and various other, that have been adopted by the Colonial Heights School Board. Payroll deductions for these programs may be made provided individuals participating do so voluntarily and submit individually signed authorizations for such deductions. Contact the Payroll Specialist for further information.

### **WORK DAYS FOR STAFF**

#### **Principal and Assistant Principal Regular Workday**

Principals and Assistant Principals shall be in their building and/or pursuing their duties each official work day and shall remain as long after the teachers leave as their duties require. It shall also be understood that additional time may be required of Principals and Assistant Principals to insure the orderly and efficient operation of their school.

#### **Teacher Regular Workday**

Teachers shall report for duty each morning before their assigned duties as required by School Board policy. Each teacher shall be on duty at least for the specified hours as assigned unless assigned duties, scheduled meetings, or extenuating circumstances require an earlier or later departure. While it is anticipated that the employee shall be at the school for the minimum time specified per day as set forth in the official calendar requiring teachers to report for duty, subject to calendar changes approved by the School Board, the employee shall be required to do so by the principal, superintendent, or School Board. Reduction in time requirements will be made at the discretion of the superintendent or School Board.

#### **Office of Support Services**

Professional employees of this office are to work seven (7) hours per day for the specified number of days as stated in the employee's contract. Positions included in this area are: Director of Support Services, Support Services Specialist, School Psychologist, School Diagnostician, Occupational Therapist, Attendance Officer, School Nurse, and School Social Worker.

#### **School Administration Offices Personnel**

Personnel assigned to the School Board Administration Offices are to work seven (7) hours per day for the specified number of days as stated in the employee's contract. Positions included in

this area are: Superintendent of Schools, Assistant Superintendent for Instructional Services, Assistant Superintendent for Business Services, Director of Data & Assessment, Director of Technology and Learning, Instructional Specialist, Instructional Specialist/Reading Coach, Instructional Specialist/Math Coach, Director of Finance and Budget and Human Resource Manager.

### **Paraprofessional I, II, and III**

Paraprofessionals are to work the same hours and days as the teachers of the schools to which they are assigned. (Six  $\frac{3}{4}$  hours per day for 191 days)

### **Paraprofessional IV**

Paraprofessional is assigned to the high school seven (7) hours per day for 220 or 240 work days or as established by employment contract.

### **Network Administrator/Technology Field Technician and Support Specialist**

Network Administrator, Technology Field Technician and Technology Support Specialist are assigned to the technical center, as his/her base, seven (7) hours per day for twelve months/240 days.

### **Instructional Technology Integration Specialist (Secondary and Elementary)**

Instruction Technology Integration Specialist is assigned to work the same hours and days as teachers (Six  $\frac{3}{4}$  hours per day for 191 days).

### **Secretaries/Bookkeepers/School Administrative Office Personnel**

Secretaries/Bookkeepers are assigned to their schools/offices seven (7) hours per day. Business Service personnel are assigned to the School Board Administration Offices seven (7) hours per day. Ten (10) month employees work 200 days, eleven (11) month employees work 220 days, and twelve (12) month employees are contracted for 240 days.

### **Maintenance Personnel**

Maintenance personnel are contracted for eight (8) hours per day for 240 days.

### **School Bus Drivers Workday**

School Bus Drivers shall observe directions issued by the Transportation Director for meeting schedules for regular school days, delayed opening and early closing of school days, and for training and in-service activity.

### **School Food Service Staff**

Full-time Food Service employees are assigned to their schools seven (7) or eight (8) hours per day and are contracted for one hundred eighty six (186) days. Part-time Food Service employees are assigned to their schools between three (3) to six (6) hours per day. The Food Service Director shall publish the daily work schedule; assign duties, and any other work, training, or in-service activity.

## **WORKER'S COMPENSATION**

The First Report of Accident Form must be filed as soon as possible after any accident. Coverage is with School Systems of Virginia and is administered by Sedgwick Claims Management Services. The following procedure should be followed when an injury is reported by an employee:

1. After administering first-aid, etc., call the nurse assigned to your building. (If not available, call another nurse.) The nurse will assess the injury and advise the employee.
2. If the employee needs to see a doctor, the employee will be provided with the Preferred Provider Panel listing and the employee can choose the doctor to receive medical treatment. Also, the school representative will inform the doctor and/or hospital that this

- is a worker's compensation matter, and can expect to receive a request from the insurance company for a medical report.
3. If any prescriptions are required, the employee shall contact the Workmans Compensation designee for a prescription card.
  4. The employee is not to use any other insurance coverage as this will only complicate the claims process.
  5. If you receive any bills, please forward them to the Workmans Compensation designee immediately.
  6. All accidents at a school site should be reported through the principal - this includes cafeteria and maintenance. Sedgwick Claims Management website is <https://sedgwickcms.claimcapture.com/>.

