



**HCS\_ECHS**



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**HCS Early College  
High School  
@HCSECHS**

**Website:**

**EC.HORRYCOUNTYSCHOOLS.NET**

## The Principal's Desk

Dear Trailblazer Family,

The new semester has gotten off to a great start. Thursday, January 16th will be a full make-up day. Friday, January 17th will be a 2.5 hour early dismissal. (the schedule is to the right)

Friday, January 24th is our Winter Formal. This is open to all of our students 9th - 12th grade. The location is the Marina Grande Dunes. The dance will begin at 6:30 and will end at 9:30. All students **MUST** be picked up by 9:30 p.m. The address for the Marina Grande Dunes is: 8121 Amalfi Pl, Myrtle Beach, SC 29572. If your child is still interested, but has not purchased a ticket, please call the main office and we will assist you. Reminder: All students **MUST** attend at least half of the day on Friday, Jan. 24th, in order to attend the Winter Formal.

Friday, January 31st is our Awards Day Celebration for all students. This will take place in the B & C Auditorium. This is located across from ECHS on the HGTC Campus (Building 1100). Please call the school for more information.

Please make sure you go over the cell phone policy with your student(s). Students are not allowed to have cell phones, headphones, or earbuds out during the day. The only exception is before school, after school, and during the students' lunch. All other times the cell phone is to be turned off and not visible. If you need to get in touch with your student, please call the front office and we will get a message to them.

As always, if I can be of assistance, please contact me.

Sincerely,

-Kandi Fleming, ECHS Principal

## Upcoming Dates

**Thursday, Jan. 16 - Make-Up day**  
**Friday, Jan. 17th - 2.5 hours early dismissal (11:45 a.m.)**

1 <sup>st</sup> block	7:55 – 8:46 am
2 <sup>nd</sup> Block	8:49 – 9:39 am
3 <sup>rd</sup> Block	9:42 – 10:32 am
4 <sup>th</sup> Block	10:35 – 11:45 am (with Lunch)

**Friday, Jan. 24 - Winter Formal - Marina Inn  
Grande Dunes - 6:30 - 9:30**

**Monday, January 20, 2020 - School  
Closed**

**Friday, Jan. 24, 2020 - Winter Formal -  
6:30 - 9:30 p.m. at Marina Grande  
Dunes**

**Friday, Jan. 31 - Awards Day**



[HCS Early College Store](#) is up and running. We are so excited to offer the opportunity to purchase ECHS Wear. Please make sure you check this website out and purchase your Holiday items.

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# **TRAILBLAZER**

## **DAILY LUNCH SPECIALS**



**MONDAY 1/13**

**Hamburger Steak**  
**Mozzarella Cheese Sticks**  
**Chicken Cob Salad**

**Tuesday 1/14**

**Beef Nachos**  
**Turkey Ham & Cheese Sub**  
**Chicken Salad Platter**



**Wednesday 1/15**

**Beef A Roni**  
**Chef salad**  
**Chicken Wrap**

**Thursday 1/16**

**Fried Chicken**  
**Grilled cheese sandwich**  
**Cheesy Bites**



**Friday 1/17**

**Big Daddy Pizza**  
**Chick Filet Sandwich**  
**PBJ Grab & Go**



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**Mr. Chappell - Room 221 - Social Studies  
(Economics (HS & Col), American Government,  
Psychology, & Sociology)  
Thursdays from 2:30 p.m. until 4:00 p.m.**

**Mrs. DeCerbo - Room 210 - Social Studies - any subject  
Wednesdays from 2:30 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.**

**AND**

**1st and 3rd Tuesday of each month - 2:30 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.**

**Mr. Hunt - Room 228 - Mathematics (including college)  
Wednesdays - 2:45 - 4:15 - Other days by appointment.**

**Ms. Rautsaw - Room 222 - Geometry and any math  
Wednesdays 2:30-4:30**

**Ms. Woodard - Room 223 - Algebra 1  
Tuesday and Thursday from 2:30 p.m. – 4:30p.m.**

**Ms. Thompson - Room 209A - Alg. 2, Alg. 3 and Prob & Stats  
Tuesday - 2:30 p.m. - 4:15 p.m.**

***Note: Please ensure your child is picked up by 4:30 p.m.***



# IMPORTANT MAKE-UP DAY INFORMATION

Please make sure you note the Make-Up Day Announcement. The days that we will be making up our missed time are:

January 17th, 2020 (now a half-day with a 2.5 hour dismissal), and  
February 18th, 2020.

January 16th, 2020 is now a full day.



[Guidance Google Classroom](#)



There's an APP for that - Go HCS Mobile - [Download Here](#)

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[ECHS Website](#)

[Google Classroom Announcement Page \(code - jtiwt7\)](#) ,

Follow us on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#) and [Instagram](#).

[HCS Student Planning Calendar](#)

[HGTC Calendar](#)



[My School Bucks](#)



[POWERSCHOOL](#) - Attention Parents, Please be advised that if you need to make any changes to your student's information these corrections can be made in the Parent Portal. This would include address, phone number, parent information, and emergency contact updates. Please log in to your parent power school account and click on **year-round updates**.

