

DARBY MIDDLE SCHOOL

ADMINISTRATION

Jason Meharg

Principal

Maleb Kelley

Assistant Principal

Emilee Moss

Assistant Principal

COUNSELING STAFF

Cherri Byford

Cassidy Hodge

(Revised June 2022)

**Parents will be notified of any policy
changes made after printing of the handbook*

Darby Middle School Bell

Schedule 8:00- First Bell

8:05-8:53- 1st period

8:57-9:45- 2nd period

9:49-10:16- 3rd period Advisory/RTI

10:20-11:08- 4th period

11:08-12:38- 5th period

11:08-11:38- A Lunch- 6th Grade

11:38-12:08- B Lunch- 7th Grade

12:08-12:38- C Lunch- 8th Grade

12:42-1:30- 6th period

1:34-2:22- 7th period

2:26-3:15- 8th period

MISSION STATEMENT

*Empowering all students to grow
and learn with the mindset of a
Ranger*

VISION STATEMENT

*To “Lead the Way” in student
academic growth, attendance,
physical/social emotional well
being, extra-curricular activities,
career preparation, and
community involvement in order
to prepare students for future
success.*

DARBY MIDDLE SCHOOL EXPECTATIONS

All Darby students are expected to practice self-discipline and to conduct themselves in a manner appropriate for the institution of learning. These three expectations should always be followed:

1. Be Responsible
2. Be Respectful
3. Be Safe

The Darby staff will be on the alert for any student behavior which is in violation of school regulations. Students should behave in a manner that will be a credit to our school. Students are to refrain from the following:

1. Possession or the use of any tobacco products, vapes, lighters, or matches on school property at any time
2. Fighting on or near school property
3. Play fighting
4. Disrespect to Darby staff
5. Willful refusal to follow reasonable instructions
6. Profanity
7. Stealing
8. Sexual Harassment
9. Extreme dress or appearance which is disruptive to class
10. Disruptive behavior or running in the building
11. Littering on school property
12. Physical displays of affection or touching other students
13. Possession or use of alcoholic beverages, drugs, or “look-alikes” on school property, prior to school or prior to or at any school activity
14. Possession or use of anything that might be considered a weapon
15. Any activity or behavior that might be considered gang related
16. Any behavior that is not conducive to good order and discipline
17. Inappropriate behavior at school activities - Inappropriate behavior may result in the loss of privilege to attend school activities.
18. Insubordination to Darby staff will not be tolerated. This includes such actions as talking back to a staff member, failing to follow reasonable instructions, making crude or insulting remarks, etc.

Minimum Penalty-Reprimand Maximum Penalty-Expulsion5

DRESS CODE FOR DARBY MIDDLE SCHOOL

In order to enhance high standards and promote the teaching and learning process in our schools, we encourage neatness, cleanliness, and decency in personal dress and appearance of all students and staff.

Specific Prohibitions:

1. Clothing styles that are revealing to the point of disruption or distraction. - Examples include but are not limited to the following:
 - a. Spaghetti straps - Shirts must have 4” of material from shoulder seam.
 - b. Any type of strapless apparel
 - c. Shirts, blouses or tops that expose any part of the midriff - Shirts must extend 4” below the navel.
 - d. Any type of spandex apparel or clothing that is tight to the point of being inappropriately revealing
2. Clothing or body art that advocates poor standards of character:
 - a. Advertisements for alcohol, drugs or tobacco
 - b. Displays of excessive violence - Slogans associated with death, suicide or killing are included.
 - c. Suggestive language, slogans or sexual connotations
3. Shorts or Skirts must be “Mid-Thigh” in length.
4. Hats and Hoods are prohibited to be worn inside campus buildings.
Bandanas and dew rags are prohibited at all times.
5. According to Arkansas House Bill 1936, it is prohibited that students wear clothes that are too revealing or sagging, Underwear cannot be exposed.
6. Sunglasses cannot be worn inside the building.

Students may not be allowed to return to class until dress code violation is corrected.

Students will be allowed to carry their own backpack for the 2022-2023 school year. If you choose to purchase your own backpack, it is important to purchase one that fits easily under your chair during class and at lunch. Also, the backpack must include a padded laptop compartment designed to protect technology tools.

BUS RULES AND REGULATIONS

Students attending Darby are transported by two different buses. Students must ride the bus route they are assigned. Each student who rides the bus will be provided a copy of the transportation rules to be read and signed. All students who ride the bus wait in the designated area when loading in the afternoon.

