

Student Handbook Heritage Academy



Revised July 2026

Welcome to *YOUR* school Heritage Academy

With only a handful of students to start, the world's finest international schools have opened their doors to endure so that all who follow in the footsteps of that first class can also find a school to call "home," a school where dreams come true, and success awaits. All students should have their stories remembered and celebrated, stories of who they were and what they achieved. That is the case with Heritage Academy, which opened as a courtside school for Van der Meer Tennis Academy with 17 international students who were introduced to a unique, balanced US school model that allowed time to excel in academics as well as their passion areas.

Thirty years later, Heritage has grown and still offers a student-centered culture where students from around the world strive for excellence in their pursuits and engage in relevant college-prep studies and prepare for life's possibilities. Each year the school has valued every student whose personal story added to the rich fabric of our history. Today, students still inspire teachers and vice versa to guide us all toward rewarding, rigorous learning; respect for self and others; balanced life and training; trust; and personal perseverance.

The best of all worlds, Heritage offers students a personalized, supportive academic program in concert with the need for flexibility. Dedicated, experienced teachers incorporate learning experiences that speak to the many gifts and learning styles of their students.

Heritage students are passionate, inquisitive learners and doers. The school is oriented toward scholarship and comprehensive college and life preparation. Teachers give the highest priority to academics and to meeting learning styles through small, multi-age classrooms and personalized instruction. Students are challenged by taking Honors courses or by enrolling in Advanced Placement courses. AP courses in English Literature and Composition, Language, Psychology, US History, US Government, Statistics, Calculus AB, Calculus BC, Human Geography, Physics C-1, Physics C-2, Biology and Chemistry are the most popular AP courses taught. We also have expanded to add AP CAPSTONE with AP Seminar and AP Research!

Heritage Academy is proud to be recognized for meeting rigorous standards of excellence in education by both the South Carolina Independent Schools Association (SCISA) and the Colleges Schools Council on Accreditation and School Improvement (COGNIA SACS CASI).

AT HERITAGE, WE HAPPEN TO BE...

- Local, US, and international students in a 6th -12th grade school community.
- Scholar-athletes and artists who train in academics, athletics, and arts.
- Students aspiring to attend the schools of their choice: Ivy League or State U or following post-grad dreams of other means.

AT HERITAGE, WE ARE INVOLVED IN...

- College preparatory courses, Advanced Placement courses, individualized classes.
- Standardized testing via PSAT, SAT, ACT, AP.
- The full array of college admissions and tertiary school assistance and academic support services.
- Our community as upstanding citizens which reflect positively on our school.

Dear Students and Parents:

Heritage Academy asks that all parents and students read this handbook closely and to uphold the school's policies, expectations, and rules. We believe that by enrolling your child in the Academy and signing that you have read this information handbook, you are supporting the culture, philosophy, and school mission and its rules and that you will partner with the leadership and teachers to ensure a positive learning experience for all students. Thank you in advance for your support.

LEARNING SKILLS @ Heritage Academy

Your teachers want you to think about how you learn and learn about how you think, creatively and critically. *How do you make meaning of what you learn? How do you know what you know?* You and your classmates will realize that a goal of every lesson, unit, or course is to LEARN about that subject matter in new ways.

Your teachers share in the school goal of all students learning to create and problem solve in a low-risk, supportive environment. They want you to have flexibility in your thinking, have honed questioning skills; learn to listen to others' viewpoints and to think about those; apply past knowledge to new learning and problems; develop precision of language to be specific and accurate in your responses; practice insight; and, finally, to let curiosity take you to new ideas and thoughts about how to LEARN about something.

Have fun this year exercising your brain...it is your greatest treasure.

SCHOOL THEME
BE RESPONSIBLE!
Your future depends on it.

- To realize your dreams and goals in life, you must be responsible to yourself and others always.
- Accept responsibility for all it takes to be a success in school, community and in your passion area!
- Only you can succeed for yourself, but everyone in the school supports you in your efforts.
- Be responsible for the power of your words and actions! Know the consequences of each and make responsible decisions to benefit you and others.
- Be responsible to your teachers and classmates to ensure everyone learns in an optimal environment.
- Believe you will earn the rewards you seek as you do your best to achieve your future goals.
- Realize it is an honor to attend Heritage Academy. Your actions represent Heritage Academy beyond the classroom.

HERITAGE ACADEMY PHILOSOPHY

We believe our small caring community of diverse and trained teachers, working closely with their students, creates the ideal learning environment. Young people have curious minds, vast energy, innate talent, and incredible spirits, all waiting to be awakened and nurtured. We respect research suggesting a student's analytical thinking skills, creative style, and civic responsibility can only reach full potential if opportunities for active, hands-on learning experiences take place daily. Whether in the classroom or out pursuing extracurricular passions, Heritage students are actively engaged in learning-- as accomplished scholars, artists, athletes, workforce, or **community members**.

Our collective and individual successes evolve from shared responsibility to give our best each day.

Our goal is to graduate a life champion -- one who demonstrates academic excellence, a zest for life and **strong character**.

HERITAGE ACADEMY STATEMENT OF BELIEFS

1. The Heritage Academy community is responsible for providing an environment that is emotionally and physically safe, supportive, respectful, and nurturing to students, faculty, and staff.
2. The Heritage Academy community is responsible for embracing and celebrating the diversity of our student body.
3. The Heritage Academy community is responsible for providing an environment that promotes students' talents and accomplishments and is sensitive to the demands of the students outside training programs.
4. The Heritage Academy community is responsible for providing an environment that models integrity, curiosity, problem solving, learning for learning's sake, and discovery and that enables students to become self-directed and productive world citizens.
5. The Heritage Academy community is responsible for establishing high benchmarks and expectations for academic achievement and personal accountability. Every student can learn, and all learning is empowering when preparing students for the future job market.
6. The Heritage Academy community values high moral character and respects the school rules and individual rights of opinion and belief. A successful learning environment begins with mutual respect and a positive, supportive, and nurturing teacher.
7. The Heritage Academy community supports instructional practices that incorporate varied teaching strategies and integrated technology designed to accommodate differences in learning styles, multiple intelligences, and abilities. All students can learn if presented with the right learning environment and a variety of styles.
8. The Heritage Academy community endorses teacher participation in professional development opportunities provided by the school and outside opportunities.
9. The Heritage Academy community supports activities for all students that promote community service, school spirit, and pride.

HERITAGE ACADEMY FACULTY COMMITMENT

Teachers will work together to provide a challenging, meaningful program of courses taught in a style to motivate students to think creatively, reason critically, communicate effectively, and learn continuously in and out of school.

Our dedicated teachers...

- Believe all students can learn and expect them to succeed.
- Use a variety of grouping patterns and assessment tools.
- Diagnose academic needs and use teaching strategies that meet our individual students' needs, styles, and abilities.
- Display evidence of superior preparation for classroom instruction.
- Plan and implement strategies to encourage student self-discipline.
- Continually monitor student work, give feedback, and adjust.
- Motivate students to achieve beyond their previous performance levels.
- Set high expectations appropriate for each class's make up.
- Model multi-cultural awareness, appreciation, and understanding.
- Recognize the need for appropriate classroom humor.
- Demonstrate love of children and celebrate their successes.
- Promote good rapport within the entire school community.
- Establish long-range improvement goals and meet them.
- Stay knowledgeable in subject matter, methodology, and technology.

DAILY BELL SCHEDULE

- Each block class will last 85 minutes except 2nd block is longer for announcements
- Student access will be activated from 7:20am till 2:00pm

Block 1 7:30am – 8:55am

Block 2 9:00am – 10:35am

Block 3 10:40am – 12:05pm

Block 4 12:10pm – 1:35 pm

Heritage Academy Academic Calendar

2026 to 2027

AUG 2026						
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JUL 2027						
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TEACHER IN SERVICE

NO SCHOOL

START/END OF QUARTER

EXAMS

GRADUATION

Semester 1

Aug. 6-7 All Teachers In-Service Days
 Aug. 10 Semester 1/Quarter 1 Begins Heritage 101
 Sept. 7 Labor Day Holiday - No School
 Oct. 9 Quarter 1 Ends
 Oct. 12 Semester 1/ Quarter 2 Begins
 Nov. 25-27 Thanksgiving Break - No School
 Dec. 11-14 Semester 1 Final Exams
 Dec. 15 Semester 1/Quarter 2 Ends
 Dec. 15 Semester 1 Make Up Exams
 Dec. 15 Teacher Workday
 Dec. 16 Winter Holiday Break begins

Semester 2

Jan. 6 All Teachers In-Service Days
 Jan. 7 Semester 2/ Quarter 3 Begins
 Jan. 18 MLK Day - No School (poss. weather make-up)
 Mar. 5 Quarter 3 Ends
 Mar. 8-12 Spring Break - No school
 Mar. 15 Semester 2/ Quarter 4 Begins
 Mar. 26 Good Friday - No School (poss. weather make-up)
 April 15-16 RBC Heritage - No School
 May 18-19 Semester 2 Final Exams
 May 20 Make Up Exams (Teacher Workday)
 May 20 Semester 2/Quarter 4 Ends
 May 20 GRADUATION DAY

INSTRUCTORS ARE HERE TO TEACH YOU!

HERITAGE ACADEMY FACULTY/STAFF:

Amanda Williams
Laurie Biggs
Melony Bradley
Terri Brashears
John Cunningham
Matt Czarnecki
Greg Dissel
Tina Franklin
JJ Johns
Chris Gray
Brittany Hartwig
David Kimbell
Sandy McGuire
Lynn Owen
Darcie Patrick
Lauren Puckey
Oliver Pyrlik
Stacey O'Grady
Katerine Reyes
Ty Robinson
Kathy Scharfenberg
Tracy Sklarin
Kelly Soule
Cindy Sturgis
Laura Thomas
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ALL ABOUT YOUR ACADEMICS

Student Classification System

Students attending Heritage Academy are classified based on the number of credits earned, not on the years of attendance in high school. Students who are entering year one of high school for the first time will be classified as 9th grade students regardless of the number of credits earned prior to their first year of attending Heritage Academy. Students are promoted to the next level of classification or retained in their current classification based on the following:

To be considered a 10th grade student, which is typically the second year of high school, a student must have earned a minimum of six credits with at least one credit in English, one credit in Math and four additional credits.

To be classified as a 11th Grade student, typically the third year of high school, a student must have earned a minimum of twelve credits with at least two credits in English and at least two credits in math.

To be considered a 12th Grade student, typically the fourth year of high school, a student must have earned a minimum of sixteen credits and have received three credits in English, Three credits in Math, two credits in Science, and two credits in Social Studies.

Students who wish to accelerate or retain their classification status prior to entering high school must follow the process listed below.