## SCHOOL SAFETY

Employees are the primary source for promoting safety and security, preventing/minimizing losses, and reporting unsafe practices and situations. Awareness is the key component for a successful safety program.

- Signs, warning posters, notices and safety guidelines should be obeyed.
- A stepstool or ladder must be used when looking for, retrieving, or returning any item(s) that are higher than the employee's outstretched arm length. Never use a chair, desk or unsanctioned non-climbing device to gain access to elevated areas.
- Walkways (defined as, but not limited to: halls, corridors, stairs, stairwells, doorways, sidewalks, passageways, etc.) must be clear. Storage of any kind is prohibited in these areas.
- Hand rails must be used when entering and exiting a school bus and at any other location where hand rails exist.
- Occupants of any vehicle being used for school division business will use the seat belts, if vehicle is so equipped.
- Electrical cords must be bundled together, removed from walkways, and fastened under desks.
- Proper attire (particularly footwear) must be worn for current conditions.

Failure to comply with the above stated safety policies can result in denial of workmans' compensation. Injuries, unsafe conditions and unsafe practices should be reported immediately to the administration. All incidents should be investigated and corrected as soon as possible.

## **EMERGENCY CLOSING PROCEDURES**

Extreme weather conditions can cause emergency school closings. The decision to close schools or delay opening is based on reports from weather bureau officials, local and state police, and other authorities. As soon as the decision is made, staff will be notified via our Emergency Telephone Messaging Service. In addition, the local radio and television stations are notified of closings and delayed openings.

Generally, stations will broadcast the announcement during the very early morning hours.

## **CLOSING CODES**

**Code 1** -School will close for students. All full-time personnel report to work at the regular time.

**Code 2** -Schools will close for students and staff except: administrators, 12-month Secretaries, and business offices, who shall report on time. Custodial and maintenance personnel call 524-3448 for instruction.

**Code 3** -Schools will close for students and employees, except custodial and maintenance personnel who should call 524-3448 for instruction.

### **DELAYED OPENING**

When weather conditions necessitate a delayed school opening, as far as possible, arrival times will be detailed when reported to radio and television stations.

\* **Two hour delay for students/one hour delay for employees**

\* **One hour delay for students/employees report on time**

Regardless of the code, everyone should use common sense as to whether he/she can safely get to work. Personal leave time can be used if conditions are unsafe for travel. Employees should contact their immediate supervisor if a delay in arrival is anticipated.

### **LEAVE CLASSIFICATIONS**

All employees' leaves and absences shall be subject to the school division's policies and regulations. The superintendent shall provide for the interpretation and application of the school division's policies and regulations regarding leaves and absences.

### **ANNUAL LEAVE**

Annual leave for vacation or other personal reasons for all twelve (12) month full-time salaried employees of the Colonial Heights School Board shall be earned according to the following schedule:

Continuous Years of Service in a 12 month position	Annual Leave Earned per Month
First 5 years	1 day
Over 5 years up to 10 years	1 ¼ days
Over 10 years	1 ½ days

Annual leave must be earned before it can be taken. Earnings and use of annual leave will be recorded for each employee on the last work day of each calendar month by a designated member of the superintendent's staff. Annual leave cannot be taken in less than ½ day increments.

Annual leave earned by an eligible employee may be accumulated to the following year if it is not used, but not beyond that year. All employees terminating employment will receive a lump sum payment for earned, accumulated, unused annual leave days up to a maximum of 15 days.

*(See School Board Regulation [GCBD-R1](#))*

## **LEAVE OF ABSENCE**

Employees not eligible to apply for Family and Medical Leave must apply for a leave of absence from their position for a specific period of time. This includes any leave without pay due to exhaustion of employees earned leave.

*(See School Board Policy [GCBEA](#))*

## **MILITARY LEAVE**

All employees of Colonial Heights School Board who are members of the state or federal military reserves are entitled to leaves of absence from their duties on all days during which they are engaged in federally funded military duty, including training duty, or when called forth by the Governor. Military leave will also be granted in cases of state and national emergencies. All employees on military leave will receive up to 15 days paid leave per federal fiscal year in accordance with law.

Application for military leave shall be made in advance, immediately upon receipt by the employee of official notice to report from the appropriate military authorities. A copy of the official orders must accompany the application for leave, which must be approved by the appropriate official and the superintendent. When possible, military leave for employees on a less-than-twelve-month contract shall be arranged during non-duty periods.