VEHICLES

Motorcycles, mopeds and bicycles are to be parked in the designated area upon arrival to school and are not to be used until the end of the school day. Middle school students are not permitted to drive automobiles on school property. Motorcycles may be ridden and are to be registered with the assistant principal.

DUE PROCESS

Appropriate due process will be given to all students. Disciplinary actions may be appealed. All appeals must begin with the building principal.

ELECTRONIC DEVICES

It is important that students and parents recognize the importance of school and the use of instructional time. Disruption and interruptions must be kept to a minimum. The school is not responsible for unauthorized electronic devices when they are confiscated from students. PHONES WILL REMAIN OUT OF SIGHT DURING INSTRUCTIONAL CLASSROOM TIME.

When earbuds and/or headphones are used, only one ear should be covered.

Darby Middle School will not be responsible for damaged, lost or stolen devices when they are confiscated due to misuse.

Violation of this policy will result in:

1st offense: Confiscation of the electronic device for the remainder of the day. The student can pick up the electronic device in the office at the end of the school day.

2nd offense: Confiscation of the electronic device for the remainder of the day. The parent will be contacted, and student can pick up the electronic device in the office at the end of the school day. **3rd offense:** Confiscation of the electronic device for the remainder of the day. The parent/guardian will be required to pick up the electronic device at the end of the school day.

4th offense – Confiscation of the electronic device for the remainder of the day. The parent/guardian will be required to pick up the electronic device at the end of the school day.

5th offense – Meeting with Administration team to determine future cell

phone use on campus. A day of SDC for each infraction after the fifth offense may be issued.

**Any exceptions to this will be granted only by the
administration.⁸**

ATTENDANCE

Call Darby at 783-4159 between the hours of 7:30- 9:00 a.m. on the day of the absence. There are three types of absences: Excused, Parental Permission and Unexcused.

Excused Absence- An absence is excused when there is: a personal illness with official written verification, a school sponsored activity, a court appearance with official written verification, a medical or dental appointment with official written verification, or a death, or serious illness, in the immediate or extended family.

Parental Permission Absence- A parental permission absence may be granted for any reason, including personal illness without written verification, provided the parent has contacted the attendance office, by note or phone call, the day the absence occurs. A student gets five (5) parental permission absences.

Unexcused Absence- Any other absence not considered excused in the two preceding sections will be counted as an unexcused absence. If a student returns to school without a parent or guardian notifying the attendance office of the reason for the absence, the absence will be considered unexcused.

Exiting and Returning to School:

All request to leave the building while school is in session, including the lunch period, must be cleared through the attendance office. Leaving school without permission is classified as truancy. If a student needs to leave school, the student's parent, guardian, or someone listed on the

student's emergency permission form may check out a student. Students will be called out of class when the parent/guardian arrives. Students returning to school on the same day of check-out should check in at the main office to get an attendance slip. Students are not permitted to leave campus with other students and their parents for lunch.

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TARDY POLICY

If a student is tardy to first period, the office will record the tardy. If a student arrives after 8:30 a.m., they will be counted absent for 1st period. Tardies are recorded each 9 weeks by teacher per class, if a student is less than 10 minutes late. A tardy is defined as students not in the classroom when the bell rings. The consequences for tardiness per class per 9 weeks are as follows:

*1st tardy Teacher - Warning 2nd tardy Teacher - Parental phone contact
3rd-4th tardy Teacher –Teacher detention 5th 6th tardy Chronic Minor –
LiveSchool AP - 20 min. detention 7th 9th tardy 1-45 minute detention
10th-14th tardy 1 day of SDC
15th tardy Administrative Action*

TRUANCY

A student absent without the consent of his parents is considered truant. Truancies are recorded per year. Truancy includes:

1. Leaving school without checking out through the office
2. Being absent from class without permission (This includes walking out of a class.)
3. Obtaining a pass to go to a certain place and do not report or stay there
4. Become ill and go home or stay in a restroom over 10 minutes instead of reporting to the attendance office or sick bay
5. Arrive 10 minutes or later after the tardy bell. Truancy will result in the following disciplinary actions:

1st offense 1 day of SDC – parents notified
2nd offense 2 day of SDC – parents notified
3rd offense 3 days of SDC- parents notified
4th offense 3 days of SDC- parents notified
5th offense Administrative Action

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DETENTIONS, SDC AND SUSPENSIONS

Detentions may be given by teachers or administrators for disciplinary infractions. When the student chooses to receive a detention for misbehavior, the student has also chosen to make arrangements for transportation at a time later than normal. After-school detentions are *20 minutes or 45 minutes* in length. Teacher-assigned detentions can vary depending upon the circumstances. All detentions begin at 3:15 p.m. in an assigned room.