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# HCS Early College High School

2050 Hwy. 501 East Bldg. 400

P.O. Box 261966 Conway, SC 29528

Phone: (843) 349-3131 Fax: (843) 347-2498



## ATTENDANCE POLICY

### Attendance – General Statement on Horry County Schools Policy

The South Carolina Attendance laws and policies are in the *Horry County Schools Parent Student Handbook*. ECHS will use the following procedures and policies to process student attendance. SC Truancy Law is defined in the handbook, as well.

**High School Class Absences** - Students will be allowed five (5) unexcused absences in a semester class, which meets every day to receive credit for the course. The Truancy Law states: A child who has accumulated three (3) consecutive unlawful absences or a total of five (5) unlawful absences in a school year is considered Truant.

**Lawful absence** - Lawful absences do not count against the student's total number of allowed absences and they include:

- a) Illness or medical appointment; documentation must be provided upon return
- b) Late bus
- c) Administrative or guidance reasons
- d) School sponsored trips or activities
- e) Extenuating circumstances approved by the principal
- f) District Approved Religious holiday

\*On the morning of the student's return to school following an absence (excused or unexcused), a written excuse must be turned into the school secretary, in the main office. Students are cautioned that notes and excuses will be verified by the office, and forgeries will be dealt with as an administrative disciplinary matter.

**Exceeding 5 absences** - You WILL have to repeat the course, attend afterschool make-up or attend Summer School. SC attendance policy state, "Students who have absences in excess of those allowed by law and policy will be denied credit regardless of their grade."

**ECHS tardy policy** - Students who are tardy to school should report to the main office.

- 1<sup>st</sup> Tardy – Warning;
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Tardy - Students will be required to take the tardy policy home and have it signed by a parent/guardian
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Tardy – 2<sup>nd</sup> Warning
- 4<sup>th</sup> Tardy – Letter to parent
- 5<sup>th</sup> Tardy – Administrative Detention – 30 minutes
- 6<sup>th</sup> Tardy – Administrative Detention – 1 hour
- 7<sup>th</sup> Tardy – Administrative Detention – 2 hours

**Sign out early** - Prior to the start of the school day, a note signed by a parent/guardian that includes the following information should be submitted to the school secretary: student's name, date/time, phone number where parent can be reached to verify request, reason for early dismissal, and parent/guardian signature. If a student wishes to leave early without a note or without a parent/guardian physically present, permission must be verified by the school secretary before the student can leave. Arrangements will be made to dismiss the student at the appropriate time. If parents come to sign students out, we request that they do so during the change of classes so as not to interrupt instruction. The early dismissal does count as an absence unless it is for an excused reason as listed above. If a student misses a college class, the professor will count it as an absence regardless of the cause.

**School Tardy due to Late Bus** - All students who arrive on a school bus after the 7:55 class start time will be issued a late bus pass from the main office. It is the student's responsibility to obtain this pass and present it to the classroom teacher. **The only excused tardy is for bus riders on a late bus or students with a medical or legal note.**

**Excused pass** - Students that arrive to school with a medical or legal note should report to the office upon arrival for an excused tardy pass.

**Do traffic and/or car problems count as an excused tardy?** No, traffic and mechanical issues are not excused reasons for tardiness. Be aware that some college courses will count excessive tardies as a full absence regardless of reason. Check your syllabus and plan accordingly.

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## **DRESS CODE**

Our dress code has been developed to help students prepare for the world of work/college. The dress code has been developed with modesty and appropriateness in mind. According to the Horry County School District Policy, student dress must conform to the following regulations:

1. Attire must comply with requirements for health and safety. (This prohibits the wearing of chains and studded clothing or accessories.)
2. Hats/Headwear, sunglasses, headphones/earplugs, sweatbands, combs/picks, hoodies, headscarves, bandanas, headgear, head coverings, and sunglasses are prohibited inside school buildings.
3. **The possession of all bandanas is prohibited at ECHS.**
4. Shoes must be worn at all times. No bedroom shoes/slippers are allowed at any time.
5. **Pants & shirt must overlap at all times.** Clothing should be worn so that undergarments are not visible.
6. Attire must not display any sexual behavior, sexual innuendos, or ethnic derogatories.
7. Items such as spiked jewelry (including body piercings), padlocks, chains, and metal heel plates are not allowed.
8. No vulgar, obscene or otherwise inappropriate symbols, language, pictures, or wording will be permitted on clothing or accessories. Clothing or accessories (ex. Bookbags, jewelry, hats, etc) that display weapons, alcohol, tobacco, or other drug symbols are not permitted. Clothing must not display any information about, representations of, or advertisements for alcoholic beverage(s), tobacco, controlled drugs, illegal drugs, or paraphernalia associated with the foregoing. Clothing which is controversial or disruptive is not allowed.
9. Attire must not be immodest, obscene, profane, lewd, vulgar, indecent, or offensive.
  - a. Shorts, skirts, and dresses, even with leggings, jeggings, etc. must be longer than the student's fingertips when in a relaxed standing position. Slits/holes in clothing must also be no shorter than the student's fingertips when extended in the relaxed position.
  - b. See-through clothing, bare midriff tops, backless blouses, shirts/tops with low necklines, halter-tops, spaghetti-strap tops, muscle shirts, and tank tops are prohibited. All shirts must cover the undergarments. It is never appropriate to show undergarments.
  - c. Gym shorts, cutoffs, bathing suits and short shorts are not appropriate at school.
  - d. Appropriate undergarments should be worn and should be covered by outer clothing.
  - e. No pajamas or pajama bottoms/pants are allowed.