*(See School Board policy [GCBBD](#), [GCBBD-R1](#) and [GCBEB](#) for further details)*

## **PART TIME EMPLOYMENT LEAVE**

Contracted part-time transportation employees and regularly scheduled part-time food service and transportation employees may earn sick leave at the rate of One-half day per month, for a total of five (5) days per contract year; sick leave may be accumulated from year to year. Contracted part-time transportation employees and regularly scheduled part-time food service and transportation employees may earn two (2) personal business days per contract year. This personal leave shall be cumulative to three (3) days. However, unused personal leave in excess of three (3) days will be transferred to unused sick leave at the beginning of the next contract year.

The Superintendent also has the authority to grant sick leave (on a pro-rata basis) to Part-time VRS classified professional employees that are contracted for an approved permanent position. This earned sick leave will be granted for the current school year only and will not accrue or be paid if unused. This provision does not apply to substitute or seasonal employment.

Sick Leave Payout Calculation:

Unused sick leave earned with Colonial Heights Public Schools will be paid to part-time contracted transportation employees upon **retirement** from the Colonial Heights Public School System. Payment will be computed as follows:

- 0 - 150 days - \$25/day
- 151 - 350 days - \$30/day

In order for eligible employees to be eligible for sick leave payout, they must retire from Colonial Heights Public Schools with 10 years of service and reached age 55, or with 5 years of service and reached age 65 or approved for disability retirement benefits from Social Security.

*(See School Board Policy and Regulation [GDB](#), [GCBA-R2](#))*

## **PERSONAL LEAVE FULL TIME EMPLOYMENT**

A maximum of three (3) days per contract year for personal leave will be earned on the first day of the contract year. One day of personal leave may be taken in minimum increments of one hour, provided no substitute is needed and is approved by supervisor. Other days may be taken in one-half day increments. Personal leave shall be limited to five (5) days in any given contract year. However, unused personal leave in excess of the five days balance will be transferred to accumulated sick leave on the first day of the contract term for returning employees.

Leave on in-service days or immediately before or after a holiday or vacation may be requested, for reason, from the Superintendent of schools after approval of the employee's immediate supervisor.

*(See School Board Regulation [G CBD-R1](#))*

## **SICK LEAVE FULL TIME EMPLOYMENT**

Provisions of the sick leave plan shall be as follows:

Employee Type	Earned per Contract Term	Maximum Days Accumulate
10 Month Legacy Employee*	Maximum of 10 days	Accumulate Without Limit
11 Month Legacy Employee*	Maximum of 11 days	Accumulate Without Limit
12 Month Legacy Employee*	Maximum of 12 days	Accumulate Without Limit
10 Month Hybrid Employee**	Maximum of 10 days	90 Days
11 Month Hybrid Employee**	Maximum of 11 days	90 Days
12 Month Hybrid Employee**	Maximum of 12 days	90 Days

\*Legacy Employee is an individual who qualifies under the VRS Plan 1 or Plan 2 Retirement Plan

\*\*Hybrid Employee is an individual who qualifies under the VRS Hybrid Retirement Plan

1. After 100 days of sick leave has been accumulated (Legacy Employees) as of June 30<sup>th</sup> of each year, leave will accrue at the rate of one and one-half days per month for the next contract term.
2. Employees who do not begin work at the start of the school year and those who do not complete the full year shall earn sick leave at the rate of one per month or major fraction thereof.
3. Employees shall anticipate sick leave earnings for the current contract year. Should the recipient of advanced sick leave terminate employment prior to earning the amount of sick leave used, the advanced days will be deducted from their salary.
4. An employee cannot claim any portion of earned leave unless he/she has actually reported for duty in accordance with the terms of his contract. However, if an employee is unable, because of accident or illness, to begin work, the employee may use accumulated leave as of June 30 of the immediately preceding school year.
5. Such leave may be taken in hourly, one-half day or full day increments. Hourly increments are accumulated and reported in one-half day or full-day increments. If a substitute employee is required due to the absence, sick leave must be taken in one-half or full-day increments. Sick leave may not be transferred or donated to another employee.
6. The school system shall have the authority to require reasonable proof of illness when it deems necessary. A doctor's certificate may be required for absences exceeding two (2) consecutive days or if a pattern of frequent and possibly abusive use of sick leave has developed by an employee.
7. Sick leave shall be allowed for personal illness, including quarantine, injury, pregnancy, temporary physical or mental incapacity, or illness or death in the immediate family requiring

the attendance of the employee for not more than five (5) days in any one case. Accumulated sick leave may be accessed to care for an employee's spouse, parent, or child with a catastrophic or life threatening health condition qualifying under the Family Medical Leave Act.

