



1363 Person Avenue, Memphis, TN 38016
901.416.7838 Phone - 901.416.7829 Fax

Blanchard Diavua, Principal

Free Bacchus, Assistant Principal

Nancy Harrison, Vice Principal

Dr. Erick DeSquare, Assistant Principal

July 15, 2024

Dear Hamilton High School Families,

Welcome to the 2024-2025 school year! We are extremely excited to welcome all students into the building for a joyous school year!

Below are important dates for the upcoming 2024-2025 school year.

Tuesday, July 30, 9am to 7:00pm – Gear Up for School Day & 9th – 12th Grade Orientations

- Presentations for 9th – 12th grade students and parents: **10:00 am-11:30 am or 5:30 pm-7:00 pm**
- Get help with registration (Must be registered to receive schedule)
- Schedules and bus routes will be distributed
- Learn about programs, policies, and meet staff for each grade level

Monday, August 5th – First Day of School for All Students (New Dismissal Time)

- 6:55 AM – Doors open, and breakfast begins. Students enter via gymnasium entrance
- 7:15 AM – First Period Begins
- **2:15 PM – Dismissal**

Important Items to Purchase: A Clear Backpack

Included on the next pages are the school uniforms and important school policies. Please be sure you read the following pages for further details on our major policies. We have a lot of great academic and extracurricular programs planned for students this year. We ask that you work with us as partners to provide students with the best school experience possible.

Thank you and Love Hamilton, Absolutely!

Blanchard Diavua
Principal

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Hamilton High School Uniform 2024-2025

The purpose of the uniform is to build cohesion, reduce bullying and peer pressure, reduce distractions, and ensure students who belong in the building are easily recognizable.

Acceptable School Uniform for 2024-2025

Shirt: Gray, Royal Blue or White Polo Collar Shirt with no more than a small logo on chest

Pants: Tan (Preferred), Navy Blue or Black Khaki Pants with belt

Shoes: Closed toes shoes with a back



Please Do **Not** Wear the Following Attire (including but not limited to):

Tops: Tank tops, skinny straps, sleeveless, low-cut, crop-tops, any color not listed above

Jackets: Nothing with inappropriate graphics or language.

Bottoms: Jeans, tights, leggings, pants that are skin-tight, cargos (with the several pockets/straps on the pants), skirts or shorts that are shorter than when arms are on the side, holes (tights under bottoms do not excuse holes), any color not listed above

Footwear: Sandals, slides, slippers, house shoes and shoes with toes or heel exposed

Headwear: Hats, scarves, du-rags, wave caps, and other hair coverings (hijabs excluded). **Hoods are not allowed to be worn in the building.**

The administration reserves the right to address any clothing it deems inappropriate. Administration has the right to ask a student to change to adhere to dress code or implement progressive discipline which includes in-school suspensions and parent meetings.

A good rule to follow: If you must think about it, do not wear it.

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Frequently Asked Questions

*These are brief answers. All policies can be read in full online on our school website:
<https://schools.scsk12.org/hamilton-hs>*

Can students bring cell phones to school?

Students may **not** bring their cell phones, iPads, or tablets into the building. We have found that they are a major distraction for learning, an accelerant for conflicts between students and too often used to violate the privacy of others.

Memphis Shelby County Schools' Board Policy 6024

"All students are banned from possessing any type of phone or personal communication device that is turned on or in visible/audible use at any time during the regular school day"

Students who bring their phones to school must turn them in to administration to be stored until the student is dismissed at the end of the school day. Students are responsible for making sure they turn in their phones no matter the time of their arrival or school entrance used. Any student observed with their phone beyond metal detection will have it confiscated and guardian contacted to retrieve it. Students who violate will be subject to the progressive discipline policy.

When does school start and end each day?

We open the doors by 6:55 am each morning so students may have breakfast and get to their first class on time. The first class of the day starts at 7:15 am. The school day ends at 2:15 pm. Buses will pick up and drop off students in front of the school. Car riders should drop students off by the large parking lot in front of the gym. Student drivers may use the parking lot next to the gym with proof of license and insurance. They should not use any other parking lot at the school.

When are students late?

Students are late at 7:16 am. It is important that they are here and on time to receive instruction. Students must receive a late slip upon entry to present to their teacher. **After 8:00 am, students must be signed-in by guardian or listed contact.** Students who are excessively late will be required to have a parent meeting with the administration. Students are subject to progressive discipline including in-school suspension.

What do I do if my student is absent?

Your child should come in with a written note from a health care professional, government agency, or parent (with reason signature, phone number and date). The note must be from a doctor if the absence is for 3 days or more. The note should be given to the attendance secretary upon entry into the building. The family is responsible for ensuring notes are provided to the attendance office. Students will be able to make-up assignments for excused absences.

Can I call for an early dismissal for my child?

Guardians or emergency contacts must come physically into the building and sign out the students (including seniors) for early dismissal. (The exception is for seniors who are leaving after their **approved** Work Release Schedule).

Do seniors have early dismissal?

Select seniors who have met all credit requirements, do not need to make up classes, and are classified as Ready Graduates may be scheduled for a Work Release Schedule that dismisses the student at 12:55 pm. Students must have senior study hall on their schedule and submit documentation for a job or internship. Seniors must have their own transportation and must not remain on campus upon being dismissed.

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A permission slip must be signed in person by the parent/guardian starting at orientation. Seniors may have this privilege revoked at any time if their on-track for graduation status changes.

What school supplies do students need to bring to school every day?

Clear backpack (no solid color), school laptop, notebook paper, pencils, pens, highlighters

Can my child ride the bus?

Students must have an address on file in the bus zone to be eligible for the bus. Students may pick-up bus passes during orientations prior to the first week of school or on the first day of school in the cafeteria. Students may only ride their assigned bus. Students must behave on school buses. Any disruptive behavior can lead to a student being removed from the bus.

Can my child bring outside food?

Students may bring their lunch to school only to be eaten during the lunch period in the cafeteria. Students may not eat during class. Students may not order food nor have food delivered to them from outside delivery services (DoorDash, UberEats, etc.).

Altercations and Bullying

We at Hamilton High School take physical altercations and bullying of any kind (verbal, mental, physical, social media, etc.) very seriously. Hamilton High must be a place where all students feel safe and have an environment where they may learn without distractions. All issues can be resolved prior to reaching that point by approaching school staff and mediation. **Students who commit such offenses may face suspension, expulsion, loss of privileges such as sports participation, prom, walking in graduation, or any other activities as deemed appropriate by administration.**

What is a class cut?

Any time a student is not in their assigned class and is without a hall pass or does not return to their assigned room in a timely manner are cutting class. Students will receive consequences as specified in the code of conduct. In-school suspension and a parent meeting may be deemed necessary to improve behavior.

What are Senior Dues and activities? When are prom and graduation?

Senior dues were \$175 last school year. The dues are a required cost to pay for graduation fees, cap and gown, senior t-shirt, and diploma cover. We expect them to be in the same range this year. Once the final cost is determined, we will send it out to all senior families.

Senior Week is a set of activities to celebrate the end of their senior year. This is an additional cost to be determined.

Prom and graduation information will also be sent once venues and dates are confirmed.

Senior Photos will be taken in October and November. Days will be sent to seniors once we have confirmation from the photographer.

Please read more about Hamilton High School and Shelby County Schools' policies at <https://scsk12.org>

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