*\* The ECH community asks that students follow the spirit of the policy and not just the letter of the restrictions. Questionable clothing will be handled on a case-by-case basis at the discretion of the administration and teachers.*

## **Consequences of breaking the dress code:**

**1<sup>st</sup> Offense:** Student will be asked to come to the office and requested to change the inappropriate clothing, reverse the offending garment, or call parents. The student will not be allowed to return to class until the situation is corrected.

**2<sup>nd</sup> Offense:** Student will have to correct the dress code violation, parents will be notified, and the student will be assigned to afterschool administration detention. Additional discipline action will include, but not be limited to OSS and parent conference.

You must follow the instructions of the teacher or administrator regarding your dress. If you fail to do so, you will be written up for insubordination, which makes the issue worse. If you feel that your dress was unfairly criticized you may appeal to the principal.

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### **ELECTRONIC DEVICES – CELL PHONES\***

**Cell phone use at school** - Students may use cell phones and other electronic devices before 7:55, after 2:25, and during the student's lunch period. Cell phones and other electronic devices are to be turned off and put away before entering the classroom.

**Headphones and ear buds are not to be worn on the head, neck, or be visible during the times of 7:55 a.m. until 2:25 p.m.**

The following consequences are in place for a violation:

**1st offense:** The phone will be confiscated, discipline infraction entered into PowerSchool, and a letter mailed to the parent.

**2nd offense:** The phone will be confiscated, discipline infraction entered into PowerSchool. The student's parent or guardian must come to the school to retrieve the device.

**3rd offense:** The phone will be confiscated, discipline infraction entered into PowerSchool. The student's parent or guardian must come to the school to retrieve the device and the student loses cell phone privileges at any time while on school grounds. ECH is not responsible for the loss, damage, or theft of any personal technology devices students choose to bring to school.

ECH students who violate this policy while in a college classroom will be dealt with at the discretion of the college instructor and HGTC policy.

- *The unauthorized use of cell phones and other electronic devices to communicate or access information during classes or testing is prohibited.*
- *The use of cell phones and other electronic devices in locker rooms or restrooms is prohibited.*
- *The use of audio or video recording capacity of any cell phone and other electronic devices is prohibited in locker rooms, restrooms, or during regular school hours without prior permission from the building administration.*

**Note: Refusal to obey any staff member who asks for a cell phone/ electronic device will result in an additional disciplinary infraction including an assignment of another day of OSS.**

### **ELECTRONIC DEVICES - MUSIC**

**When can I listen to my Electronic device?** These devices may be used before school, during lunch, and after school. Students may not use them in the hallways between classes.

**This includes any type of ear buds or headphones.**

\* ECHS administration recommends that no items of value be brought to school. If any items are lost or stolen, the school will not be responsible for them.

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# HCS Early College High School Managing School Payments Just Got Easier!

Registration is **FREE** and  
**EASY!**

GO TO:  
**MYPAYMENTSPLUS.COM**

- PAY FOR STUDENT FEES
- VIEW ACCOUNT BALANCES 24/7
- ENROLL IN SCHOOL ACTIVITIES
- TRANSFER STUDENT BALANCES

To register, simply have your Student's ID #, Select your School District, and follow the on-screen instructions. 



**[www.MyPaymentsPlus.com](http://www.MyPaymentsPlus.com)**

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P.O. Box 157  
Suwanee, GA 30024-0157

Dear Parents/Students:

**Envision Payment Solutions™** is pleased to have been selected by **Horry County Schools** as its check service provider.

Please be aware that if your check is returned, it may be re-presented electronically. Also, in presenting a check for payment, you authorize service charges and processing fees to be debited from the same account should the check be dishonored. These fees, as permitted by state law, may be debited as a paper draft or an electronic funds transfer, at our option. Each dishonored item is subject to the applicable state returned check fees.

Specifically, per *South Carolina Code Annotated § 34-11-70*, the service fee for returned checks is \$30. (Note that the fee structure will change according to any amendments made to SC law during a school year.)

If you wish to inquire about a returned check written to **Horry County Schools**, please contact **Envision Payment Solutions™** directly at the information listed below.

Thank you. We wish you and your children all the best for this year and beyond.

Sincerely,

**Envision Payment Solutions™**



**Customers (check writers) with returned check inquiries should contact:**

**Envision Payment Solutions™**

**Tel** 877.290.5460, or 770.709.3100

**Fax** 770.709.3007

P.O. Box 157

Suwanee, GA 30024-0157

[customerservice@envisionpayments.com](mailto:customerservice@envisionpayments.com)

[www.envisionpayments.com](http://www.envisionpayments.com)

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