8. The School Board accepts the transfer of accumulated sick leave for professional, instructional, administrative and supervisory positions. The sick leave transfer will be limited to 90 days for VRS Hybrid employees.
9. Unused sick leave will be paid to employees upon retirement from the School System. To be eligible, an employee must have completed a minimum of five (5) years uninterrupted service including the year of retirement in a sick leave earning position. Payment will be computed as follows:

0 - 150 days	\$25/day
151 - 350 days	\$30/day
More than 350 days	\$35/day

(The maximum payout for unused sick leave upon retirement is \$10,000.)

*(See School Board Regulation [GCBD-R1](#))*

### **CAROL MUNSCH MEMORIAL SICK LEAVE BANK**

The Colonial Heights School System offers to its employees a Sick Leave Bank which will provide income for those school employees who have become temporarily incapacitated by an extended, catastrophic medical problem, but are not eligible for Worker's Compensation or retirement benefits. Incapacitated is defined as unable to carry out duties of the present position. The Sick Leave Bank may only be used for the employee's own personal illness. Only full time VRS Legacy employees are eligible to participate.

In order to be eligible to participate in the Sick Leave Bank, an individual must be a full-time employee of the Colonial Heights School System, have completed one (1) full year of employment and have an earned sick leave balance of at least 10 days as of September 1. Employees meeting the specified requirements will be eligible to join the Bank on October 1 of each year.

Participation in the Sick Leave Bank is voluntary. Participation does not guarantee approval of a request to withdraw from the Bank. In order to participate in the Bank, each Legacy employee will be required to contribute one (1) day of accumulated sick leave to the Bank upon entry. Sick leave contributions to the Bank are irrevocable and cannot be returned if the employee cancels his participation in the plan.

Each October 1, participating employees may be required to contribute one (1) day. The Assistant Superintendent for Business Services will determine the need for future contributions. He is empowered to suspend the contribution requirements of current participants when Bank days exceed two hundred percent (200%) of the number of participating employees. He is empowered to require a special assessment of one (1) day from each participating employee if the Bank balance falls below fifty percent (50%) of the number of participating employees.

*(See School Board Regulation [GCBD-R2](#) for eligibility of benefits.)*



## COBRA

A federal law enacted in 1986, the Consolidated Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act (COBRA) requires most employers sponsoring group health plans to offer employees and their families the opportunity for a temporary extension of health coverage (called "continuation coverage") in certain instances where coverage under the plan would otherwise end. This notice is intended to inform you of the rights and obligations under the continuation coverage provisions of the law.

Qualifying Event	Qualified Beneficiaries	Maximum Period of Continuation Coverage
Termination (for reasons other than gross conduct)	Employee Spouse Dependent Child	18 Months
Reduction in hours of Employment	Employee Spouse Dependent Child	18 Months
Employee Enrollment in Medicare	Spouse Dependent Child	36 Months
Divorce or Legal Separation	Spouse Dependent Child	36 Months
Death of Employee	Spouse Dependent Child	36 Months
Loss of "dependent child" status	Dependent Child	36 Months

Under law, the employee or a family member has the responsibility to inform the Payroll and/or Personnel Specialist of a divorce, legal separation, or a child losing dependent status under our health insurance within 60 days of the qualifying event. You will in turn be notified that you have the right to choose continuation coverage and you have at least 60 days from the date to elect continuation coverage.

If you do not choose continuation coverage, your group health insurance coverage will end. If you choose continuation coverage, the Colonial Heights School System is required to give you the coverage which, as of the time coverage is being provided, is identical to the coverage provided under the plan to similar employees or family members. COBRA continuation coverage is a temporary continuation of coverage.

When the qualifying event is the end of employment or reduction of the employee's hours of employment, COBRA continuation coverage lasts for up to 18 months. There are two ways in which this 18-month period of COBRA continuation coverage can be extended.

### Disability extension of 18 month period continuation coverage

If you or anyone in your family covered under the Plan is determined by the Social Security Administration to be disabled at any time during the first 60 days of COBRA continuation coverage and the disability continues during the rest of the 18-month period of continuation coverage, if you notify the Plan Administrator in a timely fashion, you and your entire family can receive up to an additional 11 months of COBRA continuation coverage, for a maximum of 29 months. You must make sure the Colonial Heights Public Schools system is notified of the Social Security Administration's determination within 60 days of the date of determination and before the end of the 18-month period of COBRA continuation coverage.