1. A written request to Head of School by parent or legal guardian must be submitted.
2. A review of current grades, past grades and test scores will be conducted.
3. A review of the age of student and appropriate grade placement will be considered.
4. A committee will meet comprised of the Director of Student Services, and the current teachers of that student using all evidence presented. The committee will discuss observed emotional and mental abilities of that student and review data. The committee will make the final determination of appropriate placement and adjust the student classification and schedule as appropriate.

Advanced Placement Program

The Advanced Placement Program (AP) is a cooperative educational endeavor between high schools and colleges and universities. It gives high school students the opportunity to enroll to participate in college level courses through involvement in AP courses and AP exams. Colleges and universities can grant credit and/or advanced placement based on AP satisfactory scores. Year-long AP courses receive honors credit in the fall and AP credit in the spring. If a student does not take an AP exam for any reason, the student will be responsible for the cost of the test (\$175 per test). If a student chooses not to take the AP exam, the parent must email the AP Co-

Ordinator by November to avoid the \$175 charge. Testing fees are invoiced to the student.

Dual Enrollment Courses

Dual credit courses, whether the course is taken at the school site where the student is enrolled or at a post-secondary institution, is defined as those courses for which the student has received permission form his/her home school to earn both “Carnegie” units and credit for those particular courses. One quality point will be added to the weighting for dual credit courses that are applicable to baccalaureate degrees offered by accredited institutions.

Courses approved by a college and listed in the institution’s catalogue for the AA or AS college transfer program or approved and listed in a four-year institutions’ course catalogue for a BS or BS program will be recorded as a “Carnegie Unit” (one credit) in the corresponding core academic subject as determined by the school counselor and approved by the principal. The credit may be counted as part of the required core academic distribution for graduation and the college must meet the standards approved by the state board of education regulation. All dual enrollment courses must be approved, in writing, prior to enrollment.

Students and parents/legal guardians, with the assistance of a school counselor, are ultimately responsible for selecting and completing those academic courses required for admission to their college of choice.

Courses not included on the approved college transfer program list will continue to be recorded as elective credit.

It is the responsibility of the school counselor to advise students to verify admission requirements and course transfer policies for their college of choice before selecting and enrolling in early college credit courses. Please see your school counselor for additional information and/or additional forms that might need to be completed prior to the courses starting.

Students must be a junior or senior and at least 16 years of age to apply for dual enrollment with a 3.0 unweighted GPA at the time of application. If a student fails or withdraws from a course, a fee of \$1,500 is applied to the student’s balance.

Audits

Students may audit a class if space is available with approval of the teacher, principal, and counselor prior to enrollment of a course. Audit grades, given at individual teacher discretion, may be designated on the student’s report card and cumulative transcript, but may not be used in computing the GPA. Audit courses will be clearly designated as such on the student’s report card and cumulative transcript and a “No Credit” (NC) will be recorded in the credits section on the cumulative transcript. Audits can only be approved prior to the first day of enrollment for the student.

Retaking a Course

Students in grades nine through twelve may retake a course at the same level of difficulty if they have earned a D or an F in that course. The student's record will reflect all courses he or she has taken and the grades he or she has earned.

The student may retake the course either during the current school year or during the next school year but no later than that 3rd year. In addition, the student must retake the course before he or she has enrolled in the next sequential course (unless the student is granted approval by school administration to do so).

A student who has taken a course for a "Carnegie" unit prior to his or her ninth-grade year may retake that course regardless of the grade he or she has earned. In such a case, only the retake grade will be used in figuring the student's GPA, and only the retake attempt will show on the transcript. This rule will apply whether the retake grade is higher or lower than the grade the student previously earned.

GPA and Class Rankings

Computations for GPA and class rank are taken to four decimal places.

Class ranking is a mathematical summary of a student's academic record compared to those of other students in the class. Class ranking takes into account both the degree of difficulty of the courses a student is taking (AP®, honors, college-preparatory or regular courses) and the grade the student earns. The compilation of courses and grades is converted to an overall weighted grade point average (GPA), and the higher the GPA, the higher the student's class ranking.

The student with the highest-grade average shall be considered the highest-ranking graduate. A student graduating in less than eight semesters shall not be eligible to receive the highest-ranking graduate certificate. A tie between students with the same GPA shall be broken using the most courses taken that are designated Honors, AP, or Dual Enrollment.

In the case of a transfer student, grades accepted shall be based on the intent of the sending school. If the transfer grade from an accredited school has been designated as an honors course on the transcript, the grade shall be awarded the applicable honors credit as long as the same course is offered at an honors level at Heritage Academy. Numerical grades earned from an accredited school shall be accepted.

A student who completes high school requirements in fewer than four years shall have class rank calculated with the class with which he or she entered grade 9. Three-year graduates shall not be eligible to be the highest-ranking graduate.

Selection of Valedictorian; Salutatorian; and Top 10

- Must be enrolled in high school for four years.
- Students electing accelerated graduation or graduating in less than four years, are not eligible to be Valedictorian, Salutatorian or Top Ten.
- Selection of Valedictorian, Salutatorian or Top Ten will be based on GPA as determined by SC Uniform Grading Policy.

Converting Grades on Transcripts

When transcripts are received from accredited out-of-state schools (or in state from accredited sources other than the public schools) and numerical averages are provided those averages must be used in transferring the grades to the student's record. If letter grades with no numerical averages are provided a numerical conversion will be utilized. The school will defer to the SC Uniform Grading Policy for guidelines (see Addendum).

Withdrawing from a Course

Per the South Carolina Uniform Grading Policy, with the first day of enrollment in the course as the baseline, students who withdraw from a course within three days in a 45-day course, five days in a 90-day course, or ten days in a 180-day course will do so without penalty.

The three-, five-, and ten-day limitations for withdrawing from a course without penalty do not apply to course or course-level changes approved by the administration of a school. Students who withdraw from a course with administrative approval will be given a WP for the course. Students who withdraw from a course after the specified time of three days for a 45-day course, five days in a 90-day course or ten days in a 180-day course without administrative approval, shall be assigned a WF, and the F (as a 50) will be calculated in the student's overall grade point average. Withdrawal limitations for distance learning, dual credit, and virtual courses will be established by the administration team in conjunction with partner institutions of higher education and VirtualSC enrollment and withdrawal deadlines.

ACADEMIC CURRICULUM

Heritage Academy programs emphasize development of critical thinking, application of knowledge and skills to situations, creative reasoning, problem-solving, and research techniques.

The Academy provides students with a supportive learning environment within a positive, transformational school ethos meant for students to develop exceptional, life-long skills and balance passion training. The staff prepares for specific student needs, interests, and goals from a wide range of cultural and educational backgrounds. Teachers strive to see students achieve academic progress and maintain a healthy "whole-life" balance.

High school students take a challenging curriculum of 20 academic credits in English, mathematics, science, social studies, visual art, computer technology, and foreign language. One additional PE credit is required to total 22 credits to graduate. Heritage offers Honors Challenges and Advanced Placement courses along with elective courses and dual enrollment opportunities.

Heritage Academy's educational program is for students seeking a college preparatory school diploma. The curriculum, level of instruction, and number of credits required to graduate qualify our students to meet COGNIA standards, South Carolina Independent Schools Association guidelines (SCISA), and the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) Div. I standards, in addition to all levels of university admission criteria and Heritage Academy's rigorous academic expectations. Varied levels of instruction and materials are used to personalize instruction (i.e., Advanced Placement (AP), Honors, College Preparatory, and dual enrollment).

ACADEMIC EXPECTATIONS TO STAY ON TRACK WITH COURSEWORK

Students are expected to keep up with all coursework when on campus and when working on coursework. Practicing smart time management is essential to avoid falling behind in semester classes. Students falling behind in coursework due to illness, time away from class for competition or approved absence are monitored and will be required to make up missed work and to catch up to the rest of the class. This applies to students receiving in-seat, and online instruction. Logistics for make-up time at school must be coordinated between the teacher and ASC teacher.

ACADEMIC HONESTY POLICY

Students must learn the importance of academic honesty. Teachers, parents, and house parents are asked to educate students of the consequences of academic dishonesty at school.

WHAT IS ACADEMIC DISHONESTY?

A. PLAGIARISM: Plagiarism occurs when an individual uses another person's ideas, expressions or writing as if they were his/her own.

- Copying verbatim- This is the most common form and happens when an individual copies words or ideas directly from another source (e.g., book, ChatGPT, AI article, Internet, lab report, friend) without giving credit to the author.
- Paraphrasing means an individual borrows written ideas from a source and rewrites them in his/her own words but does not give author credit.
- Use of an idea – This means an individual adapts an idea from another source without giving proper credit. (*When asked to write an original piece, such as a short story, the student borrows an idea from a TV program, video, article, or classmate.*)

B. SHARING IDEAS DURING TEST SITUATIONS: (*Sharing answers on a take home exam, asking/telling other students what is on a test/quiz.*)

- C. COVERING UP FOR ANOTHER STUDENT WHO COMMITS ACADEMIC DISHONESTY
- D. CHEATING ON TESTS AND QUIZZES: (*Bringing answers into the test room via paper, electronic, or other means, copying from another student, or using unauthorized notes or technology.*)
- E. COPYING HOMEWORK OR SEATWORK OR GIVING HOMEWORK OR SEATWORK TO TAKING CREDIT FOR WORK THAT YOU DID NOT DO: (*Not acknowledging assistance of a parent, friend, or tutor.*)
- F. CLAIMING TO HAVE SUMITTED WORK WHEN YOU DID NOT SUMIT IT
- G. REMOVING MATERIALS AND RESOURCES FROM ROOMS: taking anything without permission that would assist you on a test or assignment
- H. CIRCUMVENTING THE SCHOOL'S SECURITY FILTERS via personal wireless devices
- I. COERCING UNDER DURESS someone to share their work with you
- J. DECEPTION to take advantage in academic work over others by any means.
- K. FORGERY in signing your name in the place of another's

WHAT HAPPENS WHEN A STUDENT IS INVOLVED IN ACADEMIC DISHONESTY?

Teachers and administrators expect all students to do their own work on homework, in-class assignments, projects, informal assessments, and tests and not to submit as their own work ideas from a resource book, another student, or any other print or electronic source.

First Offense: Student receives a 0% on the assignment/test. The teacher and the student will meet and will report the incident to parents and houseparent/residential instructor.

Second Offense: Student receives a 0% on the assignment/test. A conference will be called between the student, parents /residential instructor, teacher, counselor, and the Head or Asst. Head of School.

Third Offense: Student will earn a 0% on the assignment/test. A conference will be called between the student, parents /residential instructor, teacher, counselor, and the Head or Asst. Head of School. Also, cheating will be listed as an incident in the SIS/student record.

