

**RUSSELL COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT**

**WARRIOR INSPIRATIONAL ACADEMY**  
**(WIA)**



**SUPPLEMENTAL HANDBOOK**

**Dr. Brenda Coley, Superintendent**

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This handbook supplements the rules, regulations, policies, and procedures of the schools in which Warrior Inspirational Academy (WIA) students are enrolled. Students assigned to the WIA are still enrolled in their local schools.

# **WARRIOR INSPIRATIONAL ACADEMY STAFF**

**Mr. Jacob Johnson**, Director of At Risk/WIA

**Mr. Termaine Todd**, Math Teacher

**Mr. Jimmy Parham**, English Teacher

**Mrs. Alethea None**, Instructional Assistant

## **SERVICE PROVIDERS**

### **East Alabama Mental Health**

3170 Martin Luther King Pkwy, Phenix City, AL 36869  
(334) 298-2405

### **Russell County Child Advocacy Center**

67 Downing Drive, Phenix City, AL 36869  
(334) 297-4962

### **Teens Empowerment Awareness with Resolutions, Inc. (TEARS)**

1101 S Railroad Street, Phenix City, AL 36867  
(334) 291-6363

### **This W.O.R.K.S. Inc.**

P.O. Box 6954, Columbus, GA 31917  
(229) 886-7922

## **MISSION STATEMENT**

The Mission of the Russell County School District's Warrior Inspirational Academy is to facilitate behavioral changes in students, to help students stay on task academically, to teach students strategies to prevent them from making future mistakes and to help students realize their own self-worth.

## **THE WIA PROGRAM**

Students are assigned to the WIA by one of the following processes:

- Tribunal
- Juvenile court system
- Transfer from another system
- Administrative (Director) Decision

Students will be assigned to the WIA for a minimum period of time. This period of time may be extended for one or more of the following reasons:

- Violation(s) of the code of conduct
- Failure to make adequate progress on assigned work
- Excessive tardiness
- Poor attendance as determined by the Attendance Officer or designee. Absences not excused by a medical professional or necessary court documents will result in additional time.

Students are required to bring textbooks and Chromebooks from their home school. The WIA is not responsible for lost or stolen items. Students must furnish their own school materials and supplies when attending the WIA. Students must have headphones for instruction delivered via computer.

## **RESPONSIBILITIES**

### **Students**

- Bring all necessary textbooks, materials and supplies.
- Attend daily and be properly attired following the dress code policy.
- Complete all assignments in the designed time frame.
- Strive towards self-discipline, setting goals and good work habits.
- Cooperate with classroom behavior management program.

### **Parents**

- Ensure students attend daily.
- Maintain a positive and supportive attitude toward the staff.
- Maintain current addresses and phone numbers for home, work and emergencies.
- Notify school personnel of any problems relating to students absences.

## **Staff**

- Serve as positive role model.
- Provide social skills to assist students in making good decisions.
- Provide support where needed or desired.
- Help students realize their full academic potential.
- Address the social/behavioral needs of the students.

## **DRESS CODE**

The Warrior Inspirational Academy is permitted to designate uniforms or apparel for students to wear. Students who have financial reasons and can demonstrate they cannot afford to purchase or acquire a uniform shall not be denied admission to school for that reason, but a parent conference will be held to discuss alternatives.

## **Uniform**

- White Polo Shirts
- Khaki Pants
- Tennis Shoes or Ordinary Shoes (closed toe/closed heel)

No oversized clothing allowed. All shirts must be tucked in. No shower shoes, flip-flops, bedroom shoes, or heels. Pants are to be worn on or above the waist.

## **Coats/Hats**

Hooded garments may be worn to school but not indoors. No head coverings such as caps, bandanas, do-rags, sweatbands, etc.

## **Jewelry**

No jewelry except a watch is allowed. Items such as chains on a belt, wallet, and items with spikes are not permitted.

## **ATTENDANCE**

It is the belief of the Russell County School District that regular school attendance and a student's success in school are closely related. Being consistently present and on time will pay dividends in the course of a school year and will assist in the development of habits for punctuality, self-discipline, and

responsibility. Every day is an important day of instruction. It is further believed that course content and grading procedures should be structured in such a fashion that regular attendance is necessary in order to successfully complete course requirements.

**The WIA will follow the District's Handbook on ALL Attendance matters.** Subject to parental guidance, each student must be responsible for his/her own attendance. Administrators and teachers will make every effort to encourage regular attendance by students and to solicit assistance from parent(s)/legal guardian(s) in accomplishing this objective. **However, all days missed must be made up. The WIA Director will make the final determination concerning a student's return to his/her zoned school when absences and/or behavior has been a factor.**

### **Absence Monitoring By Parents**

Parents can routinely monitor absences by accessing their student's information on the PowerSchool Parent Portal online ([russellco.powerschool.com/public/](http://russellco.powerschool.com/public/)). If a parent has a question or concern about an absence, the parent should contact the school as soon as possible. SchoolCast calls daily to notify parent(s)/legal guardian(s) of a student's daily attendance.

### **Submitting Excuses**

When a student returns to school after an absence and within three (3) days of the student's return to school, the parent(s)/legal guardian(s) must provide in writing an excuse, which includes the following:

1. Written statement from the parent, doctor or legal representative stating the reason of the absence
2. The date of the absence(s)
3. The parent's official signature

Parent(s)/legal guardian(s) may submit up to five (5) parent written excuses per semester, and may be required to submit an excuse for late check-ins and early check-outs.