### Second qualifying event extension of 18-month period of continuation coverage

If your family experiences another qualifying event while receiving COBRA continuation coverage, the spouse and dependent children in your family can get additional months of COBRA continuation coverage, up to a maximum of 36 months. This extension is available to the spouse and dependent children if the former employee dies, enrolls in Medicare (Part A, Part B, or both), or gets divorced or legally separated. The extension is also available to a dependent child when that child stops being eligible under the Plan as a dependent child. In all of these cases, you must make sure that the Plan Administrator is notified of the second qualifying event within 60 days of the second qualifying event.

The Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Act (USERRA), the federal military leave law, has its own insurance continuation provisions for employees who are absent from work due to military leave. The USERRA extends the insurance continuation period for employees on military leave from 18 months to 24 months.

The law also provides that your continuation coverage may be cut short for any of the following four reasons:

1. Colonial Heights Public Schools no longer provides group health coverage to any of its employees;
2. The premium for your continuation coverage is not paid on time;
3. You and/or dependents become covered under another group health plan; or
4. You and/or dependents become eligible for Medicare.

Generally, each qualifying beneficiary may be required to pay the entire cost of continuation coverage. The amount a qualified beneficiary may be required to pay may not exceed 102 percent of the cost to the group health plan (including both employer and employee contributions) for coverage of a similarly situated plan continuation coverage due to a disability, 150 percent). The first payment for continuation coverage must be made within 45 days after the date of your election to accept continuation coverage.

## **LEAVE WITHOUT PAY FOR FAMILY AND MEDICAL PURPOSES**

Eligible Employees: To be eligible for leave under this policy the employee must have at least twelve (12) months of service with the Colonial Heights school division and have worked at least 1250 hours according to the Fair Labor Standards Act U.S.C. § 201 et seq., in the twelve (12) months preceding the commencement of the leave. Full-time teachers are deemed to meet the 1250 hour test.

Except as hereinafter provided, any eligible employee is entitled to a total of twelve (12 weeks) (60 days) of unpaid leave during a rolling 12-month period measured backward from the date an employee uses an FMLA leave for one or more of the following:

- For incapacity due to pregnancy, prenatal medical care or child birth;
- To care for the employee's child after birth, or placement for adoption or foster care
- To care for an employee's spouse, son, daughter, or parent, who has a serious health condition; or
- For a serious health condition that makes the employee unable to perform the employee's job; and
- Because of any qualifying exigency as defined in Department of Labor regulations, arising out of the fact that the spouse, or a son, daughter, or parent of the employee is on active duty (or has been notified of an impending call or order to active duty) in the Armed Forces in support of a contingency operation.

*(See School Board Policy [GCBE](#) for further details)*

# EMPLOYEE RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES UNDER THE FAMILY AND MEDICAL LEAVE ACT

## Basic Leave Entitlement

FMLA requires covered employers to provide up to 12 weeks of unpaid, job-protected leave to eligible employees for the following reasons:

- for incapacity due to pregnancy, prenatal medical care or child birth;
- to care for the employee's child after birth, or placement for adoption or foster care;
- to care for the employee's spouse, son, daughter or parent, who has a serious health condition; or
- for a serious health condition that makes the employee unable to perform the employee's job.

## Military Family Leave Entitlements

Eligible employees whose spouse, son, daughter or parent is on covered active duty or call to covered active duty status may use their 12-week leave entitlement to address certain qualifying exigencies. Qualifying exigencies may include attending certain military events, arranging for alternative childcare, addressing certain financial and legal arrangements, attending certain counseling sessions, and attending post-deployment reintegration briefings.

FMLA also includes a special leave entitlement that permits eligible employees to take up to 26 weeks of leave to care for a covered servicemember during a single 12-month period. A covered servicemember is: (1) a current member of the Armed Forces, including a member of the National Guard or Reserves, who is undergoing medical treatment, recuperation or therapy, is otherwise in outpatient status, or is otherwise on the temporary disability retired list, for a serious injury or illness\*; or (2) a veteran who was discharged or released under conditions other than dishonorable at any time during the five-year period prior to the first date the eligible employee takes FMLA leave to care for the covered veteran, and who is undergoing medical treatment, recuperation, or therapy for a serious injury or illness.\*

**\*The FMLA definitions of "serious injury or illness" for current servicemembers and veterans are distinct from the FMLA definition of "serious health condition".**

## Benefits and Protections

During FMLA leave, the employer must maintain the employee's health coverage under any "group health plan" on the same terms as if the employee had continued to work. Upon return from FMLA leave, most employees must be restored to their original or equivalent positions with equivalent pay, benefits, and other employment terms.