All cases of academic dishonesty will be reported to the administration and parents, and all cases will be noted in the student's permanent file.

ACADEMIC HONOR PLEDGE

Students may be asked to sign an honor pledge on tests, quizzes, projects, presentations, homework, and class assignments. They may write the pledge or write "OMH" ("on my honor") next to their name on work affirming they are demonstrating their integrity to their teacher and classmates.

ACADEMIC SUPPORT CENTER (ASC)

The Academic Support Center (ASC) provides additional support to students who must travel for tournament competition by providing a secure environment for make-up testing. The ASC teacher can proctor make-up tests for students who have approval and coordination of their instructors. Students must sign up directly with the ASC specialist.

ADVANCED PLACEMENT EXAMS IN MAY

Students in AP classes can sit for the AP exams in May. It is the aim of all AP courses for students to sit for the AP exam. If a student in the AP class does not sit for the May exam, he or she must take a final exam in the course worth 20% of final grade. Students in AP classes who sit for the AP exam are exempt from the final exam in the AP course.

Students taking an AP exam are required only to be at school for the AP exam on the days of those exams. They will attend no other classes on those days. After completion of the AP exam students may be exempt from attendance for that class for the remainder of the year.

BLOCK SCHEDULING

Classroom environments at Heritage are interactive and student-centered. Heritage delivers instruction on a block schedule. The academic year is divided into Fall and Spring semesters. Classes are taught M-F. High school students take three courses per semester, allowing them to earn six credits per year at a minimum. Some students may follow a personalized schedule to accommodate their training or needs. Students earn one credit for each course they pass unless it is designated 1/2 credit.

High school courses are open to middle school students if pre-requisites are met. Students at any grade level who qualify through testing and with teacher recommendation may be placed in high school classes.

The following courses can transfer onto our high school transcript during the middle school years.

MATH: Algebra 1, Geometry, and Algebra 2 (Honors and regular) if taken during 7th and/or 8th grade.

ENGLISH: Eng 1, Literary Analysis or Fundamentals of Language Arts as an English credit if taken during 8th grade only.

FOREIGN LANGUAGE: We will accept any high school course for credit in any foreign language if taken during 8th grade, only.

SCIENCE: Earth Science, Biology, and Physical Science (Honors and Regular) if taken during 8th grade.

CREDIT TRANSFER FROM MIDDLE SCHOOL

Heritage Academy accepts credits from a student's middle school years for high school math, lab science, English, and foreign language courses if taken with high school students and sending school is accredited. We believe that certain courses accepted from middle school will allow a student to accelerate their progress in a subject area during their four years in high school. Heritage offers the opportunity to earn credits and high school GPA points.

DROP/ADD WINDOW AND WITHDRAWING FROM COURSES

Students may withdraw from a course without any notation on their transcript through the last day of Drop/Add each semester, generally the 5th day of the course. After the Drop/Add date has passed, a student may withdraw from a course up until the last week of class, and the transcript will denote a "WF" or "WP" (Withdrawal Fail or Withdraw Pass) for withdrawal from course based on numerical grade at time of dropping. Before a withdrawal can be approved by the school, the student's parent must complete and sign the official Heritage Academy Withdrawal Form available from the Director of Student Services.

FINAL EXAMS POLICY

The purpose of final exams is to assess students' mastery of content and skill over the duration of the course. Sufficient time for exam preparation is given in each class.

- High school final exams count for 20% of the course grade in the 4th quarter.
- Middle School students enrolled in high school courses sit for the high school exam.
- A study guide may be distributed a week before the exam for study purposes.
- Exams may not be taken early. All final exams will be taken on the assigned day.
- AP students who sit for the May AP exam do not sit for the final exam.
- Students taking four courses have a test schedule showing no more than two tests/ day.
- Students with learning accommodations might be scheduled for one exam/ day.
- Missing coursework prior to the exam will not be accepted after final exams begin.

Any student who is not approved by the Head of School and who does not sit for final exams will receive a 0% on exams missed.

Students may not have any personal electronic device in their possession during the exams unless the teacher requires that they use it to complete the exam.

SPRING SEMESTER FINAL EXAMS

- Students approved by the Head of School to leave before final exams will have their exams sent the week of final exams via email to the student's approved professional testing site. Students may also return to campus to take late exams the week after graduation. Parents must provide Heritage Academy the name, email address, phone and fax number of the school and the email address of the school contact person. If an approved site is not provided, the exams will not be sent, and the student will receive a 0% for each missed exam.
- Students in AP classes take course final exams if they do not sit for the AP exam in May.

GRADE WEIGHTS

Assessment weights are standardized for all classes, including Honors and AP classes. Teachers provide numerous formal and informal assessments of student progress during the course and identify the primary formal assessments that will culminate in the student's grade. Individual content area/course assignments and assessments will be distributed across the following categories at teacher discretion. All Heritage Academy course grades are based on the following distribution of relative significance for course assessments.

GRADE WEIGHTING SCALE

*Summative = 50%; Quizzes/projects = 30%; Class work/homework = 20%
All Heritage Academy teachers follow this grading scale.*

South Carolina Uniform Grading Scale Conversions			
Numerical Average	Letter Grade	Honors Weighting	AP/IB/Dual Credit Weighting
100	A	5.500	6.000
99	A	5.400	5.900
98	A	5.300	5.800
97	A	5.200	5.700
96	A	5.100	5.600
95	A	5.000	5.500
94	A	4.900	5.400
93	A	4.800	5.300
92	A	4.700	5.200
91	A	4.600	5.100
90	A	4.500	5.000
89	B	4.400	4.900
88	B	4.300	4.800
87	B	4.200	4.700
86	B	4.100	4.600
85	B	4.000	4.500
84	B	3.900	4.400
83	B	3.800	4.300
82	B	3.700	4.200
81	B	3.600	4.100
80	B	3.500	4.000
79	C	3.400	3.900
78	C	3.300	3.800
77	C	3.200	3.700
76	C	3.100	3.600
75	C	3.000	3.500
74	C	2.900	3.400
73	C	2.800	3.300
72	C	2.700	3.200
71	C	2.600	3.100
70	C	2.500	3.000
69	D	2.400	2.900
68	D	2.300	2.800
67	D	2.200	2.700
66	D	2.100	2.600
65	D	2.000	2.500
64	D	1.900	2.400
63	D	1.800	2.300
62	D	1.700	2.200
61	D	1.600	2.100
60	D	1.500	2.000
59	F	1.400	1.900
58	F	1.300	1.800
57	F	1.200	1.700
56	F	1.100	1.600
55	F	1.000	1.500
54	F	0.900	1.400
53	F	0.800	1.300
52	F	0.700	1.200
51	F	0.600	1.100

Convert Your GPA to a 4.0 Scale

Letter Grade	Percent	4.0 Scale
A+	97-100	4.0
A	93-96	4.0
A-	90-92	4.0
B+	87-89	3.0
B	83-86	3.0
B-	80-82	3.0
C+	77-79	2.0
C	73-76	2.0
C-	70-72	2.0
D+	67-69	1.0
D	60-66	1.0
E/F	Below 60	0.0

GRADES, PROGRESS REPORTS/ REPORT CARD DISTRIBUTION

Grades can be accessed daily through our SIS.

Quarter Progress Reports can be accessed via FACTS at any time.

Quarter Grades can be accessed via FACTS in Oct., Dec., Mar., and May.

GRADUATION COMMENCEMENT CEREMONY

Heritage Academy's graduation ceremony is open to seniors who meet the school graduation requirements to attain a diploma and who are in good standing at the time of graduation.

Heritage Academy recognizes seniors who complete their graduation requirements in December and who do not return for the second semester. There is not a separate formal ceremony, but December graduates may join their fellow graduates at the May graduation ceremony.

The two top scholastically ranked students are named valedictorian and salutatorian if they remain in good standing. Top scholars are determined by GPA, the level of rigor of the four years of college preparatory coursework, and by using weighted grades after the Quarter 4 progress report. Students must be enrolled at Heritage Academy for a minimum of two (2) consecutive semesters to be considered for valedictorian or salutatorian.

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

Students graduating from Heritage Academy on the college preparatory track will have earned a minimum of 22 credits. Four years (eight semesters) of high school attendance meets this requirement in most instances.

Dual enrollment credits earned from the University of South Carolina-Beaufort and Technical College of the Lowcountry during the high school years are accepted by the school.

Course credit is earned by taking the full course of study. No credit is awarded to students who show they have mastered a course through a single external exam score. The school does not guarantee a graduation date upon admission based on age or years of high school attendance. A student must graduate from Heritage Academy before he or she reaches the age of 21.

SOUTH CAROLINA SCHOLARSHIPS

Information on scholarships may change. Please see current information.

Palmetto Fellows Scholarship

A student may qualify for the South Carolina Palmetto Fellows Scholarship (up to \$6,700.00 during the first year and then up to \$7,500.00 for the remaining three years) if he/she meets the following criteria: a combined SAT score of 1200 (Math and Reading) or an ACT score of 27; a 3.5 cumulative GPA on the Uniform Grading System and in the top 6% of his/her sophomore or junior class, based on the Uniform Grading System; or 1400 SAT/32 ACT and 4.0 GPA based on the Uniform Grading System. Additional information is available through the school counselor's office.

LIFE Scholarship

A student may qualify for the South Carolina Life Scholarship (\$5,000 if he/she meets two of the three following criteria: Have a 3.00 final high school grade point average based on the Uniform Grading Policy; a combined SAT score of 1100 (Math and Reading) or an ACT score of 24; a 3.0 cumulative GPA on the Uniform Grading System by the end of the senior year; or be in the top 30% of his/her graduation class based on the Uniform Grading System. Additional information is available through the school counselor's office.

HOPE Scholarship

A student may qualify for the South Carolina Hope Scholarship (up to \$2,500.00/year plus \$300 book allowance) if he/she meets the following criteria: a 3.0 cumulative GPA on the Uniform Grading System by the end of the senior year. Additional information is available through the school counselor's office.

Lottery Tuition Assistance

A student may qualify for Lottery Tuition Assistance if they are a South Carolina resident for at least one year, are enrolled in at least 6 credit hours per semester toward a degree diploma or certificate, make adequate progress

toward the completion of the college credential and file a FAFSA. The amount is dependent on the number of eligible participants and total funding available.

