



The role of culture is that it's the form through which we as a society reflect on who we are, where we've been, where we hope to be.

Wendell Pierce

Mark Sale, Superintendent
January 2024

**Swain County Schools will
prepare every student to
pursue a career and to lead a
balanced life.**



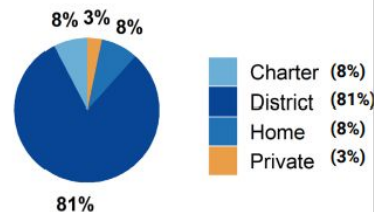
Swain County

2030 NC Degree Attainment Goal: 2 million (67%)
2030 Proposed Swain County Attainment Goal: 1,475 (45%)

School Choice

2,284 total students were enrolled in K-12 in Swain County in the 2021-22 school year.

Note: This profile focuses on outcomes of students enrolled in district schools.



Updated: Jun 16 2023

Population Spotlight

2010 Census: 13,981
 2020 Census: 14,117
 Change: 136

Growth Rate

1.0% County vs. **9.5%** State



\$47,559
 Median Household Income (2020)



29.8%
 Child Poverty Rate (2020)



74%
 Households with Broadband (2020)



76%
 Home Owners (2020)



74%
 Voter Registration Rate (2021)



4.5%
 Unemployment Rate (2021)

Educational Attainment

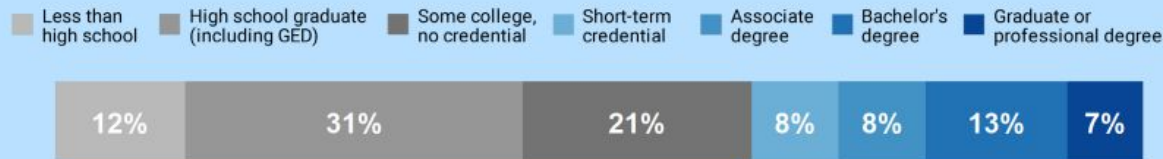
Swain County residents ages 25-44, 2021



No Degree
64.4%
 2,035



Have Degree or Credential
35.6%
 1,127



Note: Numbers may add to more than 100% due to rounding



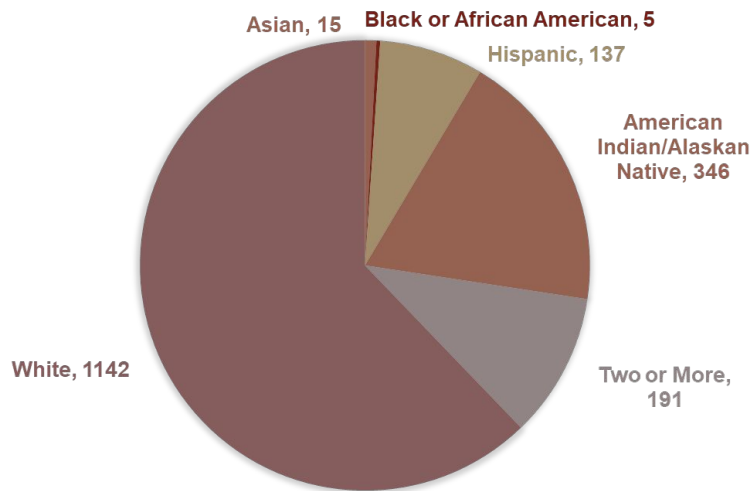
Swain County Schools

Our district is comprised of five schools on four campuses. The middle and high schools include alternative programs.

- Bright Adventures Pre-K
 - East Elementary (Title I)
 - West Elementary (Title I)
 - Middle School (Title I)
 - High School
-
- 37% Student Minority Population (American Indian, Black, Hispanic).
 - Over 85% of land in Swain County is **non-taxable** which limits funding resources for educational initiatives in Swain County.
(Eastern Band of Cherokees Reservations lands, Tennessee Valley Authority: Fontana Lake and Dam, Nantahala National Forest, and the Great Smoky Mountains National Park.)
 - Five School Resource Officers jointly funded through county, local, and safety grant



Swain County Schools Demographics



Total - 1,836 Students

	Percentage of Students with Disabilities	Percentage Economically Disadvantaged
East Elementary	29.74 %	71.80 %
West Elementary	25.24 %	61.50 %
Middle School and Pre-K	20.93 %	65.10 %
High School	13.00 %	52.90 %