Use of FMLA leave cannot result in the loss of any employment benefit that accrued prior to the start of an employee's leave.

## Eligibility Requirements

Employees are eligible if they have worked for a covered employer for at least 12 months, have 1,250 hours of service in the previous 12 months\*, and if at least 50 employees are employed by the employer within 75 miles.

**\*Special hours of service eligibility requirements apply to airline flight crew employees.**

## Definition of Serious Health Condition

A serious health condition is an illness, injury, impairment, or physical or mental condition that involves either an overnight stay in a medical care facility, or continuing treatment by a health care provider for a condition that either prevents the employee from performing the functions of the employee's job, or prevents the qualified family member from participating in school or other daily activities.

Subject to certain conditions, the continuing treatment requirement may be met by a period of incapacity of more than 3 consecutive calendar days combined with at least two visits to a health care provider or one visit and a regimen of continuing treatment, or incapacity due to pregnancy, or incapacity due to a chronic condition. Other conditions may meet the definition of continuing treatment.

## Use of Leave

An employee does not need to use this leave entitlement in one block. Leave can be taken intermittently or on a reduced leave schedule when medically necessary. Employees must make reasonable efforts to schedule leave for planned medical treatment so as not to unduly disrupt the employer's operations. Leave due to qualifying exigencies may also be taken on an intermittent basis.

## Substitution of Paid Leave for Unpaid Leave

Employees may choose or employers may require use of accrued paid leave while taking FMLA leave. In order to use paid leave for FMLA leave, employees must comply with the employer's normal paid leave policies.

## Employee Responsibilities

Employees must provide 30 days advance notice of the need to take FMLA leave when the need is foreseeable. When 30 days notice is not possible, the employee must provide notice as soon as practicable and generally must comply with an employer's normal call-in procedures.

Employees must provide sufficient information for the employer to determine if the leave may qualify for FMLA protection and the anticipated timing and duration of the leave. Sufficient information may include that the employee is unable to perform job functions, the family member is unable to perform daily activities, the need for hospitalization or continuing treatment by a health care provider, or circumstances supporting the need for military family leave. Employees also must inform the employer if the requested leave is for a reason for which FMLA leave was previously taken or certified. Employees also may be required to provide a certification and periodic recertification supporting the need for leave.

## Employer Responsibilities

Covered employers must inform employees requesting leave whether they are eligible under FMLA. If they are, the notice must specify any additional information required as well as the employees' rights and responsibilities. If they are not eligible, the employer must provide a reason for the ineligibility.

Covered employers must inform employees if leave will be designated as FMLA-protected and the amount of leave counted against the employee's leave entitlement. If the employer determines that the leave is not FMLA-protected, the employer must notify the employee.

## Unlawful Acts by Employers

FMLA makes it unlawful for any employer to:

- interfere with, restrain, or deny the exercise of any right provided under FMLA; and
- discharge or discriminate against any person for opposing any practice made unlawful by FMLA or for involvement in any proceeding under or relating to FMLA.

## Enforcement

An employee may file a complaint with the U.S. Department of Labor or may bring a private lawsuit against an employer.

FMLA does not affect any Federal or State law prohibiting discrimination, or supersede any State or local law or collective bargaining agreement which provides greater family or medical leave rights.

**FMLA section 109 (29 U.S.C. § 2619) requires FMLA covered employers to post the text of this notice. Regulation 29 C.F.R. § 825.300(a) may require additional disclosures.**



**For additional information:**  
1-866-4US-WAGE (1-866-487-9243) TTY: 1-877-889-5627  
[WWW.WAGEHOUR.DOL.GOV](http://WWW.WAGEHOUR.DOL.GOV)

U.S. Department of Labor | Wage and Hour Division



WHD Publication 1420 · Revised February 2013

## **TECHNOLOGY AND THE COMPUTER SYSTEM**

Each employee must sign the Acceptable Computer System Use Agreement, School Board Policy IIBEA-E2 (see attached) as a condition for using the school division's computer system. In so doing, you agree to abide by the related School Board policies and regulations concerning acceptable computer system use.

(File [GAB/IIBEA](#))

### **ACCEPTABLE COMPUTER SYSTEM USE**

The School Board provides a computer system, including the Internet, to promote educational excellence by facilitating resource sharing, innovation and communication. The term computer system includes, but is not limited to, hardware, software, data, communication lines and devices (i.e. tablets, cellular phones, smart phones), printers, CD-ROM devices, tape or flash drives, peripherals, servers, the Internet, and other internal or external networks.