<u>College Preparatory Diploma</u>	<u>GPA 2.0</u>	<u>CREDITS REQUIRED</u>
MATHEMATICS	4 (includes Algebra 1, Algebra 2 + Geometry +1 other)	
ENGLISH	4 (includes four literature courses)	
SOCIAL STUDIES	3 (includes US History and Government/Econ)	
SCIENCE	3 (includes three lab sciences; one must be chemistry)	
FOREIGN LANGUAGE	2 (includes two credits in same language)	
FINE ARTS	1	
PHYSICAL EDUCATION	1 (athletic passion or dance)	
COMPUTER TECHNOLOGY	1	
ELECTIVES	3	= 22

INDIVIDUAL GRADUATION PLAN (See Appendix A)

LANGUAGE of HOME COUNTRY USE DURING INSTRUCTION

We honor our international students' native languages. We require, however, that students speak English in their classes because it is the medium of instruction. Students must cease speaking in their native tongue should a teacher request it.

LAPTOP & ELECTRONIC DEVICES USE IN THE CLASSROOM

All students are required to own a laptop computer and calculator to have in class each day and to use for homework. Laptops for school use must have an English keyboard.

The level of math course will determine what kind of calculator will be needed for the course. The teacher will inform the students of the type they will need, and the student is responsible for bringing it to class each day.

Teachers have the right at any time to request that any electronic device be stored on the teacher's desk until class is dismissed.

MAKEUP WORK & MAKEUP TESTING

Students may check assignments, notes, and work while away. All teachers will respond to student contact while students are away from class.

Coursework missed is expected to be completed within a day or following a teacher's guidance upon the student's return to school from an excused absence. For each day missed, a student is given one day to make up tests and quizzes or projects. With three subjects, the student and teachers determine an appropriate timeline for submitting missed work and test make-up timeline. If students need more help with missed material, they must make arrangements to meet with the teacher outside of class time upon his/her return.

Students must make arrangements with the teacher for the day and time of the make-up test or quiz upon his/her return to school.

Students may NOT make up tests and quizzes for unexcused absences.

Students who are absent the last day of a quarter or for exams will receive an incomplete (I) until all work is completed. **Make-up work not completed by last day of quarter results in a zero.**

NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP

The National Honor Society chapter of Heritage Academy are chartered, affiliated chapters of this national organization. Membership is open to students who initially qualify with a cumulative unweighted GPA of 3.75 and who have an overall record of good conduct during each year of attendance at Heritage Academy.

ONLINE COURSEWORK

Virtual courses offered at Heritage Academy are taken through Virtual Florida Global School. Such online courses are offered to students who want to take additional coursework to complete graduation requirements. Annual tuition paid to Heritage Academy does not cover virtual courses taken as required classes during the year. All online courses are \$1,500 per course.

Students abide by FLVS requirements and policies while enrolled in a course and must keep in close communication with the instructor and commit to the pacing plan designed to complete the course in one semester.

Commuter students in online courses may work on those courses away from campus if they have shown previous successful achievement and timely completion status in an online course.

Students enrolled in an online course are expected to complete all work before the last week of the semester to receive credit that semester. If the course is completed after the semester ends, credit will be awarded at the time the school receives the grade from Florida Virtual School.

PRINTING HOMEWORK AND ASSIGNMENTS

Students must be prepared with their work before they enter the classroom. Students may send their work electronically to their teachers if their teachers

request that the work be submitted electronically. If the teacher expects the work to be handed in as hard copy on paper, students must have a printer in their home or housing to print their homework and assignments. Students are not allowed to go to the teacher with a flash drive to print their homework.

RESEARCH PAPER CITATIONS

To avoid potential plagiarism issues, all research acquired through websites must be clearly noted and cited in student papers according to the Modern Language Association rules for quotation and paraphrase.

STANDARDIZED TESTING

The DSS coordinates the administration of school-based external and standardized tests and AP exams. Heritage Academy administers the *Preliminary Scholastic Aptitude Test (PSAT)* to Grade 11 students. Juniors and seniors (Grades 11-12) take College Board SAT and ACT exams off campus throughout the year.

Students in Advanced Placement courses sit for the AP exams in May. AP examinations are administered at school, and fees for AP exams will be billed through the accounting office.

Students take the ACT, the Scholastic Aptitude Test (SAT), and the SAT II subject tests at other testing sites in the city. Students are helped to register for the ACT and SAT exams by the Director of Student Services, if needed.

Students must inform the school of scores on all College Board testing. Students must check the box that they wish their scores to be sent to the school. The school code is 411032.

TEXTBOOKS

Textbooks are distributed to students in all academic classes. Some courses have digital textbooks. Students receive textbooks the first few days of class and are responsible for taking care of the assigned textbooks until they return them on the last day of class. Assigned books must be returned without damage. Students will be charged a replacement fee for missing or damaged textbooks. Textbooks must be returned before official transcripts will be distributed. Families will be charged \$150 per missing or damaged textbooks.

TRANSCRIPT REVIEW DECISIONS

- Accredited courses will be accepted from another high school upon entering the Academy. Courses equivalent to Heritage core requirements are accepted. Electives must be aligned with our approved curriculum.

ACADEMIC SUPPORT AND COLLEGE ADMISSIONS

COLLEGE ADMISSIONS SUPPORT SERVICES

Students in their senior year receive ongoing support, assistance, and guidance with their College App.

Heritage Academy seniors apply to at least one college even if they think they might return home, turn pro, or take a gap year.

Junior Year (Grade 11):

1. College admissions counselor meets with all second-semester juniors to develop a college plan.
2. Semester II juniors should begin researching college choices in keeping with academic and passion-area goals.
3. Juniors should begin contacting potential college coaches and submit to them a cover letter and resume.
4. Second-semester juniors will be contacting college admissions staff to prepare a resume and cover letter. The resume should detail academic coursework, community service and work experience.
5. It is the student's responsibility to register for and take the SAT or ACT during the spring of junior year. Testing dates can be found at www.collegeboard.com, www.actstudent.org, or www.ets.org . A credit card is needed to charge fees for testing.
6. Second-semester juniors are responsible for registering with the NCAA Eligibility Center at www.ncaaeligibilitycenter.net .

Senior Year (Grade 12/ PG):

1. New Heritage Academy seniors should prepare a resume and cover letter. The resume should detail academic coursework, community service, and work experience.
2. By October, seniors need to solicit letters of recommendation from teachers.
3. College applications need to be started on August 1st of senior year, or earlier, depending on college requirements.
4. Seniors must keep the school informed on all admission decisions.

College admissions counselors cannot guarantee paperwork will be submitted by necessary college deadlines if that paperwork is not received in their offices or submitted online in a timely fashion. To ensure success, students must adhere to the timeline for completion of college plans and paperwork.

COLLEGE BOARD SAT and ACT

At the time that they sit the exams. students must send SAT, ACT, and TOEFL scores to the school and must specify on their test information page that they want test results sent to Heritage Academy

College Board Heritage Academy School Code for SAT, ACT, TOEFL is 411032.

COLLEGE REPRESENTATIVES ON CAMPUS

Throughout the year, many representatives from colleges visit the campus to speak with juniors and seniors. This gives students the opportunity to hear about academics, campus life, student-athlete life, and to ask questions. Students may attend these after they have received permission from their teacher to miss class and have registered at the front desk before the representative's visit.

For a student to be excused, arrangements must be made through the counselor, coach, or parent. Documentation showing proof of meeting with college admissions personnel or coaching staff is required upon return to school.

The National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA)

The National Collegiate Athletic Association has in force policies regarding athletic eligibility for Division I and Division II schools. Specific information regarding courses, minimum test scores and minimum GPA is listed below. Students planning to participate in athletics in Division I or Division II colleges or universities must be certified by the NCAA Initial Eligibility Clearinghouse. Students should apply for certification early in their senior year. Student Release Forms needed for this application process are available through the Athletic Office or the School Guidance Office. For more information, visit the NCAA Eligibility Center website at www.eligibilitycenter.org.

Student-athletes who wish to attend an NCAA Division I or II college or university must ensure courses offered using a digital curriculum for original credit and credit recovery meet NCAA guidelines.

The National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) has extremely strict guidelines regarding credit for courses taken online, such as courses offered by Beaufort County Schools. Many online courses are not approved by the NCAA. Be sure to consult with your high school's athletic director and your school counselor to determine if the online course is approved for credit by the NCAA. For more information regarding NCAA Eligibility, go to www.ncaa.org and click on "Rules Compliance."

http://www.ncaapublications.com/product_downloads/EB17.pdf

Students first entering the 6th and 9th grades are academically eligible to participate in athletic activities. The GPA requirements outlined above was fully implemented starting with the 2021 school year.

SAT/ACT/TOEFL PREPARATION

The Heritage Academy daily schedule does not allow for test prep review courses before or after the student's schedule. Mrs. McGuire can help you find appropriate off-site test prep options.

TRANSCRIPTS SENT FROM HERITAGE ACADEMY TO OTHER SCHOOLS

Heritage Academy must have a signed release form before forwarding student records to individuals or other schools. Please contact the counselor for the form.

A student's school account must be cleared before the school will release records to other schools, colleges, coaches, and parents. Students who transfer within the school year will be allowed one transcript to be mailed to the receiving school. There is a \$20.00 fee per additional transcript sent. During the college admissions process, seniors will be allowed eight transcripts to be mailed to colleges at no cost. There will be a \$20.00 fee per additional transcript.

VISITING COLLEGES

Students are allowed excused absences for a college visit during the school year.

ADVOCACY AND SAFETY

ADULT ADVOCACY / STUDENT SUPPORT FOR SUCCESS

Committed to making the Heritage Academy's mission meaningful to the student through building lasting relationships, each student is well known by adults in the school who support that student's educational experience and serve as an advocate. The counselor provides guidance to students regarding health, graduation planning, class scheduling, overseeing the college application process, time management, and standardized testing.

Advisor/advisees meet to explore paths to personal and academic success. Lessons and activities will center around 6 core themes: Self-Discovery, Academic Success Skills, Support Networks, College Planning and Financial Planning.

COMMUNICATION WITH STAFF AND ADMINISTRATION

Heritage Academy understands the importance of open communication between the administration, staff, teachers, students, and parents. Each member of the school community has a responsibility to seek out information about which they are unsure or need clarification or explanation. Faculty members will inform parents any time a grade earned drops below a C- in hopes of enlisting the parents' assistance in grade improvement. Successful

partnership for success relies on open communication between the teacher, parent, and student. Email is efficient for relaying information, as are meetings with teachers, parents, students, and staff. Parents must contact teachers directly to discuss a concern regarding their student's progress, class behavior, or the teacher's expectations for the course. Parents are encouraged to call the teacher or counselor for conferences regarding scholastic or personal matters.

STUDENT ILLNESS, STAYING HOME,

No student may come to school with a fever over 100.4 or showing signs of an illness that can be passed to another person on campus.

SERVICE CLUB

As a committed member of the school, island, national, and global communities, Heritage Academy participates in many service and philanthropic ventures. The school welcomes all students who wish to gain leadership skills and service hours through offering their time and service to those in need.