Swain County Schools Performance

Average Number of Students by School Type

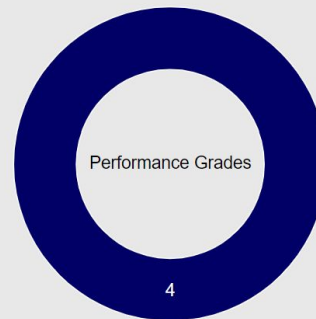
Agency	Elementary	Middle	High
Swain County Schools	369	387	541
State of North Carolina	445	622	823

Kindergarten	Grade 1	Grade 2	Grade 3	Grade 4	Grade 5	Grade 6	Grade 7	Grade 8
14	14	17	14	16	18	13	19	18
16	15	16	16	20	21	19	20	20

Biology	English II	NC Math 1	NC Math 3
14	15	19	17
20	20	20	21

School Performance Grades

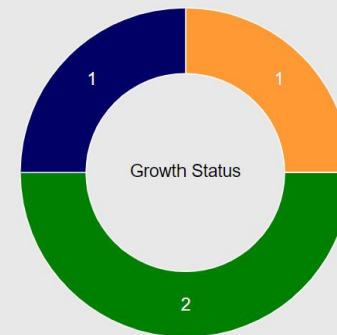
2023 ▾



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School Growth Status

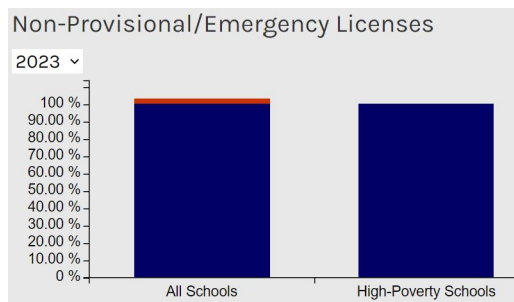
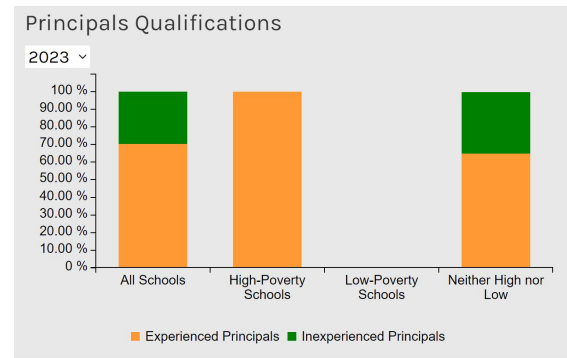
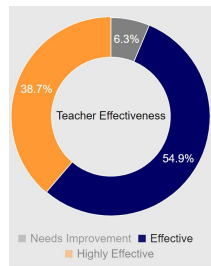
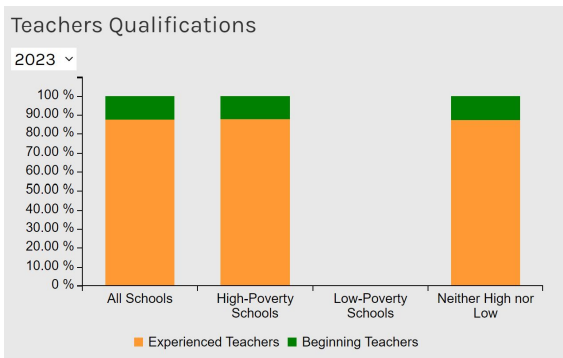
2023 ▾



