



CRIMSON & GREY

JULY 2021

Administration

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## From the Desk of Mrs. Touchstone

Dear Aggies,

Welcome to the 2021-2022 school year! The administration, faculty and staff have been diligently preparing for the return of students on Wednesday, August 11. We are eager to begin a new school year and continue to build upon the many traditions that make Tate the place we are proud to call home.

Research shows that students who are involved in high school graduate at high rates and with higher grades. I encourage every Aggie to participate in our numerous academies, clubs, organizations, athletics, and activities. At Tate High School, we are committed to creating opportunities for everyone to become involved.

We will be initiating a large fundraising campaign to support academics, instruction and technology at Tate High School. If you are interested in assisting, please consider joining the School Advisory Council. The School Advisory Council meets four times throughout the academic school year. Those wishing to join this committee may submit their names through Ms. Launstein in the administrative office at [JLaunstein@ecsdf.us](mailto:JLaunstein@ecsdf.us) or 850-937-5449. New members will be voted on during Open House.

As your principal, I am excited to embark on a new year with a new vision. We look forward to seeing all students on Wednesday, August 11.

Sincerely,  
*Laura Touchstone*

Laura Touchstone  
Principal

## School Starting Times and Dates



The first day for students is August 11th. Starting time is **8:30 AM** and dismissal is **3:10 PM**. Student attendance on the first day is extremely important, and students should be prompt when arriving at school. Students should report 1st period the first day of school.

## Change of Address

Physical addresses cannot be changed without a proof of residence (lease/mortgage or utility bill). Phone bills or cable bills will not be accepted. Please see our data specialist or school secretary in the front office to make these changes.

## Attendance Procedures/Check Outs

Student attendance continues to be a primary school goal. Research shows a direct correlation between student attendance and success.

- District policy requires parents to send in an Absence Verification form to the Attendance Office within three days for **all absences**. These forms can be obtained on the District website, Tate website or in the Tate High Attendance Office.
- Students who check in or out of school for a medical appointment must provide a parent note/doctors not upon return to school for the absence to be excused.
- All missed assignments can be made up within an appropriate timeframe. It is the student's responsibility to request all missed assignments from his/her teachers. Students are allowed one day to turn in makeup work for each day missed. *For example: If a student is absent 3 consecutive days, the student will have 3 days to complete the missed assignments.*
- If there are extenuating circumstances, please contact the attendance clerk, 850-937-5469.
- **A weekly report is transmitted to the state regarding absences, and students who accrue 15 or more unexcused absences in a 90 day period may lose their driver's license.**
- Students will not be permitted to check out after **2:40**, except for emergencies. Please plan accordingly. **On pep rally/assembly days, students are not permitted to check out after 2:00.**

## Late Check-Ins

Each student will receive three parental discretion check-ins per semester via the completion of the Absence Verification Form. A doctor's note will be required after the third check-in if applicable. Students who are not in class by the 8:30am tardy bell must check in through the Attendance Office. The following Check-In Policy will be followed on/after the 3rd unexcused check-in:

- 3rd Tardy—Minor referral, contact parent & referred to Academic Advisor
- 4th Tardy—Office Discipline Referral, warning of loss of driving privilege, & assigned lunch detail
- 5th Tardy—Office Discipline Referral, Lunch detention, & loss of driving privilege for 1 week
- 6th Tardy—Office Discipline Referral, & referral to Child Study Team, Parent Conference, Loss of driving privilege for semester

## Safety/Parking

Providing a safe environment is both a district and a school expectation. Please adhere to the following policies:

- Students should not arrive on campus before **8:00 AM** nor remain after **3:40 PM** unless they are involved in a supervised activity.
- **The drive closest to the Tate Building should not be used to drop off or pick up students from 8:00 AM until 9:05 AM or from 2:35 PM until 3:40 PM.** The front of the Tate Building must remain clear to provide access for emergency vehicles and for handicapped access.
- Students should be picked up and dropped off at the covered walkway in front of the Jennings and Pierce buildings only.
- After hours pick-up is in front of the **Jennings Building only**. Students should not wait by the gate for a ride. The school is unable to provide supervision or ensure the safety of students left after hours.
- **The back gate/bus gate should not be used from 8:00 AM until 9:05 AM or from 2:35 PM until 3:35 PM to allow buses to enter and exit.**
- Student parking is only allowed in the Senior and underclassmen parking lot with a parking decal (*see **Parking Decals** on page 4*).
- Students are not allowed to go to their vehicles during school hours without permission from the Deans' Office.