STUDENT RECOGNITION

The following activities motivate and reward students for their accomplishments:

School Ceremonies: Early Signing Ceremony, Spring Awards, Senior Awards, and Graduation

Activities and Awards: Grade Level Award Boards, Spirit Week, Birthday Recognition

Academic Recognition: Honor Roll, National Honor Society

Effort/Improvement/Achievement: Classroom Student of the Week Awards, Teacher Choice Awards, Senior Perks

TUTORS

For students who experience difficulty or need extra support, the counselor can give parents or guardians the names and contact information for vetted adults and teachers who are available for tutoring.

EMERGENCY SCHOOL DRILLS

Heritage Academy conducts emergency drills throughout the year for practice in how to respond to an emergency such as a tornado, hurricane, earthquake, lock-down, or fire. We will follow the Beaufort County School District's guidelines. For weather-related emergencies and for school closures, Heritage follows Beaufort Co. School District's lead, and whatever is posted on the radio and television stations for BCSD, we follow.

EQUAL OPPORTUNITY SCHOOL

Heritage Academy does not discriminate on the basis of race, creed, gender, national or ethnic origin in the administration of its educational policies, admission policies, and other school-administered programs. The school is authorized under federal law to enroll non-immigrant alien students through SEVP.

IMMUNIZATIONS (See full policy in next section)

New students who are residents of South Carolina must present a S.C. Certificate of Immunization on or before the first day of school. New students from any other state or country who do not have a S.C. Certificate of Immunization will be given a 15-day grace period to obtain the official S.C. Certificate of Immunization. It is the responsibility of the parent, houseparent/residential instructor, or guardian to make sure that the child receives all necessary immunizations and that the school receives a new certificate. The school will monitor temporary certificates and will notify the parent, houseparent/residential instructor, or guardian when the expiration date is approaching.

MEDICAL ATTENTION

Heritage Academy does not have a nurse on staff. If any student is seriously injured, loses consciousness, or becomes unresponsive on campus, Heritage Academy staff will call 911 and the parents/guardians immediately.

The school is taking stringent measures to keep students and staff safe from illness and follow CDC school guidelines.

Teachers know to contact school administration if a student becomes sick while in class. The child will be escorted to the office and supervised until parents or guardians arrive to take the student for medical care.

The Academy recognizes the need for staff members to administer medication to individual students on occasion. Non-prescription “over-the-counter” medications will be given to a student only with written parent or guardian permission.

Physician-prescribed medications brought to school must be recorded with the counselor or Director of Finance. The container identifying patient, contents, physician’s name, dosage instructions, storage instructions, and prescription ID number must be shown to and recorded by the **counselor**. NO PRESCRIPTION DRUGS SHALL BE CARRIED on students unless it is an inhaler, EPI pen.

In keeping with local, state, and federal laws, at no time and under no circumstances may a student share prescription or over-the-counter drugs with another student.

With the Head's approval, a student may be allowed to keep medication on his/her person for sole use in an emergency if the parent furnishes the **DSS** with written certification from a physician that it is necessary for the student to carry and/or administer said medication.

All faculty and staff are informed about students with serious allergies or medical conditions.

Students should not come to school with a fever or contagious diseases. A student must wait for 24 hours before returning to school after a fever has broken.

Lice can occur in any school setting. If a student has contracted lice, he or she must stay home until this medical nuisance is corrected.

If a child has medical needs, the parents must notify the school in writing and provide the DSS with all medical directives from the doctor regarding the scope of the medical conditions of which we should be made aware to keep the student safe as well as the suggested monitoring and care plan for the child.

VISITORS (Parents, Tour Participants, Guest Speakers, College Reps, Maintenance)

Safety is paramount in a school. To that end, all adults who visit campus unaccompanied by a staff member must sign in at the front desk once they are admitted to the building and may be asked to wear a Visitors Name Tag in the building. Push the call button to the left of the main entrance to be buzzed into the building; all must state purpose and present a govt issued picture ID prior to entry using the Ring Camera system.

Parents or guardians may not go directly to any classroom to speak to a teacher or to collect a student. The receptionist will call for students who have appointments to leave campus to come to the lobby where his or her parent or guardian is waiting.

SCHOOL RULES, STUDENT ATTENDANCE & BEHAVIOR EXPECTATIONS

Heritage Academy student expectations represent a broad consensus of behavior expected of every student at school. In a school community, how one person treats another will affect everyone. All faculty and staff commit to enforcing behavior guidelines, regardless of individual beliefs or preferences, to ensure that each student is treated with fairness and consistency.

Likewise, students and parents must agree to commit to following these guidelines, regardless of individual beliefs or preferences, so that the school is a respectful, orderly, safe environment where all students can learn and grow.

Heritage Academy expects students to behave on campus with honesty, respect, tolerance, and integrity for themselves and others in the community,

in class or at school-sponsored events. School rules apply to every student in hopes that they will make positive behavior choices each day they are on and off campus. Each student is expected to learn and obey all school rules and, in turn, show respect for the learning community and school they have chosen to attend by following the rules.

ATTENDANCE RULES

Heritage Academy's Attendance Policy is based on our commitment to support flexibility, travel, and passion-related absenteeism and to acknowledge the importance of consistent attendance for academic success. We strive to accommodate our students' needs to be away from school for tournaments, travel, competitions, and performances. Likewise, we know that missing class increases the risk of falling behind academically.

To enable high grades and successful fulfillment of course requirements, as of the first day of each semester, students must attend class at all times other than for tournaments, illness, travel, passions, family medical emergencies, and pre-approved college visits. All other time away from class is unexcused.

The parent or houseparent is expected to email Office Manager [Michele.Dewan@heritagehhi.com] before the day of an absence or on the day if the student is ill. A student is excused for illness if the parent or guardian calls the school during the first block of the student's schedule to verify the absence due to illness. A doctor's note may be required after two days' absence from one or more classes.

If a student has the ability to remote into class via "Teams", the student must make the request 12 hours in advance to the teacher via email. All virtual classes can be recorded

A significant number of late arrivals, excused absences, or unexcused absences may result in decreasing academic performance. A conference may be required between the student, parents, teachers, and administrator to determine appropriate next steps.

When there is a decline in student performance due to extended absences, tutorial support paid by the family will be suggested by the counselor.

EXCUSED ABSENCES AND COURSE WORK MAKE-UP

- A student is to be in attendance except for illness, travel, passion, family emergency, pre-approved college visits. Homework, class work, and distance learning work are due within the timeframe set by the teacher upon return from the excused absence or they can be submitted electronically while the student is away. If proven that they can receive and complete work electronically while away from school, students submit class work and assignments when the teacher requests it.
- A student who misses school should have his or her parents inform the Office Manager in advance of the absence.

- A student may be given one day for each day missed to make up in-seat assessments. With three subjects, the student and teachers must determine an appropriate timeline for submitting missed work and a viable test make-up timeline.
- If a student needs help with the missed material or distance learning assignments, she/he must make arrangements to meet with teachers upon return to campus.
- Tests and quizzes must be made up as soon as possible within five school days of the student's return from an excused absence. Students need to make arrangements with the teacher for the day and time of the make-up test or quiz upon his/her return to school.
- Students must arrange transportation to arrive early or to stay after school to complete missed quizzes/tests, which are to be taken under supervision of school personnel. There must be 24-hour notice. All students are expected to check the SIS for class information and work when absent.
- Students who are absent the last days of a quarter or for exams will receive a Zero until the work/exams is/are completed. All late or make-up work that is not completed by last day of the quarter will result in a zero (0).

APPROVED EXCUSED ABSENCES:

College Visits: To be excused for a college visit, students must make arrangements through the guidance counselor, coach, college, or parent. Documentation showing proof of meeting with college admissions personnel/coaching staff is required upon return to school.

Emergency School Closure: In the event of a school closure due to weather or other unexpected event, students are excused for each day the school is closed.

Family Emergency or I-20 Visa Emergency: Parents should notify the school immediately in the event of a family emergency.

Illness:

A student is excused for illness if parent or guardian calls school during the first block of the student's schedule to verify the absence due to illness. A doctor's note may be required after two days' absence in one or more classes.

Passion Area Tournaments/Competitions/Events/Travel: Registration of participation in passion-related tournaments, competitions or performances during the school day qualify for excused absences. Parents or coaches must supply confirmation of participation in competition, and the travel itinerary must be provided to the school beforehand. Any additional time away during the trip will be unexcused.

ALL OTHER NON-APPROVED ABSENCES AND COURSE WORK MAKE-UP

- Students are to be in attendance and available for learning every school day unless illness, family or visa emergency, approved college visits, passion or travel require absence. All other absences are unexcused.

Unexcused absence = students receive a “zero” for missed work done in class, assignments due, and on tests while away on an unexcused absence. Students are encouraged to complete missed work to learn the subject matter, nonetheless.

Each unexcused absence increases a student’s chance of losing credit by accumulating zeros that could result in failing a class.

Absent from Start of School: Any enrolled student not in attendance beginning the first day of each semester and who has not notified the front desk providing an approved school reason for the late arrival, will be considered an unexcused absence.

- No Contact: If a call to verify a student’s absence has not been recorded by the school office, the student’s absence will be considered unexcused.

CONDUCT

An honor code is a set of rules defining what honorable behavior is in that school community at large. Each person makes a commitment to uphold the Honor Code at all times. The success of an honor code is based on the idea that in a school community each person can be trusted to follow the rules and act honorably in all social, passion-area, and academic endeavors.

STANDARDS OF CONDUCT/HONOR CODE INFRACTIONS

Honor Code infractions and subsequent conduct disciplinary consequences are categorized into three levels.

I -- Level One Inappropriate Conduct includes activities through which a student disrupts orderly classroom procedures, class lessons, instructional activities, or negatively impacts normal and respectful school operations. This also includes refusing to follow school rules and codes.

- | | |
|--|---|
| ▪ Sleeping in class | ▪ Minor phone, electronic device, or computer use rule violations |
| ▪ Skipping school or class | ▪ Disrupting instruction |
| ▪ Inappropriate language and/or obscene gestures | ▪ Excessive noise or rowdiness |
| ▪ Inappropriate display of affection on campus | ▪ Disregard for the Academy’s or classroom rules |
| ▪ Dishonesty | ▪ Ignoring parking lot rules |
| ▪ Lying | |
| ▪ Intolerance toward another | |

Disciplinary consequences for the type and recurrence of Level One inappropriate conduct will include one or more of the following:

- *Temporary removal from class*
- *Communication with parent*
- *Conference with parent*
- *Withdrawal of privileges/
exclusion from activities*
- *School suspension*
- *Meeting with administrators*

II--Level Two Inappropriate or Disruptive Conduct includes activities in which a student is belligerent at school, violates another's person or property, has little regard for the Honor Code, endangers the health or safety of oneself or others, or interferes with a teacher conducting a lesson.