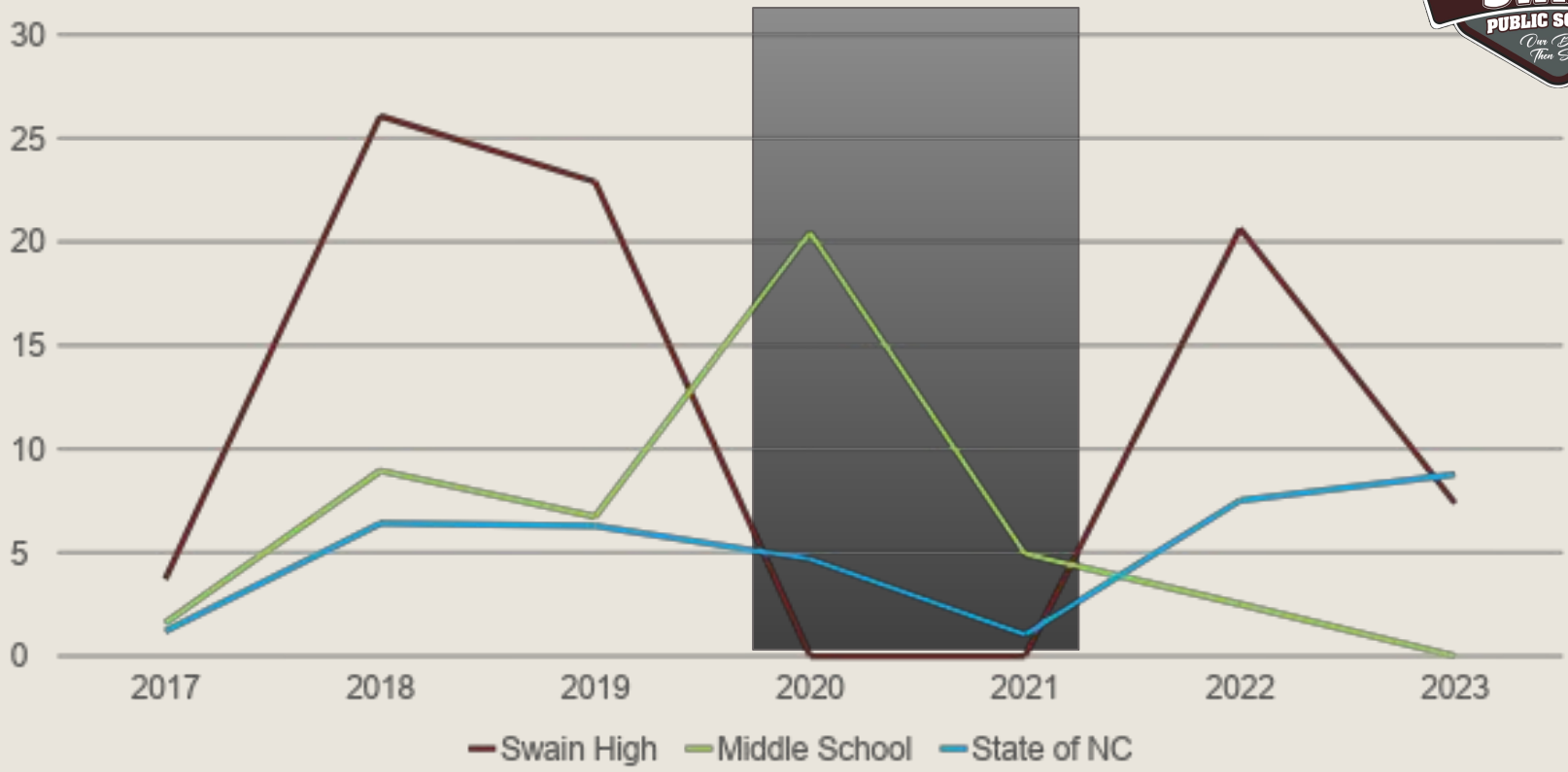
■ Exceeded ■ Met ■ NotMet



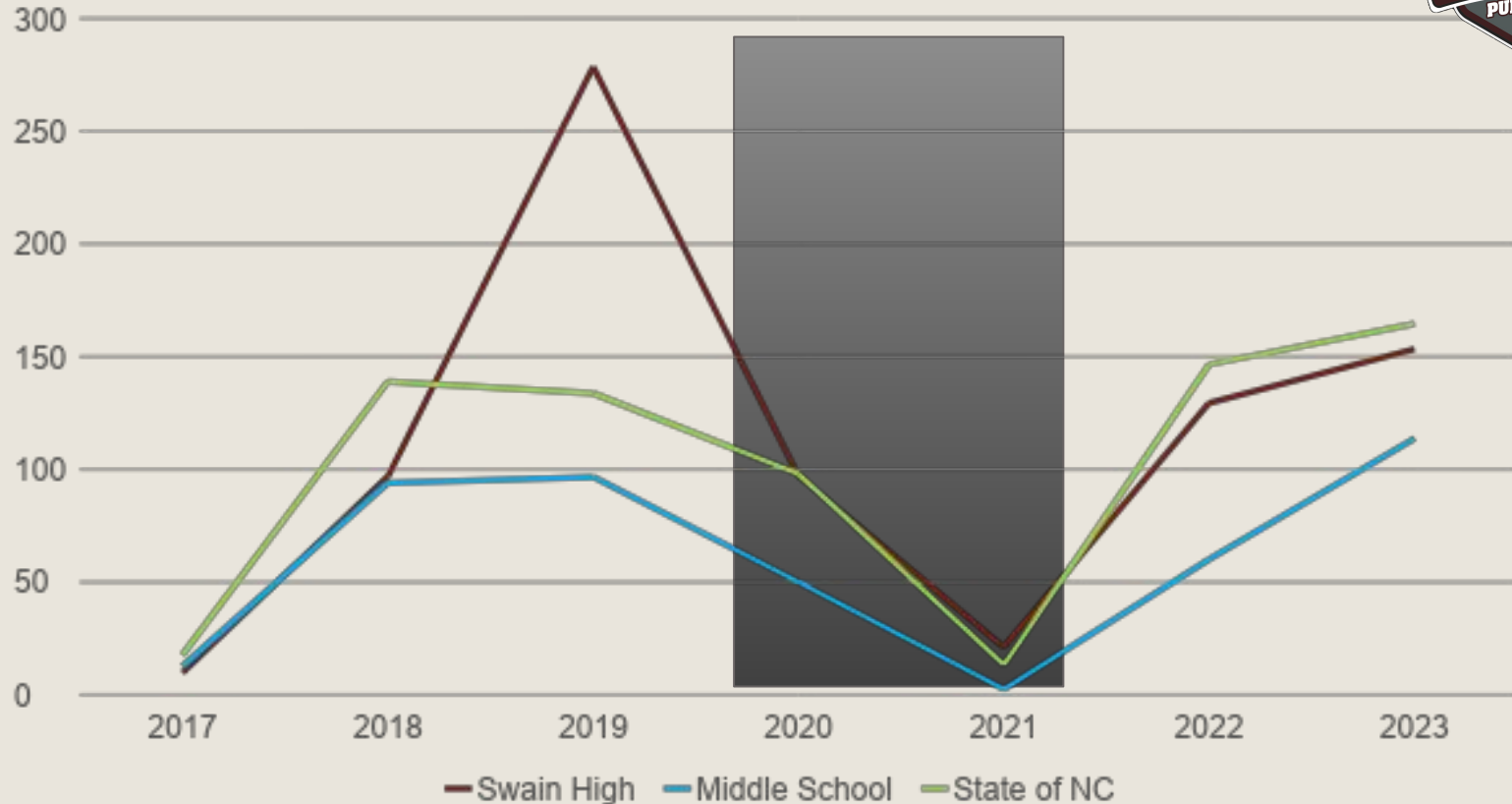