## Contact Information



**Phone: 850-937-2300 ♦ Fax: 850-937-2328**  
**1771 Tate Road, Cantonment, FL 32533**

**Website: <http://ths-ecsd-fl.schoolloop.com/>**

To email a teacher: Select **Faculty & Staff**, click on the icon to the left of their name

For a parent/teacher conference or phone conference: 850-937-5459, to speak to the Guidance Secretary

## Student Schedules/Orientation for Incoming 9th Graders

- **Monday, August 9: 9th Grade/New Student Orientation**, 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. in the Fryman Gym. This program will begin with a general meeting in the gym. The administration, coaches, and club sponsors will be available to answer any questions. Following the assembly, Tate leadership students will be present to assist in learning where classes are located.
- **Monday, August 9: 10th, 11th, and 12th grade students may view their schedules on FOCUS and locate their classes on campus** from 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.
- A copy of the students schedule will be provided the first day school.
- If your child has a problem with his/her schedule, guidance counselors **will not** be available to change schedules during the first week of school. Teachers have been instructed to direct students to access the 2021/2022 Course Change Request Form located on the Tate website. Students may submit schedule change requests for the following reasons: he/she is in a course already completed, he/she is in the wrong level of a course, or if they have a non-scheduled class during an identified time slot. Students who have an elective course on their schedule that they did not ask for may complete the google form available on the website. Those requests will be handled as quickly as possible on a space available basis. Your cooperation in following the above procedure will help our school operate more efficiently for all students. If a student's schedule must be changed to balance classes, every effort will be made to avoid disrupting the remaining schedule.

## Grading Scale and Grading Periods

Our district operates on nine week grading periods. Parent should visit the Parent Portal at: [ecsd-fl.schoolloop.com/focuspp](https://ecsd-fl.schoolloop.com/focuspp) or may access the Portal via the Escambia County School District website. This resource will provide parents the opportunity to monitor their child's grades at any time during a nine-week or semester.

In addition, you may contact the teacher for a phone conference or make an appoint-

ment through the guidance office to meet with the teacher.

Nine-week grading periods give students more opportunities to earn grades on which to be evaluated; however, the weight of the nine-week grade will significantly impact the final grade for the semester. **We encourage you to remain informed regarding your child's grades and attendance.**



The grading scale for all classes

is as follows:

|        |   |
|--------|---|
| 90-100 | A |
| 80-89  | B |
| 70-79  | C |
| 60-69  | D |

***Cheating will result in serious consequences which will include a zero on the assignment, removal from any leadership positions, honor clubs, and other disciplinary action. Plagiarism, especially from the Internet, is cheating.***

## Student Rights and Responsibility Handbook

All students and parents will be responsible and have access to the **Student Rights and Responsibility Handbook** ([ecsd-fl.schoolloop.com/families](https://ecsd-fl.schoolloop.com/families)) Once students receive a Chromebook, they will sign an acceptance sheet indicating that they are aware and responsible for the contents in the R&R Handbook. Any student who does not have access to the internet may request a hard copy via the administrative office.

**Prescription/non-prescription drugs are not to be in the possession of any student while on campus. Please refer to district policy regarding the appropriate handling of prescription medications which is included in the Rights and Responsibilities Handbook. If a student is to take any medication on campus, the medication is to be provided to the health nurse or aide in the clinic along with the doctor's directions regarding the dispensing of the medication. A student who carries a prescription medication even when the prescription is for him/her is in violation of district policy and is in danger of serious disciplinary action which may include expulsion. Please review the Serious Breach of Conduct/Very Serious Breach of Conduct located in the Rights and Responsibilities Handbook.**

## Lunch Policies/Procedures

- **Students are not allowed to have fast food brought to/delivered to school.**
- During their lunch period, students are only permitted in the cafeteria, patio, or designated areas.
- All student eat free breakfast and lunch..
- A la carte items can be purchased.