### **Check-Ins/Check-Outs**

Students must be signed in by a parent/guardian. If students check in after 12:00 p.m., they will be counted absent. Students must be signed out by a parent/guardian. If students check out before 12:00 p.m., they will be counted absent.

## **TRANSPORTATION**

Students assigned to the Warrior Inspirational Academy (WIA) for disciplinary reasons on their first placement will be allowed to ride the school bus to school. Any repeated placements to the WIA will result in parent(s)/legal guardian(s) having to provide their own transportation thereafter. **STUDENTS ARE NOT ALLOWED TO DRIVE TO THE WIA.**

Students assigned to the WIA must arrive between the time of 8:00 a.m. - 8:30 a.m. Students must be picked up by 3:15 p.m. Delivery and pickup of students assigned to the WIA happens at the Seale Campus location. Students reporting to the program after 8:30 a.m. will not be allowed entrance without parent/legal guardian and proper documentation. A petition with the court system may be filed on parent(s)/legal guardian(s) not picking their student up at the appointed time.

When a student is placed in the WIA or is on suspension from his/her home school, he/she cannot visit Russell County School District's campuses or worksites during regular hours and extra-curricular activities **without written permission from the WIA Director**. When a student returns to his/her home school, all privileges are restored.

## **EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES**

Students assigned to the WIA for disciplinary purposes are not allowed to participate in or attend extra-curricular activities on any RCSD school or worksite **without written permission from the WIA Director**.

Students assigned to the WIA for academic purposes are allowed to participate and attend extra-curricular activities.

Students assigned to the WIA may be given a pass from the WIA's Director to attend activities on any Russell County School District's school or worksite.

## **CONFERENCES**

**\*\*\*\*\*All suspensions will require a parent conference\*\*\*\*\***

The administrative staff is very eager to meet with parents regarding their child's success and/or behavior at the WIA. Meetings will be arranged mutually between the parents and administrator.

Students requiring a parent/administrative conference to return to school will be scheduled at the earliest convenience of the parent during duty hours.

Parents are asked to call the WIA in order to speak to the teacher(s) of whom they are requesting a conference. A teacher's time and responsibilities during the day are carefully structured. Therefore, conferences can only be scheduled when the teacher is free.

Parents must provide the WIA with telephone numbers that will allow the WIA's staff to make contact anytime of the day.

## **SCHOOL WORK ASSIGNMENTS**

Work assignment will come from a student's home school. Grades will be assigned by each student's home school.

Students may not receive answers, or more than 2 (two) retake on any assignment, quiz, exam or cumulative exam when using online software. Students will not be allowed to retake an assessment of any kind without showing instructors detailed notes taken on the topic for which the retake is requested.

Students using computers may only use the district approved software on the computers unless class assignments make it necessary to do otherwise. In the event that class assignments necessitate the use of programs other than district approved software, students must get permission from their teachers before each use.

Students taking courses online may not use outside resources when taking quizzes, exams, or other assessments. Students caught doing so will receive a grade of zero for such assessments and the WIA staff will document the reason.

## **WIA RULES**

1. Students assigned to the Warrior Inspirational Academy Program are expected to conform to all rules published in the Russell County School Student of Conduct.
2. Students must report each day between 8:00 and 8:30 a.m., with textbooks and supplies. Upon arrival, students must be seated at their assigned place. School will dismiss at 3:15 p.m.
3. The student must be accompanied by their parent/guardian on the first day of the assigned period for a conference at 8:00 a.m. with the Administrator.
4. Students must supply his/her own textbooks. No book bags or purses.
5. Random searches and seizures may be conducted by the Administrator or his/her designee.
6. If a student is truant from WIA, additional days will be assigned to the length of the original referral time.
7. If a student is absent (excused) for the first day of his/her referral time, the actual time will begin on the first day the student is able to return the WIA.
8. There will be no talking, chewing gum, eating candy, writing or passing of notes, books or periodicals, sleeping or moving about for any purpose, unless otherwise permitted.
9. Students must satisfactorily complete teacher or WIA assignments daily. Additional days may be assigned if the work is not satisfactorily completed.
10. A student assigned to the WIA is not allowed to participate in any extracurricular activities or practices for such on any day that he/she is in the program **without written permission from the WIA Director**.
11. Students will act respectfully at all times to WIA staff. (Yes-sir, no-sir, yes-ma'am, no-ma'am, thank-you, etc.)
12. Students are not allowed to deface any school facilities or property.
13. Dress code will be an appropriate school uniform. Students will have no drug, alcohol or Satanic emblems in their possession. This includes clothing, notebooks, etc. No hats, armbands, sleeveless shirts, shorts, short skirts, cutoffs, or gang paraphernalia. Jackets and hooded sweatshirts cannot be worn.
14. A student may receive additional days if, based upon counseling sessions or the Director's observation, he/she does not display appropriate behavior or attitude to adjust back into the educational environment at the home school.
15. Any misbehavior or failure to follow rules may result in additional days, suspension or expulsion.
16. After a student is assigned to the WIA, he/she will sign a Notice of Receipt indicating he/she has received a copy of the rules and guidelines of the WIA.