Swain County Schools Staff



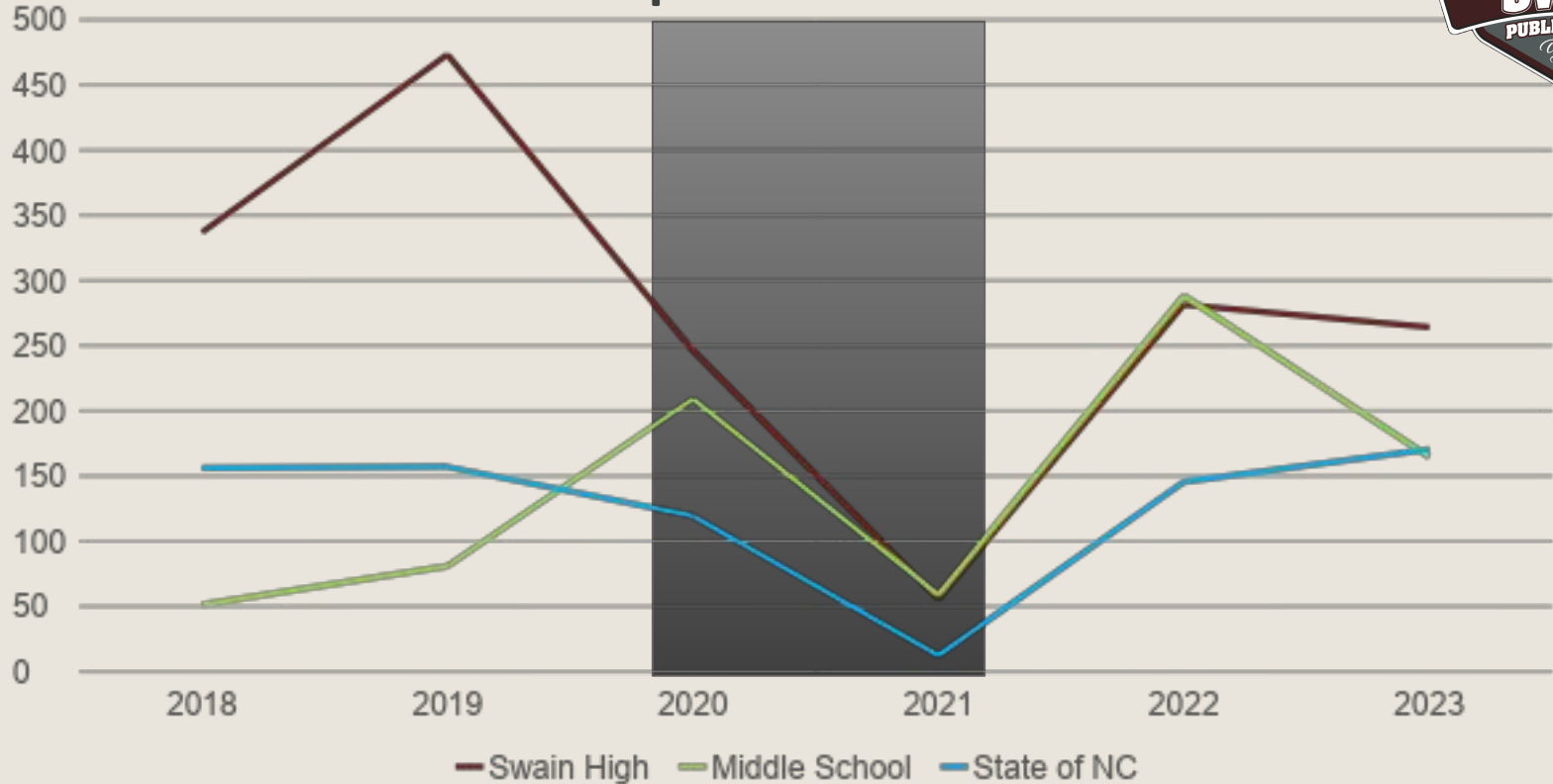
Rates of Criminal Acts