All use of the Division's computer system must be (1) in support of education and/or research, or (2) for legitimate school business. Use of the computer system is a privilege, not a right. Any communication or material generated using the computer system, including electronic mail, instant or text messages, tweets, or files deleted from a user's account, may be monitored, read, and/or archived by school officials.

The Division Superintendent shall establish administrative procedures, for the School Board's approval, containing the appropriate uses, ethics and protocol for the computer system.

The procedures shall include:

- 1) A prohibition against use by division employees and students of the division's computer equipment and electronic communications services for sending, receiving, viewing or downloading illegal material via the Internet;
- 2) Provisions, including the selection and operation of a technology protection measure for the division's computers to filter or block harmful or inappropriate Internet content through such computers, that seek to prevent access to
  - a) Child pornography as set Va. Code § 18.2-374.1:1 or as defined in 18 U.S.C. § 2256;
  - b) Obscenity as defined by Va. Code § 18.2-372 or 18 U.S.C. § 1460; and
  - c) Material that the school division deems to be harmful to juveniles as defined in Va. Code § 18.2-390, material that is harmful to minors as defined in 47 U.S.C. § 254(h)(7)(G), and material that is otherwise inappropriate for minors;
- 3) Provisions establishing that the technology protection measure is enforced during any use of the Division's computers;
- 4) Provisions establishing that all usage of the computer system may be monitored;
- 5) 5) Provisions designed to educate students and employees about appropriate online behavior, including interacting with students and other individuals on social networking websites and in chat rooms and cyber-bullying awareness and response;
- 6) 6) Provisions designed to prevent unauthorized online access by minors, including "hacking" and other unlawful online activities;
- 7) 7) Provisions prohibiting the unauthorized disclosure, use, and dissemination of photographs and/or personal information of or regarding minors; and

- 8) 8) A component of Internet safety for students that is integrated in the division's instructional program.

Use of the School Division's computer system shall be consistent with the educational or instructional mission or administrative function of the Division as well as the varied instructional needs, learning styles, abilities and developmental levels of students. The Division's computer system is not a public forum.

Each teacher, administrator, student, and parent/guardian of each student shall sign the Acceptable Computer System Use Agreement before using the Division's computer system. The failure of any student, teacher or administrator to follow the terms of the Agreement, this policy or accompanying regulations may result in loss of computer system privileges, disciplinary action, and/or appropriate legal action.

The School Board is not responsible for any information that may be lost, damaged or unavailable when using the computer system or for any information retrieved via the Internet. Furthermore, the School Board will not be responsible for any unauthorized charges or fees resulting from access to the computer system.

The school board will review, amend if necessary, and approve this policy every two years.

## ACCEPTABLE COMPUTER SYSTEM USE

All use of the Colonial Heights School Division's computers system shall be consistent with the School Board's goal of promoting educational excellence by facilitating resource sharing, innovation, and communication. The term computer system includes, but is not limited to, hardware, software, data, communication lines and devices, printers CD-ROM devices, tape or flash drives, peripherals, servers, the Internet, mainframe and personal computers, tablets, cellular phones, smart phones, and any other internal or external network.

### Computer System Use – Terms and Conditions:

**1. Acceptable Use.** Access to the Division's computer system shall be (1) for the purpose of education or research and be consistent with the educational objectives of the Division or (2) for legitimate school business.

**2. Privilege.** The use of the Division's computer system is a privilege, not a right.

**3. Unacceptable Use.** Each user is responsible for his or her actions on the computer system. Prohibited conduct includes but is not limited to:

- Using the network for any illegal or unauthorized activity, including violation of copyright or contracts, or transmitting any material in violation of any federal, state or local law.
- Sending, receiving, viewing or downloading illegal material via the computer system.
- Using any Internet proxy or other unauthorized method to circumvent the Internet content filtering system.
- Unauthorized downloading of software.
- Using the computer system for private financial or commercial purposes.
- Wastefully using resources, such as file space.
- Gaining unauthorized access to resources or entities.
- Failing to follow school division regulations related to the security of the computer system, and user accounts and passwords.
- Failing to safeguard confidential data that one has access to through the computer system, or allowing unauthorized persons to access confidential data, or data they are not permitted to access.
- Posting material created by another without his or her consent.
- Submitting, posting, publishing, or displaying any obscene, profane, threatening, illegal, or other inappropriate material.
- Using the computer system while access privileges are suspended or revoked.
- Vandalizing the computer system, including destroying data by creating or spreading viruses or by other means.
- Taking apart the computer system without authorization to do so.
- Making unauthorized changes to the computer system.
- Using unauthorized computing or electronic devices on school property.
- Installing unauthorized software applications or programs on the computer system.
- Intimidating, harassing, bullying, or coercing others.
- Threatening illegal or immoral acts

**4. Network Etiquette.** Each user is expected to abide by generally accepted rules of etiquette, including the following:

- Be polite
- Users shall not forge, intercept or interfere with electronic mail messages.
- Use appropriate language. The use of obscene, lewd, profane lascivious, threatening or disrespectful language is prohibited.

