



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

**Blanchard Diavua, Principal**

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**Andrew McFarland**, Assistant Principal

**Nancy Harrison**, Vice Principal

**Free McKinney**, Assistant Principal

July 5, 2022

Dear Hamilton High School Families,

Welcome to the 2022-2023 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 2022-2023 school year.

**Tuesday, August 2<sup>nd</sup>, 9am to 2pm and 4pm to 7pm – Gear Up for School Day & 9<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> Grade Orientations**

- Presentations for 9<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> grade students and parents: 10:00 am-11:30 am or 5:30 pm to 7:00 pm
- Get help with registration
- 1 free clear backpack and uniform shirt (while supplies last), receive bus information, homeroom, & supply list
- Learn about programs, policies, and meet staff

**Monday, August 8<sup>th</sup> – First Day of School for All Students**

- 6:55 AM – Doors Open and Breakfast Begins. Students enter via gymnasium entrance
- 7:15 AM – School Day Begins
- 3:15 PM - Dismissal

Included on the next pages are the school uniforms and important school policies. After speaking with different stakeholder groups, we will be implementing two changes:

1. All students must use clear plastic backpacks. This is for the safety of all students and staff. We will be providing free plastic backpacks to students on August 2<sup>nd</sup>.
2. Students will be able to bring their cell phones into the building this year. Students will not be able to use them during class. They may only use them outside of classroom time. This will be strictly enforced.

Please read the following pages for further details on these 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.

We are looking forward to a great school year.

Love Hamilton, Absolutely!

Blanchard Diavua  
Principal

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### **Hamilton High School Uniform 2022-2023**

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 2022-2023**

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:** Hoodies, Tanktops, skinny straps, sleeveless, low-cut, crop-tops, any color not listed above

**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, shoes with toes or heel exposed

**Headwear:** Hats, scarves, du-rags, wave caps, and other hair coverings (hijabs excluded)

*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>*

#### **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 3:15 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. Students who are excessively late will be required to have parent meeting with administration.

#### **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. It is the responsibility of the family to ensure 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 student (including seniors) for early dismissal. (The exception is for seniors who have an **approved** Early Release Schedule).

#### **Do seniors have early dismissal?**

Select seniors who have met all credit requirements and do not need to make up classes may be scheduled for an Early Release Schedule that dismisses the student at 2:00 pm. Students must have senior study hall on their schedule and report there to sign out and be dismissed by staff. Seniors must have their own transportation and must not remain on campus upon being dismissed. A permission slip must be signed in person by the parent/guardian starting at orientation. Seniors may have this privilege revoked at any time.

#### **What do students need to bring to school every day?**

Students are required to bring their school device to school every day. We have begun to require electronic submissions of assignments and exams. If your child has an issue with their device, please let your grade level administrator know immediately.

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### **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. 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.

### **What kind of school bag may my child bring?**

Students must wear a clear backpack to school. Students should write their names on their bag with a permanent marker or label. This is to assist with safety and security at the school. If you have difficulty securing a clear backpack, we have them available at the school for free starting on orientation day. Any other school bag will be taken by school officials and kept until the end of the day.

### **Can my child bring outside food?**

Students may not bring outside food due to distractions, cleanliness, drug, and safety concerns. They may also not order food to be delivered to the building. Students may bring sealed bottles of water. If your student has a verified medical concern, please inform an administrator during orientation regarding medical accommodations.

### **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.**

### **Can students bring cell phones to school?**

Students may bring their cell phones to school and use them during lunch, **but may not have them out during class.** Any student who has their phone out during class will have it confiscated and receive consequences such as in-school suspension and a required parent meeting. If you need to reach your child for an emergency please call the school at 901-416-7838.

### **What is a class cut?**

Any time a student is not in their assigned class and without a hall pass or do not return to their assigned room in a timely manner they 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? When are prom and graduation?**

Last year, senior dues were \$125 and we expect them to be in the same range this year. Once they are determined, we will send them out to all senior families. Prom and graduation information will also be sent once venues and dates are confirmed.

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

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