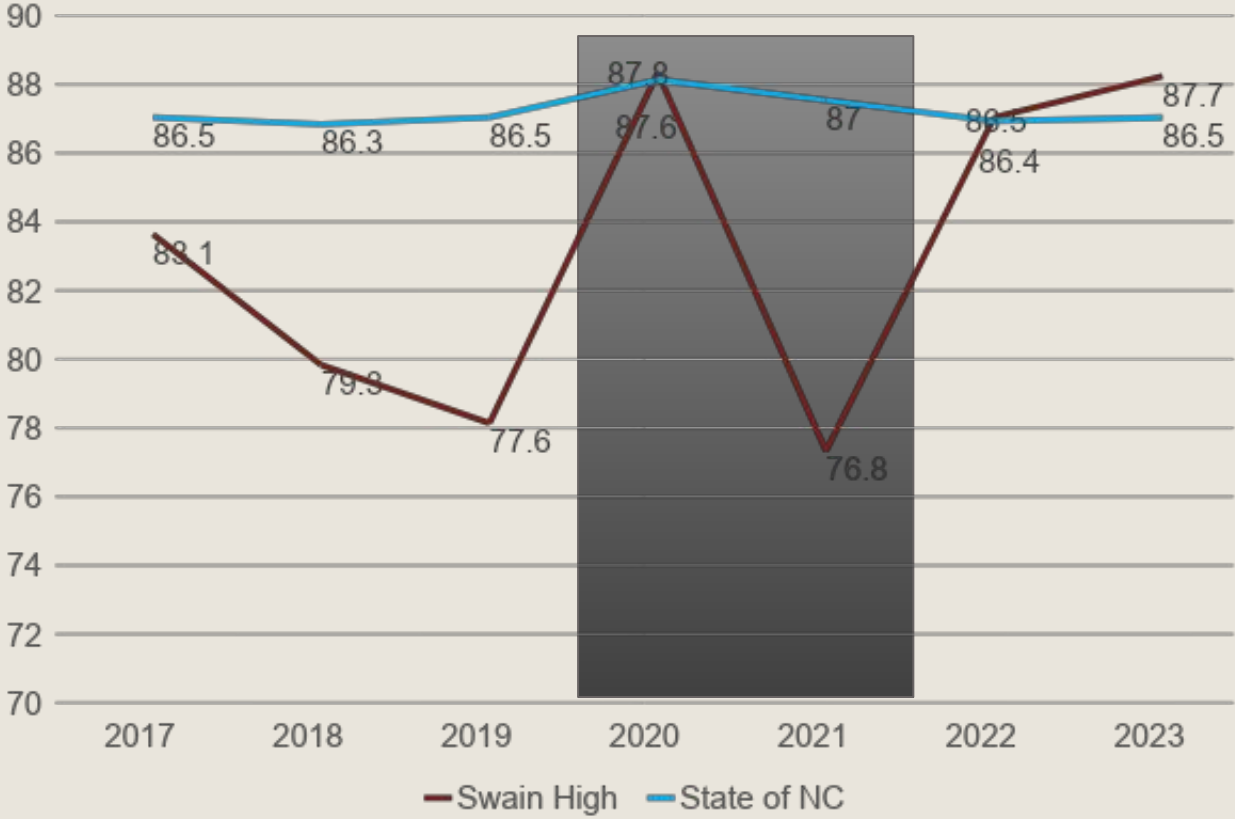
Short-term Suspension (per 1000 students)