- *Abusive language or disrespect shown toward staff or teachers*
- *Fighting or any show of force toward another, mutual or otherwise*
- *Academic dishonesty: copying homework, cheating on test, quiz, or plagiarism See *Academic Honesty*)*
- *Known possession of or under the influence of tobacco, alcohol, inhalants, unauthorized drug, synthetic urine, synthetic drugs, or any dangerous substance (See *Controlled Substances*)*
 - *Possession of drug paraphernalia*
- *Blatant refusal to obey rules appropriately in class*
- *Showing self or another associated with the school in a negative light or causing embarrassment for that person via cell phones, iPads, or devices on campus*
- *Disregarding science lab safety rules*
- *Lying to implicate another student in a conduct violation*
- *Inappropriate touching or indecent exposure*
- *Forgery of names to benefit self or others*
- *Minor vandalism*
- *Possessing a laser pointer or a look-alike weapon or a look alike illegal, unauthorized, or dangerous substance while at school*
- *Planning and/or initiating disruptive conduct on campus*
- *Intimidating, harassing or bullying/cyber-bullying any person associated with the school*
- *Covering for another's offense*
- *Claiming to possess a weapon or banned substance*
- *Three Level One offences*

Disciplinary consequences for the type and recurrence of Level Two Disruptive Conduct will include one or more of the following:

- *Temporary removal from class*
- *Referral to outside agency*
- *Withdrawal of privileges/exclusion from extra-curricular activities*
- *School suspension & parent conference*
- *Restitution of property and damages*
- *Probation*
- *Expulsion*
- *Meeting with administrators*
- *School behavioral probation*

III-- Level Three Inappropriate or Disruptive Conduct includes participation in activities which may or may not result in violence (or threat) to oneself or to another person (or property). Such activities are intended to disrupt the orderly operations of the school, learning environment, or school-sponsored activity. (If

a student engages or has engaged in activities such as those listed below while on school property or at a school-sponsored activity, and if an administrator/designee has reason to believe this conduct may result or has resulted in injury or serious threat of injury to a person (or to property), the administrator/designee will be required to notify law enforcement officials.)

- Bomb threat
- False fire alarm
- Arson
- Threat to staff
- Serious assault/fighting with intent to harm
- Stealing another's or school's property
- Major/serious vandalism
- Offering tobacco, alcohol, unauthorized drugs, inhalants, synthetic drugs, synthetic urine, urine dilutants, or any dangerous substance to another (See *Controlled Substances*)
- Giving medications to others
- Possessing a weapon
- Cyber threats or cyber-bullying
- Engaging in harassment and/or being present when others are engaging in harassment
- Abusive, shameful, or humiliating behavior toward others on campus
- Downloading viruses on school computers
- Three Level Two offense

Disciplinary consequences for the type and recurrence of such Level Three Disruptive Conduct will include one or more of the following:

- *Suspension and parent conference*
- *Withdrawal of privileges/exclusion from extra-curricular activities*
- *Mandatory counseling*
- *Report to law enforcement*
- *Expulsion*
- *Restitution of property and damages*
- *Other consequences provided for Level Two.*

Special Note Regarding Alcohol, Illegal Substances, and Tobacco Products:

- It is forbidden for Heritage Academy students to possess, use, sell, purchase, trade, offer, or be under the influence of any form or derivatives of alcohol, tobacco, inhalants, nicotine, or banned or dangerous substances on school property or at any school-sponsored activities.
- If a student uses, possesses, or is under the influence of an illegal, unauthorized, or dangerous substance, a suspension will be in effect for a minimum of five school days, and will require mandatory counseling at the first offense. The first offense for possession of any illegal or unauthorized substances will result in appropriate disciplinary action, which includes suspension from school for a set time. Students may be recommended for expulsion for the school year for a second offense, regardless of the substance possessed or used.
- A student who has engaged in distributing an illegal, unauthorized, or dangerous substance may be expelled immediately and subject to legal consequences.
- Unannounced random drug testing may be asked of the student.

Special Note Regarding Harassment:

Heritage Academy is committed to providing an atmosphere free of sexual harassment or harassment based on race, color, religion, national origin, ancestry, age, medical condition, or disability. Harassment is verbal, physical, and visual conduct that creates a demeaning and/or intimidating, offensive, or hostile environment and that interferes with the well-being of another or with the teaching and learning environment. Harassment is perceived to harm another physically or emotionally in any location where the school is responsible for students' well-being. Examples include racial slurs, ethnic jokes, posting of offensive verbal or written statements in print or electronically via social network sites, gestures, drawing cartoons, comics, or performing other similar conduct. Sexual harassment includes solicitation of sexual favors, unwelcome sexual advances, or other verbal, visual, or physical conduct in a classroom, on school premises, on a school bus or other school-related vehicle, at a school-sponsored activity or event whether it is held on school premises, or at school-sponsored activity. Such actions may lead to dismissal.

Retaliation against a student who reports an incident of harassment or bullying/cyber-bullying or against a victim, witness, or a person with reliable information about an act of harassment, intimidation, indecent acts, or bullying cyber-bullying is prohibited and will result in swift disciplinary action.

Accusing another person without proof of committing harassment, intimidation, indecent acts, or bullying or cyber-bullying is forbidden and will result in swift disciplinary action.

CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES

Heritage Academy maintains a proactive approach to controlled substances, including any form or derivative of alcohol, nicotine, synthetic drugs, over-the-counter drugs, synthetic urine, and urine dilutants, unauthorized prescription drugs, narcotic or mood-altering drugs, inhalants, vape substances, or dangerous substances. South Carolina laws regulate controlled substances, and any violation of these laws can be prosecuted to the fullest extent of the law. The School adheres to the stipulations of the Safe School Climate Act.

Possessing paraphernalia, controlled substances, using controlled substances, or being under the influence of such drugs which are not recorded with the Administration is prohibited and may result in suspension.

Heritage Academy is a tobacco-free, drug-free, and alcohol-free campus. Any form or derivative of tobacco, drug, inhalant, nicotine, or alcohol possession or use or being under the influence of such on-school grounds is prohibited, and violation is a serious breach of school policy and can result in dismissal.

DRESS CODE RULES

Statement of Policy

This is the policy of Heritage Academy to regulate reasonable attire of students during the school day. To maintain an educational environment that is safe and productive to the education process, students in all grades will abstain from wearing or possessing inappropriate items during the school day.

Purpose

We have determined that reasonable regulation of school attire can further important educational interests, including the following:

- Reducing distraction and loss of self-esteem caused by teasing or competition over clothing.
- Minimizing disruption from wearing inappropriate clothing or possessing inappropriate items at school.
- Providing an environment where students can focus more on learning. Enhancing school safety by making it harder to conceal weapons or contraband.
- Enhancing school safety by helping teachers and administrators identify individuals who are not enrolled in the school when they encounter them on school grounds.
- Creating an atmosphere reflecting seriousness of purpose about education.

Heritage Academy takes pride in the public appearance and decorum of its students. The many tours of the school spotlight Heritage students as serious about school. The dress code is also meant to appreciate the time constraints of students for whom the mission of the school is dedicated and to allow

students and families to select a wardrobe that projects a safe, neat, modest, and positive image to the public.

As well, the school building has fluctuating temperatures from room to room. Students will be more comfortable in clothing that covers arms and legs. Proper hygiene at school is paramount to success and comfort in the classrooms. Students are to shower and change shirts, tops, and shorts, pants, or skirts and wear deodorant after practice and before entering the classroom.

School dress that meets Heritage Academy code is:

1. Clothing covering underwear, cleavage, midriff, thighs, and bare shoulders and bare backs.
2. Shoes that are safe in the classroom around tables and steel-legged chairs, on wooden slatted walkways, and on wooden steps that can be slick when wet.

YES--Footwear: REQUIRED / MEETS THE DRESS CODE FOR BOYS AND GIRLS

Clean tennis shoes, athletic shoes, sandals, flats, dress shoes, boots, loafers, deck shoes, low heels with a wedge-heel.

NO--Footwear/Accessories: DOES NOT MEET THE DRESS CODE FOR BOYS AND GIRLS

No sports shoes with cleats.

No house slippers or shoes that do not have soles meant for street wear.

No high heels! They are unsafe to wear on the wooden-slatted walkways and steps.

No earphones, sunglasses, hats, caps, visors, or hoods worn in class.

ELECTRONIC DEVICES

Students must own a laptop computer to use for school. Computer use in the classroom is at the discretion of the classroom teacher. Teachers have the right at any time to request that any electronic device be stored on the teacher's desk until class is dismissed.

Cell phones, iPads or tablets, iPods, gaming devices, iWatches, etc. on campus for personal use cannot be a distraction during class

Parents are asked not to call or text a student during class time. Parents are expected to respect the instructional block and not to interrupt the lesson. If the student needs to use the phone for personal purposes, the student needs teacher permission to leave class.

Parents should not contact their child during instructional time. Ignoring this rule will cause disruption of learning by asking your child to break a school rule to answer your call or text. Please wait to contact your child until class ends. In an emergency, parents may call the front desk and ask to speak to the child.

If a parent or coach needs to contact a student, he or she should call the school at (843) 842-8600 and ask to speak with the student; or the student can call from the school phone between classes; or we can promptly relay any message, or the student may use their phone outside.

FOOD AND DRINK IN THE CLASSROOM

Students may visit the vending machine between classes. Students must use common sense and respect when eating in class to observe safety and teachers' desires. Students may not order food to be delivered to school. Individual classrooms may lose the privilege of having food in class if lack of cleanliness presents an ongoing custodial issue.

The school has a refrigerated, filtered water bottle station for use.

FUNDRAISING

The Head of School, DSS must approve all fundraising activities. All activities must be for the benefit of a school-sponsored event, field trip, or charity cause. All proceeds will be maintained in the Student Activity Account.

KEY CARD/ID FOR ENTERING BUILDING

Students are issued a student ID card, which must be visible and worn every day. There is a \$25 replacement charge if a student loses his or her ID card/key pass.

LEAVING CAMPUS DURING SCHOOL HOURS

Students must always have permission to check out at the front desk when leaving campus. Students must always check in at the front desk if arriving after class begins.

The school must be notified if a student needs to leave campus before regular dismissal and parents/ guardians must come into the building to sign out a student.

Once students arrive on campus via bus, car, or self-drive, they may not leave campus until the bus, car, or driver picks them up or if they are excused at end of classes with parents' permission.

Students who are absent from a class without authorization will be issued demerits for each class missed and will receive a zero on assessments or work missed.