SDC is a self-contained room in which the student is isolated from the student body for the entire school day and serves in-school suspension. Use of personal electronic devices will not be permitted..

Suspension from school is a penalty which may be used for chronic or serious infractions of school rules. Excessive suspension may result in expulsion. Parents will be contacted immediately to meet with the administration.

FIGHTING

Fighting will not be tolerated at Darby Middle School. The following penalties will be assigned to students who fight on, or near campus, and at any school related functions.

1st Offense: three (3) day suspension.

2nd Offense: five (5) day suspension.

3rd Offense: seven (7) day suspension.

Recording a fight will result in discipline.

When a student is suspended for fighting, the police will be contacted, and the student may be charged with disorderly conduct.

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HALLWAY PROCEDURES

1. Courtesy will be shown by walking to the right side of the hallway.
2. There will be no running or horseplay.
3. A minimum noise level will be maintained.
4. Students will not congregate in groups.
5. Students will be required to have a hall pass when leaving the classroom.
6. *STUDENTS ARE NOT TO COME TO THE OFFICE AREA ON THEIR OWN.* They must be sent by a teacher or were called down by office staff.

BEFORE AND AFTER SCHOOL

Upon arrival, all students should go directly to the campus area in the courtyard. No student should be in the building before 8:00 a.m. unless requested by a teacher or eating breakfast in cafeteria. After arriving on school grounds, students are not to leave unless permission is granted from the office. During inclement weather, all students will report to the gym.

No student should be in the building after 3:20 p.m. unless requested by a teacher or participating in a supervised activity. **Students who walk home should be off campus no later than 3:25pm. Students are to wait in the designated pick up area only if waiting for a ride.**

Violators may be subject to disciplinary actions.

ACCIDENTS

Every accident in the school building, on the school grounds, at practice sessions, or at any athletic event sponsored by the school must be reported immediately to the person in charge and to the school office.

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CAFETERIA PROCEDURES

The lunch room is provided for the students' convenience. All students deserve a place to eat in a pleasant atmosphere that is clean and where everybody is served in their turn. In order for the lunch room to be operated efficiently and kept clean, these standards of conduct have been adopted.

1. Do not throw food or other objects. This is considered a severe offense and will be dealt with accordingly.
2. Do not cut in line. Once a student is in line, the student should not leave the line for any reason without prior approval by the duty teacher.
3. Once a student enters the cafeteria, they are not to leave unless given permission by the duty teacher.
4. When students finish their lunch in the cafeteria, they should raise their hands and be dismissed. They should then clean their eating places at the table and take their trays to the service window.

5. Students are not allowed to bring food outside

the cafeteria. 13

MEDIA CENTER

The library has books, magazines, and pamphlets for assigned study and recreational reading. It is open for use during the entire school day plus a short time before and after school. Fines are charged for materials over due at an established rate. Students must pay for lost materials. The cost of lost materials will be the purchase price of the material.

Laptop Needing/Undergoing Repair

Students should check the laptop regularly for any damage, loose or missing screws, keys or ports. Laptops that are broken or fail to work properly must be reported to the media center immediately

Day Use Policy

A Day Use laptop can be picked up before school. The Day Use laptop will be turned in to the Media Center at the end of each day. Students cannot change any settings on the Day Use laptops. All student information should be saved to the Cloud.

Laptop Privilege

The laptop is restricted to educational purposes. Any other use is prohibited and can result in disciplinary action. School officials can search the laptop at any time. A student should expect no privacy with regard to the laptop. Students and parents/guardian(s) must follow the terms, conditions, and policies communicated in both handbooks and the Parent Information and Use Agreement.

School counselors are eager to help students regarding school, home, or personal problems. Students are to make appointments with the counselor, preferably before school, or at a mutually agreeable time. School counselors are available for consultation with parents of students during the school day and may be contacted by calling or coming to the school.