In-School Suspensions (per 1000 students)



Graduation Rates



Why? A Culture of Support



Swain County Schools Code of Conduct

Welcome to the Swain County school family. Our system is home to five schools and over 1800 students. We believe success is only possible if our community, staff, parents and students work together. This Code of Conduct is designed to provide a foundation of understanding toward that goal. You are encouraged to review this document with your son or daughter and discuss the information. Please note, this is not a comprehensive list of policies and procedures. The school board policies serve as the basis for all decisions in the school system. You can find these policies at <http://bit.ly/3Q27V0w>. Each individual school develops procedures to fulfill the responsibilities outlined in these policies. You are able to access each school handbook by visiting the school webpage. If you need more information or have questions, please begin by contacting one of these schools at the numbers below. Thank you for becoming a partner with us in educating our youth. We are pleased to work with you and look forward to a safe and successful school year.

Tobacco

The Swain County school system is committed to the health and safety of all students and staff. The school board believes the use of tobacco on school grounds, in buildings, or on any school property is detrimental to the students, staff, and visitors. For this reason, the board has adopted a tobacco free policy that prohibits smoking, the use of smokeless tobacco or any product derived from tobacco that is intended for human consumption while on school property. This includes electronic cigarettes, vapes, and any other smoking devices even if they do not contain tobacco or nicotine. Middle school and high school students found to have vapes will be subject to severe discipline up to and including two days of OSS for the first offense, five days of OSS for the second offense, and assignment to alternative education for additional offenses. Vapes will be considered to contain illegal substances and subject to the disciplinary action found in policy 4325 (<https://bit.ly/ws/3a0Iz>) unless evidence is presented to building administration to the contrary. This policy applies during any school event or school sponsored event. (Board Policy 5026 <https://bit.ly/2zJXwFp>)

Tobacco Policy

In accordance with Swain County Schools Policies, any tobacco use or possession of tobacco products is not allowed on school campuses. Tobacco products include: cigarettes, cigars, smokeless tobacco, or any paraphernalia (lighters, wrapping papers, pipes, spit bottles, etc.). **Tobacco or paraphernalia will be confiscated and turned in to the office and will not be returned to students or parents.**

Consequences:

1st offense:

- 1 day ISS

2nd offense:

- 3 days ISS and/or potential community service (if available)
- Guardian will be notified by administration

3rd offense:

- 1 day OSS
- Parent conference and Functional Behavior Assessment

4th offense and all incidents following:

- Parents will be notified by administration and behavior contract accomplished
- 2 days OSS
- Student will be considered overtly insubordinate and administration will look at an alternative placement for this student

These offenses will remain comprehensive for the year.