PARKING LOT USE AND SAFETY

Students should park in the designated area for students. On days when an outdoor assembly is scheduled and the student parking lot is closed, students should park in a designated parking lot.

Using the school parking lot is a privilege, and extreme care must be given to safe driving in our parking lot. Anyone who does not follow the school parking lot use rules or who does not use safe conduct either in or out of a car may be suspended from driving or parking in our lot. Vehicles must not exceed 5mph while in the parking lot.

Friends from outside of Heritage may not park in our parking lot without school permission. Students must lock their cars. The school is not responsible for any personal items stored in student vehicles.

PUBLIC DISPLAYS OF AFFECTION

No PDA! Personal contact is private and not to be displayed on campus. Kissing, hugging, or indiscreet sexual behavior is deemed inappropriate at school.

SEARCH AND SEIZURE

To protect the student body from threat or danger, administrators may search at any time for just reason or suspicion students' clothing, handbags, wallets, on-campus vehicles, backpacks, and other personal possessions.

SOCIAL MEDIA & ONLINE GAMING IN THE CLASSROOM

No curriculum at Heritage Academy requires using personal social media or online gaming in class. *No student is allowed to participate in instant messaging, social media exchanges, or gaming alone or with others during instructional time.*

Outside of class, social media can be a powerful way for people to connect and communicate. It must be used by students and staff responsibly and must reflect the well-being of the Heritage Academy school community.

SOCIAL FOOTPRINT: Students must be aware that every post they post is permanent and public.

Any student on-campus communication via social media that diminishes the fine reputation of Heritage Academy or demeans or harasses another Heritage Academy family member will be subject to disciplinary action.

Any student on-campus communication via social media that diminishes the fine reputation of Heritage Academy or demeans or harasses another Heritage Academy family member will be subject to disciplinary action.

TARDY / LATE FOR SCHOOL

All students must arrive to class on time. A student is tardy if he or she enters the classroom after class has been officially called.

WEAPONS ON CAMPUS

Students are not allowed to carry on their person or have at school any item which might be considered a weapon (knife, pepper spray, flammable substance, poison, gun, etc.). Students may not joke about weapons on their or another's person at school. Dismissal may occur if a student is in possession of or found guilty of threatening to bring a weapon to school.

OTHER SCHOOL POLICIES

DRUG TESTING POLICY

Offering a legitimate reason for students to refuse to use or be under the influence of illegal drugs or banned substances is the aim of this school's drug testing philosophy. To provide for the health and safety of all students and to undermine the effects of peer pressure, Heritage Academy may request that any student participate in a random drug testing program or require a student to have a drug test for cause.

- **Consent:** Each student who attends Heritage Academy and the student's custodial parent or guardian shall consent in writing to drug testing pursuant to the Academy's drug testing program. No student shall be allowed to attend the Academy unless they first give such consent.
- **Selection:** The Head of School has the right to ask of all students to undergo a drug test if she chooses. All students can be tested at any time during each semester of the school year for cause. Random testing may be conducted at the discretion of the Head of School at least twice during the school year. She shall take reasonable steps to assure the integrity and confidentiality of the testing process.
- **Sample Collection:** Samples will be collected the same day the student is selected for testing at an off-site lab. If a student is unable to produce a urine sample, the student must wait in the area until a sample can be produced.
- **Prescription Medication:** Students who are taking prescription medication may provide a copy of the prescription or a doctor's verification in a sealed envelope to Academy personnel at the time a sample is collected. In the event of a positive test, that envelope will be forwarded unopened to the Head of School to consider the student's use of such medication to assure the accuracy of the result. Such information provided by the student will not be disclosed to any Academy official.
- **Scope of Tests:** Testing will be completed for one or more drugs. The Head of School will decide which drugs will be screened; but in no event shall that determination be made after selection of students for testing.

Student samples will not be screened for the presence of any substances other than an illegal drug or banned substances, or for the existence of any physical condition other than being under the influence of any drug or banned substance.

- Limited Access to Results: The Head of School will be authorized to report results only to the Head of School or to such persons as may be designated.
- Refusal to Submit Sample: If a student refuses to produce a urine sample or offer a hair sample, the student shall be treated as if he or she had failed a drug test.
- Detection of Adulterants or Dilutants in Test Sample: Whenever a student's test result indicates the presence of an adulterant or dilutant, the test result shall be considered positive. It is against school policy to manipulate the sample.
- Procedures in the Event of a Positive Result: If a student's test result is positive:
 - The student and a parent, custodial parent, or legal guardian will be given the opportunity to discuss the test results with the medical review officer. The student will cooperate with the Head of School and, if requested to do so, provide a second urine specimen. The Head of School shall report the results of any failed test as detailed under the paragraph titled "limited access to results."
 - A parent, custodial parent or legal guardian will schedule a meeting with the Head of School and the student. If the student is an adult, parents do not need to attend the meeting if they desire not to.
- First Failed Test: For the first positive result during the student's enrollment, the student may be dismissed from Heritage Academy. If the student is not dismissed, proof of controlled substance counseling will be required. If dismissed, tuition and fees will not be refunded.
- Non-punitive Nature of the Policy: The results of the drug test pursuant to this policy will not be documented on a student's academic transcript. Information regarding the results of drug tests will not be disclosed to criminal or juvenile authorities absent legal compulsion by valid and binding subpoena or other legal process; however, the Academy will not solicit such subpoena or legal process. In the event of service of any such subpoena or legal process, the student and the student's custodial parent or legal guardian will be notified before response is made by the Academy.

Students enrolling in dual credit work at a college must have their own transportation to travel between the two campuses and be in class on time.

FORCE MAJEURE (FORCED SCHOOL CLOSING) POLICY

In an unforeseeable circumstance that prevents the school from fulfilling its contract and obligations due to events beyond the school's control (i.e., war, riots, or disaster resulting in forced closure) the school is not liable for delay in performance of the enrollment agreement. No tuition will be refunded.

Heritage students and teachers have the capability to continue instruction via *PowerSchool* and "Zoom" learning management system technology, and every attempt to conduct classes will be made, even if that instruction is via distance learning, until the facilities reopen for business.

See Ms. McGuire's Dual Enrollment Form in Appendix C. Note: Any student who withdraws from a course or fails a course will be fined a fee of \$1,500.

HEALTH AND IMMUNIZATION POLICY

- New students who are residents of South Carolina must present a S.C. Certificate of Immunization on or before the first day of school.
- New students from another state or country who do not have a S.C. Certificate of Immunization will be issued a SC Certificate of Special Exemption by the school. This allows students a 30-day grace period to obtain the official S.C. Certificate of Immunization.
- Responsibility rests with the parent to send immunization records to school.
- The Dir. of Admissions Heritage will send foreign records to a translation agency.
- It is the parent's, houseparent's/ or guardian's responsibility to abide by the SC Health Department law to have all immunization records transferred to a SC certificate before the 30-day grace period ends. *Heritage Academy is required by law to deny continued attendance if any child is not in compliance with S.C. School Immunization Requirements.*
- We strongly encourage students' parent/residential instructor/houseparent to make an appointment with a S.C. doctor's office or the S.C. health department and take any child and their records new to the school to obtain the needed certificate prior to the start of school.

It is the responsibility of the parent or guardian to ensure that the child receives all necessary immunizations by the expiration date on the certificate and that the school receives a new certificate. The school will monitor temporary certificates and will notify the parent or guardian when the expiration date nears.

NETWORK AND COMPUTER ACCEPTABLE USE POLICY

All students are required to have a personal laptop for use for school. Heritage Academy provides Internet service for the use of students, teachers, and staff. Computers provide access to local, national, and international sources of information. All users must act in a responsible, ethical, and legal manner in accordance with the educational objectives and standards of Heritage Academy. No student may use the school network, school or personal computer, or personal phone, tablet, iPad, iTouch, or iWatch for posting on social sites such as *Facebook, TikTok, Twitter, Instagram, Snapchat, WhatsApp, Tumblr, etc.* during class unless it is a part of the lesson and is teacher-supervised. *YouTube* is allowed for instruction and must be monitored by the teacher. Personal electronic devices may not access blocked/restricted sites on the school network via any means. The Academy has installed filtering/monitoring software to check Internet access of known objectionable sites by computer users on school equipment. Efforts are made to monitor and restrict Internet access to such sites.

Research acquired through websites must be clearly noted and cited in student papers according to the Modern Language Association rules for quotation and paraphrase.

Student Responsibilities:

- Students may not store work on the hard drive of a school-owned computer or network.
- Students are responsible to have a personal laptop and flash drive for storage of work and assignments.
- Students are not allowed to use the teacher's computer unless the teacher is present.
- Students must demonstrate ethical behavior when using computers and networks.

Student Restrictions:

- Accessing, uploading, downloading, transmitting, displaying, or distributing obscene, profane, inflammatory, threatening, or disrespectful language about another Heritage Academy student or staff member is prohibited.
- Students are forbidden to damage computers, systems, networks, or to spread "viruses."
- Students must not violate copyrights or trespass in another's work or files.
- Pornography and adult sites are strictly forbidden to be viewed at school.
- Students must not violate local, state, or federal statutes regarding the Internet.

Consequences for violations of the Network and Computer Acceptable Use Policy: Violations of school technology rules may include, but are not limited to, the suspension of all technology/ computer privileges, disciplinary action up to expulsion.

RE-ADMISSION POLICY

Admission does not constitute an agreement to re-enroll a student. Heritage Academy reserves the right to deny continuing enrollment to a student at its sole and absolute discretion.

TUITION AND PAYMENT POLICY

Heritage Academy relies on tuition to hire qualified staff to provide the best education to our students. In good faith, the school expects that the family makes payment for this education in a timely manner and in accordance with the signed enrollment agreement for the academic year.

After application, deposit, or tuition money has been paid to the school, there will be no refund if a student withdraws from a class or from the school per enrollment agreement. Once a student has made a commitment to the school or to a class, a teacher has been hired and a seat for that class has been spoken for.

Students will not be allowed to start second-semester courses until all first-semester financial obligations are met. Student records, including grade reports and transcripts, will be held until all Heritage Academy balances are cleared by the accounting office.

WITHDRAWING FROM COURSES POLICY

Students may withdraw from a course without any notation on their transcript through the last day of Drop/Add each semester. That is the fifth day of the course. After the Drop/Add date has passed, a student may withdraw from a course up until the last week of class, and the transcript will denote a “W” for withdrawal from course.

Before a withdrawal can be approved by the school, the student’s parent must complete and sign the official Heritage Academy Withdrawal Form available from the DSS.