## Dress Guidelines

It is a collective goal with Tate High School and our parents to have students dressed in attire that is appropriate for a safe and conducive learning environment. **Please note that SPANDEX pants/leggings without the appropriate length of a shirt (fingertip) are prohibited. In addition, TRACK shorts are only permitted to be worn during P.E.**

The following excerpt was extracted from s. 1006.07, F.S.:

(d)1. An explanation of the responsibilities of each student with regard to appropriate dress, respect for self and others, and the role that appropriate dress and respect for self and others has on an orderly learning environment. Each district school board shall adopt a dress code policy that prohibits a student, while on the grounds of a public school during the regular school day, from wearing clothing that exposes underwear or body parts in an indecent or vulgar manner or that disrupts the orderly learning environment.

2. Any student who violates the dress policy described in subparagraph 1. is subject to the following disciplinary actions:
  - a. For a first offense, a student shall be given a verbal warning and/or the school principal or designee shall call the student's parent or guardian.
  - b. For a second offense, the student is ineligible to participate in any extracurricular activity for a period of time not to exceed 5 days and the school principal or designee shall meet with the student's parent or guardian.
  - c. For a third or subsequent offense, a student shall receive an in-school suspension pursuant to s. 1003.01(5) for a period not to exceed 3 days, the student is ineligible to participate in any extracurricular activity for a period not to exceed 30 days, and the school principal or designee shall call the student's parent or guardian and send the parent or guardian a written letter regarding the student's in-school suspension and ineligibility to participate in extracurricular activities.

Please refer to the Rights and Responsibilities Handbook or you can access this document on line via the Escambia County School District website. The R&R Handbook will be discussed and distributed via Chromebook to each student within the first two weeks of school.

## Discipline

Please become familiar with the Discipline Consequences found in the Rights & Responsibilities Handbook. Both Tate High School and the Escambia County School District have high expectations and will not tolerate student actions that create an unsafe environment. Students who are in violation of this policy, either on campus or at a school function, will face severe consequences which could include a recommendation for expulsion or ILR.

## Alternative to Suspension

Students who use poor judgment may be assigned an In-School Suspension, a Saturday morning or afternoon alternative-to-suspension program. Students will spend 2 hours on Saturday participating in campus beautification and/or educational tutorials. The hours are 8:00 to 10:00 AM. It is our hope that students will develop a sense of responsibility for their actions. Suspensions will be given to those students who continually refuse to follow the rules or who have a breach of conduct or serious breach of conduct.

## Parking Decals

EACH student/driver that parks on Tate's campus must purchase a parking decal from Dean Blackmon. Registration forms can be located on the Tate High School website. Each student driver **must** have a 2.0 or above GPA to secure a decal. Please remember that driving is a privilege . . . excessive absences/check-ins/check-outs could result in loss or suspension of parking privileges.

## Additional Policies

- Tate High School **does not** accept deliveries of fast food, flowers, balloons, stuffed animals, etc. to students.
- Students are not permitted to walk around campus with stuffed animals, flowers, or balloons.
- Birthday or congratulation signs are not permitted to be posted on school grounds or fences. Any signs posted will immediately be taken down by school personnel and cannot be returned.

## Immunization Records: Important to All Students

In order to attend school, all students must have completed or be up to date on their Hepatitis B series of shots and have had their 2nd MMR, one dose of varicella and Tdap booster.



## TATE HIGH SCHOOL 2021 SUMMER READING LIST

Please refer to the J. M. Tate High School webpage for the 2021 Summer Reading List and information:

<http://ths-ecsd-fl.schoolloop.com/>