*Student may opt for Community Service in lieu of ISS/OSS

C. Prevention

The superintendent or designee shall establish drug and alcohol abuse prevention measures, w

1. age-
2. scho
3. info
4. recu

Legal References:

307-390.2

Cross References:

(policy 4332), Adm

Adopted: February

Revised: July 11, 2

5. A student prohibited and prescribed to
6. Students r prohibited and occurs on sc
7. The princ prohibited by

not in violation of this policy for being under the influence of a

Policy Code: 4325 Drugs and Alcohol

Unauthorized or illegal drugs and alcohol are a threat to safe and orderly schools and will not be tolerated. The superintendent is responsible for ensuring that this policy is consistently applied throughout the school system.

This policy applies to students while on school property or at a school-sponsored event or activity (whether on or off school property) and at any other time or place where the conduct is reasonably expected to have a direct and immediate impact on the orderly and efficient operation of the schools or the safety of individuals in the school environment.

B. Consequences

As required by pol

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Section D of policy

designates the list

consequences that

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A. Prohibited Behavior

1. Students are prohibited from possessing, using, selling, delivering, transmitting, manufacturing, or being under the influence of any of the following substances:

- a. narcotic drugs;
- b. hallucinogenic drugs;
- c. amphetamines;
- d. barbiturates;
- e. marijuana;

f. synthetic stimulants, such as MDPV and methedrone (e.g., "bath salts"), and synthetic cannabinoids (e.g., "Spice," "K2")

g. any other controlled substance.

h. any alcoholic beverage, malt beverage, fortified or unfortified wine, or other intoxicating liquor.

i. any chemicals, substances, or products produced or used with the intention of bringing about a state of exhilaration or euphoria or of otherwise altering the student's mood or behavior; or

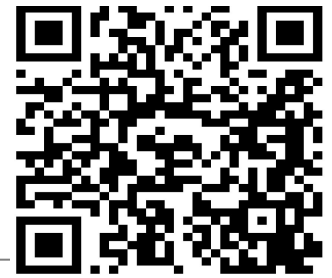
j. any substance containing cannabidiol (CBD) or tetrahydrocannabinol (THC), regardless of whether it constitutes a controlled substance under state or federal law.

2. Students also are prohibited from possessing, using, selling, delivering, transmitting, or manufacturing counterfeit (fake) drugs.

3. Students are prohibited from possessing, using, selling, delivering, transmitting or manufacturing drug paraphernalia, including but not limited to rolling papers, roach clips, lighters, matches, vaping devices, vape liquid containers, pipes, syringes and other delivery devices for prohibited substances.

4. Students are prohibited from possessing, using, selling, delivering, transmitting or sharing prescription or over-the-counter drugs, except in accordance with policy 6125, Administering Medicines to Students. A student who possesses or uses a prescription or over-the-counter drug in accordance with policy 6125 does not violate this policy.

Why? A Culture of Expectation and Opportunities



SMS BEHAVIOR PYRAMID

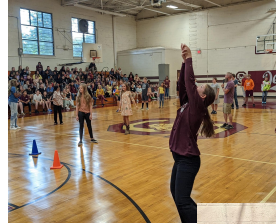
- THIS PYRAMID STARTS OVER MONTHLY
- SEE ATTACHED LIST OF CONSEQUENCES

****ALL TOBACCO/VAPING OFFENSES WILL RESULT IN AT LEAST 1 DAY OF OSS**



****30 POINTS AND ABOVE ARE OFFICE MANAGED OFFENSES (MAJOR)**

****MINOR OFFENSES WARRANT WARNINGS**

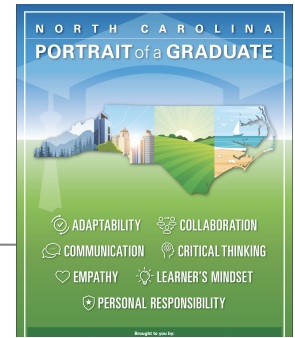


- All students start each month with 100 points. Discipline offenses fall into one of the seven levels on the pyramid. Every month, the pyramid starts over.
- When a student falls below the following levels, he/she receives the designated response:
 - **90-100 points** - Student receives two devil dollars and monthly reward
 - **80-89 points** - Lunch detention
 - **70-79 points** - 2 lunch detentions
 - **60-69 points** - 2 days of elective isolation with sentences to write
 - **50-59 points** - 1 day of ISS
 - **40-49 points** - Multiple days of ISS
 - **below 39 points** - Administrative discretion (options include out-of-school suspension, alternative school placement, assignment to work detail, referral to counselor/mentor, fines, criminal charges etc.)
- Offenses such as disrespect, inappropriate language, disruptive behavior, etc. have varying levels of severity and administration may deduct more points or assign automatic consequences if deemed necessary.