BALLGAME AND NIGHT ACTIVITIES

Students are highly encouraged to attend extracurricular events at school with their parents or guardians. Middle school students must be accompanied by an adult to gain entrance to all athletic events. Almost without exception, these activities will conclude at **8:30 p.m.** Removal from a ballgame and/or activity will result in disciplinary action and forfeiture of the right to attend future activities and games.

SURVEILLANCE CAMERAS

Areas of the Darby Middle School Campus are subject to surveillance by cameras to enhance student and employee safety.

SEARCH AND SEIZURE

Search and seizure is permissible on school property or at the school activity when there is a reasonable suspicion that the search would produce evidence of a violation of the law or school rules. If a student leaves campus and returns or is found in an unauthorized area of the building, students are subject to search.

**** If a student is in violation of the law, a citation may be issued by our School Resource Officer****

FORT SMITH PUBLIC SCHOOLS ANTI-BULLYING ADMINISTRATIVE POLICY

As defined by Arkansas law, bullying means the intentional harassment, intimidation, humiliation, ridicule, defamation, or threat of violence by a student against another students, or public school employee by a written, verbal, electronic, or physical act that causes physical harm to a school employee or student, interferes with a student's education, a hostile educational environment, or a substantial disruption to the orderly

operation of the school or educational environment.

We take bullying very serious, and will investigate all allegations to the fullest of our capabilities. However, not all perceived “bullying” cases are actually students being bullied. Below are the three terms used to describe students’ behavior towards others:

RUDE: When someone says or does something unintentionally hurtful and they do it once.

MEAN: When someone says or does something intentionally hurtful and they do it once.

BULLYING: When someone says or does something intentionally hurtful and they keep doing it, even when you tell them to stop or show them you’re upset.

2021-2022 SCHOOL CALENDAR

July 2021

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

August 2021

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29	30	31				

September 2021

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October 2021

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31						

November 2021

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29	30					

December 2021

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24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

August

6 Professional Development
9, 10, 11, 12 Professional Development
13 Teacher Workday
16 Students Report

September

6 Labor Day Holiday - No School

October

13 End of First Quarter (42 days)
18 Parent-Teacher Conferences (MS/HS) 3:30-6:30 p.m.
19 Parent-Teacher Conferences (Elementary) 3:30-6:30 p.m.
21 Parent-Teacher Conferences (All Schools) 3:30-6:30 p.m.
22 Professional Development (Teachers Report, No School)

November

22-26 Thanksgiving Break

December

17 End of Second Quarter (41 Days)
20 - 31 Winter Break

January

3 Teacher Workday
4 Students Report
17 Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday—No School

February

21 Professional Development (Teachers Report, No School)
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March

11 End of Third Quarter (47 days)
14 Parent-Teacher Conferences (MS/HS) 3:30-6:30 p.m.
15 Parent-Teacher Conferences (Elementary) 3:30-6:30 p.m.
17 Parent-Teacher Conferences (All Schools) 3:30-6:30 p.m.
21 - 25 Spring Break

April

15 Holiday - No School
18 Professional Development (Flex for Teachers, No School)

May

19 Northside High School Graduation
20 Southside High School Graduation
27 Last Student Day, End of Fourth Quarter (48 days)

January 2022

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23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

February 2022

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27	28					

March 2022

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31						

April 2022

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May 2022

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June 2022

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Follow us on social media sites by searching Darby Middle
School or you can go to the FSPS Website



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- Our District
- Directory of Schools
- Darby

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THE RANGER CREED

Recognizing that I volunteered as a Ranger, fully

knowing the hazards of my chosen profession, I will always endeavor to uphold the prestige, honor, and high “esprit de corps” of my Ranger Regiment.

Acknowledging the fact that a Ranger is a more elite soldier who arrives at the cutting edge of battle by land, sea, or air, I accept the fact that as a Ranger my country expects me to move further, faster and fight harder than any other soldier.

Never shall I fail my comrades. I will always keep myself mentally alert, physically strong and morally straight and I will shoulder more than my share of the task whatever it may be, one hundred percent and then some.

Gallantly will I show the world that I am a specially selected and well trained soldier? My courtesy to superior officers, neatness of dress and care of equipment shall set the example for others to follow.

Energetically will I meet the enemies of my country? I shall defeat them on the field of battle for I am better trained and will fight with all my might. Surrender is not a Ranger word. I will never leave a fallen comrade to fall into the hands of the enemy and under no circumstances will I ever embarrass my country.

Readily will I display the intestinal fortitude required to fight on to the Ranger objective and complete the mission, though I be the lone survivor.