- Users shall not post personal information other than directory information as defined in Policy JO Student Records about themselves or others.
- Users shall respect the computer system's resource limits.
- Users shall not post chain letters or download large files.
- Users shall not use the computer system to disrupt others.
- Users shall not modify or delete data owned by others.

**5. Liability.** The School Board makes no warranties for the computer system it provides. The School Board shall not be responsible for any damages to the user from use of the computer system, including loss of data, non-delivery or missed delivery of information, or service interruptions. The School Division denies any responsibility for the accuracy or quality of information obtained through the computer system. The user agrees to indemnify the School Board for any losses, costs or damages incurred by the School Board relating to or arising out of any violation of these procedures.

**6. Security.** Computer system security is a high priority for the school division. If any user identifies a security problem, the user shall notify the building principal or system administrator immediately. All users shall keep their passwords confidential and shall follow computer virus protection procedures. Users shall follow school division regulations related to computer system accounts and passwords. Users will not access, or attempt to access any computer system or data that they are not authorized to access. Users will safeguard confidential data, to insure that it does not fall into the wrong hands. Users will not connect a personally owned (non-Colonial Heights Schools) computer or other electronic device to our network without authorization.

**7. Vandalism.** Intentional destruction or interference with any part of the computer system through creating or downloading computer viruses or by any other means is prohibited.

**8. Charges.** The School Division assumes no responsibility for any unauthorized charges or fees as a result of using the computer system, including telephone or long-distance charges.

**9. Electronic Mail.** The School Division's electronic mail system is owned and controlled by the School Division. The School Division may provide electronic mail to aid students and staff in fulfilling their duties and as an education tool. Electronic mail is not private. Students' electronic mail will be monitored. The electronic mail of staff may be monitored and accessed by the School Division. All electronic mail may be archived. Unauthorized access to an electronic mail account by any student or employee is prohibited. Users may be held responsible and personally liable for the content of any electronic message they create or that is created under their account or password. Downloading any file attached to an electronic message is prohibited unless the user is certain of that message's authenticity and the nature of the file.

**10. Electronic Correspondence.** Any CHPS employee who communicates through electronic media with one or more current CHPS students for educational purposes or as a CHPS employee shall not include in his communication any language or symbols of a religious, political, social, or other nature that are improper to use in a non-electronic forum. This includes the avoidance of inappropriate or illegal postscripts and footnotes at the end of electronic communications.

**11. Enforcement.** Software will be installed on the division's computers having Internet access to filter or block Internet access through such computers to child pornography and obscenity. The online activities of users may also be monitored manually. **Any violation of these regulations shall result in loss of computer system privileges and may also result in appropriate disciplinary action, as determined by School Board policy, or legal action.**

**COLONIAL HEIGHTS SCHOOLS**  
**EMPLOYEE HANDBOOK**  
**2016-2017**

I hereby acknowledge receipt and have read an electronic copy of the 2016-2017 Colonial Heights Schools Employee Handbook. I understand that the policies and procedures set forth in the handbook are for informational purposes only and that the employer, in its sole discretion, may deviate from those provisions without warning whenever the employer deems such deviation to be appropriate. I acknowledge my responsibility to faithfully follow the policies and procedures of the Colonial Heights Public School System in all respects.

**ACCEPTABLE COMPUTER SYSTEM USE AGREEMENT**  
**2016-2017**

Each Employee must sign this Agreement as a condition for using the School Division's computer system. Read this Agreement carefully before signing.

Prior to signing this Agreement, read the Policy GAB/IIBEA, Acceptable Computer System Use. If you have any questions about this policy or its regulations, contact your supervisor.

I understand and agree to abide by the School Division's Acceptable Computer System Use Policy and Regulations. I understand that the School Division may access, monitor, and archive my use of the computer system, including my use of the Internet, e-mail and downloaded material, without prior notice to me. I further understand that should I violate the Acceptable Use Policy or Regulation, my computer system privileges may be revoked and disciplinary action and/or legal action may be taken against me.

Employee Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Employee Name \_\_\_\_\_

(Please Print)

Date \_\_\_\_\_

**Please return this signed sheet to your building administrator.**