Continued on next page

- Students can earn **UP TO 15 points back in a month**. Students will **STILL** have to serve consequences, but can earn rewards and extracurricular privileges back. They can do this by the following:
 - **losing no points for a whole week = 5 points**
 - **Community service that is documented and turned in= 5 points per hour**
 - **Attendance in After School or Gear Up = 1 point per day (student is responsible for going to teacher about adding points)**
- At the end of each month, all students with at least 90 points will qualify for the monthly reward time.
- Acts of Leadership – students (and staff) will receive certificates specifying their positive behaviors/characteristics. Occasionally, students and staff will be recognized at our Monday meetings.

Why? A Culture that is Consistent



LeaderinMe Highly Effective Practices Alignment to the North Carolina Portrait of a Graduate

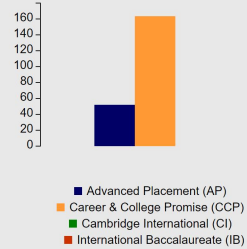
	Leadership						Culture						Academics					
	Adults Learning and Modeling			Teach Students to Lead			Create a Leadership Environment			Share Leadership			Achieve Goals		Empower Learners			
	Principal & Coordinator Development	New & Ongoing Staff Learning	Family & Community Partnerships	Direct Lessons	Integrated Approaches	Service Learning	Physical Environment	Social-Emotional Environment	Leadership Events	Lighthouse & Action Teams	Leadership Roles	Student Voice	Individual Goals	Team Goals	Aligned School Goals	Leadership Portfolios	Student-Led Conferences	Empowering Instruction
Portrait of a Graduate	ADAPTABILITY	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓		✓
	COLLABORATION	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓	✓		✓	✓
	COMMUNICATION		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓	✓		✓	✓
	CRITICAL THINKING	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓	✓	✓
	EMPATHY	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓			✓
	LEARNER'S MINDSET		✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓	✓	✓
	PERSONAL RESPONSIBILITY				✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓			✓	✓	✓



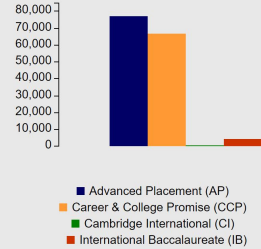
Why? A Culture of (Wildly Important) Growth

Why? A Culture of Caring for the Person

Swain County Schools



State of North Carolina

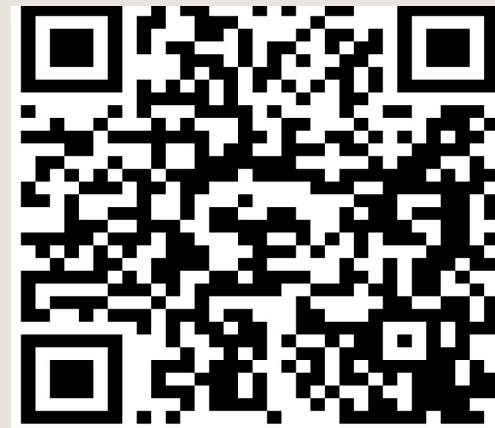


Program Quality- Attained Recognized Post-secondary Credential (based on CTE concentrators)			
2019-2020	2020-2021	2021-2022	2022-2023
State Goal: 20.00%	State Goal: 21.57%	State Goal: 23.14%	State Goal: 24.71%
Actual: 47.7%	Actual: 44.4%	Actual: 73.8%	Actual: 90.6%

Total Credentials 1430	Total Credentials 2516	Total Credentials 2352	Total Credentials 2190
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**1,246 Students
Participate in Afterschool Activities**

**Includes:
High School and Middle School Sports
Band (Marching and Concert)
After School Programing
(Elementary and Middle Schools, Pre-K)
Dance Program**



Questions?

At Swain County Schools, we believe:

- In the future of our community
- In developing mutual partnerships
- In personal genius
- In maintaining a high-trust, loving culture
- In the development of the whole person
- In individuals as leaders of their own learning

Everyone is a Leader