ADDENDUM

Converting Grades on Transcripts

Out-of-State or Non-Public Schools Grades

When transcripts are received from accredited out-of-state schools (or in state from accredited sources other than the public schools as defined in Regulation 43-273) and numerical averages are provided, those averages must be used in transferring the grades to the student's record. If letter grades with no numerical averages are provided, the conversion scale effective during the year the course was completed will be used as follows:

School Years 2016-2017 and After

Letter Grade Conversion Scale	Numerical Grade Equivalent
A	95
B	85
C	75
D	65
F	50

If the transcript indicates that the student has earned a passing grade in any course in which she or he had a numerical average lower than 60, the grade will be recorded as a "P" on the transcript. See SBE Regulation 43-273 for additional information on transfers and withdrawals.

If the transcript indicates that the student has earned a failing grade in any course in which she or he had a numerical average 60 or above, the grade will be recorded as an "NP" on the transcript.

Pass (P)/Fail (F) Grades

If the transcript shows that the student has earned a letter grade of P (passing) or F (failing), that grade will be converted to a numerical designation on the basis of information secured from the sending institution as to the appropriate numerical value of "P" or the "F".

If no numerical average can be obtained from the sending institution, it will not be calculated in GPA.

APPENDIX A



Individual Graduation Plan

Name: _____

College Preparatory or General Studies Diploma: _____

Requirements	9 th Grade	10 th Grade	11 th Grade	12 th Grade
English (4)				
Math (4)				
Science (3)				
Social Studies (3)				
Computer Technology (1)				
Foreign Language (2)				
Core Electives (3)				
Fine Arts (1)				
P.E. (1)				
Total Credits Earned = 22				

APPENDIX B

NCAA REQUIREMENTS

<u>NCAA Requirements</u>	<u>Course Name/ Grade</u>	<u>Grade Taken</u>
Math (3)	1- 2- 3-	1- 2- 3-
English (4)	1- 2- 3- 4-	1- 2- 3- 4-
Natural/Physical Science (2) One must be a lab science	1- 2-	1- 2-
Social Studies (2)	1- 2-	1- 2-
1 Additional Course (English, Math, or Science)	1-	1-
4 Additional Core Courses (From any subject area above or from foreign language, comparative religion, or philosophy)	1- 2- 3- 4-	1- 2- 3- 4-

APPENDIX C

Heritage Academy
Amanda Williams, Head of School
11 New Orleans Road
Hilton Head Island, SC 29928



Dear Dual Enrollment Parents:

Your student has indicated she/he plans to enroll as a dual enrollment (DE) student for the next semester. I am excited about this next chapter in her/his life! I want to be clear on some information and privileges for your student from now until the end of the school year.

1. By signing below, you verify that both parent/guardian and student viewed and understand, in full, the information provided in the Dual Enrollment Meeting, Heritage Academy Student/Parent Agreement and all other documents.
2. By signing below, you verify that because of the differences in academic calendars at Heritage Academy and USCB/TCL, students will schedule their DE courses around their previously established courses. Absences from a Heritage Academy course due to DE will not be excused and students risk loss of high school credit by accruing absences that could impact graduation.
3. During the instructional school day, DE students are permitted on campus only during her/his Heritage Academy class time.
4. DE students are eligible to participate in a winter/spring sport as a manager and/or athlete.
5. Please note, there are some institutions that will not accept DE courses for various reasons.
 - o Some colleges will not allow courses to be used for both high school and college credits.
 - o Some colleges require 4 units of English, at least two with strong grammar and composition components, one with American Literature and one with British Literature. Completion of college preparatory (CP) English I, II, and III at Heritage Academy is necessary prior to dual enrollment.

Check with your specific colleges to ensure you are meeting their expectations by taking the appropriate classes at USCB/TCL in dual enrollment.

6. To re-gain or earn the LIFE Scholarship or LIFE Scholarship Enhancement after completion of the first academic year of college or to earn the scholarship while in college students must:
 - o Meet all general eligibility criteria.
 - o Earn an average of 30 credit hours by the end of each academic year (fall, spring, summer) equaling a minimum of 30 credit hours consistent with the policies and procedures of your institution.
 - o Earn a minimum of 3.0 (GPA), subject to change) LIFE GPA based on grades earned at ALL institutions attended excluding remedial, continuing education and non-degree credit courses by the end of each academic year. **Please note that the LIFE GPA includes any college grades earned while in high school.**
7. Students who participate in DE and earn grades of D, F, WF, WP will NOT be allowed to continue in the program for a minimum of one semester. After one semester, students can petition the Head of School to review academics, attendance, and discipline to re-enroll.
8. Families of students who drop one or more classes will be responsible for reimbursing Heritage Academy for the cost of the course[s]. If a student fails or withdraws from a course, a fee of \$1,500 is applied to the student's balance.

Please do not hesitate to contact me with questions or concerns at 843-707-6455 or amanda.williams@heritagehhi.com.

Please sign to indicate that you have read and agree to all of the above.

Print Student Legal Name: _____ Signature: _____

Date: _____

Print Parent/Guardian Legal Name: _____ Signature: _____

Date: _____

Dual Enrollment Pre-Registration Form

The Heritage Academy Dual Enrollment program is open to Heritage Academy students who meet the admission/eligibility criteria and agree to the guidelines and terms of agreement upon enrollment as outlined below.

Heritage Academy Requirements (Multiple Measures are not authorized):

- S.C. Commissioner of Higher Education requires for transferability purposes that students must have at least 3.0 grade point average **unweighted** (on a 4.0 scale) based on the previous semester and as noted on the most current transcript to be considered for acceptance into Dual Enrollment classes in Beaufort County School District.
- Recommendation by the school counselor.
- Students' parental consent to participate in the Dual Enrollment Program.
- Approval of Head of School.
- The Head of School has the authority to withdraw a student from the Dual Enrollment Program at any time based on poor academic performance, attendance and/or behavior.

Heritage Academy Guidelines and Terms of Agreement

Heritage Academy students who qualify and participate in the Dual Enrollment Program will do so with the full understanding of the expectations and requirements of "Dual Enrollment" opportunity, both financially and academically, by agreeing to the following:

1. The student and parent/guardian will be responsible for all fees charged beyond the initial fees paid by Heritage Academy at the time of registration.
 - a) If a student desires to **retake** any course regardless of the grade, it will be at the student and parent expense.
 - b) Prior to withdrawing from a course, the student must meet with their school counselor. Students who swap or drop a dual enrollment course at USCB/TCL must do **prior** to the midterm date for each semester. After meeting with the school counselor, the student will email the instructor and copy the school counselor. The student/parent will be responsible for all tuition and fees for courses dropped after the swap/drop date.
 - c) If the student drops or withdraws from a class leaving only **one** active class, the student/parent is responsible for all tuition and fees for **both** classes (including textbooks) that were originally paid by Heritage Academy at the time of registration. Any new fees caused by the drop or withdrawal, is the student/parent responsibility.
2. Textbooks and other required school supplies will be provided by the parent.
3. Grading: students who drop a dual enrollment course should do so prior to the published date of each semester's mid-term. A grade of W (not WP or WF), awarded to students that drop prior to the published mid-term date will be interpreted and recorded on the Heritage Academy transcript as a WP. A grade of W, awarded to students that drop after the published mid-term date, will be interpreted, and recorded on the Heritage Academy transcript as a WF.
4. By entering the Dual Enrollment Program, students understand and agree that all course grades will be posted both on their high school transcript and their college transcript. **This includes failing grades, or any grades given under a W, SP, WF, or I designation.** Grades will be entered on their high school transcript noting that they are part of dual enrollment and will receive "AP" weight in GPA calculation.
5. The legal parent/guardian of the Dual Enrollment student is **NOT** allowed any information or notification concerning tardiness or absences from college classes due to Federal and State of South Carolina FERPA laws unless a Waiver Form has been signed by the student granting the parents access to her/his records. Dual Enrollment students are treated and have the same high expectations as any other college student on the USCB/TCL campus.

By signing, I acknowledge that I fully understand and agree to the terms of participation in the Dual Enrollment Program as outlined above:

Student's Signature: _____ Date: _____

Parent/Guardian's Signature: _____ Date: _____

School Counselor's Signature: _____ Date: _____

Head of School's Signature: _____ Date: _____

Student Driver Parental Permission Form for Dual Enrollment Courses

TO BE COMPLETED BY THE HIGH SCHOOL DUAL ENROLLMENT COORDINATOR

Semester:_____ College: USCB/TCL

Depart Time:_____ Return Time:_____

Drop off/Pick-up:_____

Destination Address:_____

USCB/TCL Dual Enrollment Coordinator's Name:_____ and phone #:_____

TO BE COMPLETED BY THE STUDENT/PARENT(S) OR GUARDIAN

Student Driver Information

Student Name:_____

Last Name	First Name	Middle Initial
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Dual Credit Course(s):_____

Dual Credit Course(s):_____

Dual Credit Course(s):_____

Driver License #:_____ Issuing State:_____

Dual Enrollment Coordinator's Name:_____ Phone #:_____

Student Home Address:_____

Student's Home & Cell Phone #:_____

Parent/Guardian Emergency Contact Name:_____

Parent/Guardian Phone #:_____

Student's Vehicle Information

Year:_____ Color:_____ Auto Make:_____ Model:_____

License Plate Number:_____ State:_____

Student Driver Parental Consent & Release Form for Dual Enrollment Program

My child, _____, has permission to drive to USCB/TCL to take dual enrollment classes during _____ (semester) for the following period _____ until _____.

I understand that this activity involves travel to and from the following site(s).

- 1] _____
- 2] _____
- 3] _____
- 4] _____

CONDUCT DURING ACTIVITY AND EMERGENCY MEDICAL TREATMENT

I understand that my child's participation in the Dual Enrollment Program is a privilege and not a right. I acknowledge that I have spoken with my child about complying with the specific rules and requirements established for the Dual Enrollment Program, all Heritage Academy policies and procedures, the rules of conduct set forth in the Heritage Academy Student Handbook, and state and federal regulations and laws. I understand that all Heritage Academy rules and policies apply to my child while enrolled in dual enrollment courses taken on the USCB/TCL campus. I also understand that my child may receive emergency medical treatment in case of injury or illness.

TRANSPORTATION PERMISSION AND WAIVER

I understand Heritage Academy's insurance does not cover damages arising from, or related to, the operation of any private vehicle, failure to follow the directed driving route or any personal negligence related to this activity. Any damages/harm resulting from a parent/guardian or student driver, including but not limited to property damage, personal injury, and/or death, arising from the operation of a motor vehicle in relation to the above listed activity, is hereby waived.

SIGNATURES

I confirm that I have carefully read this CONSENT AND RELEASE and agree to its terms knowingly and voluntarily. I also confirm that I am the parent or legal guardian of the student listed above.

I have signed this CONSENT AND RELEASE _____ day of _____, 20____.

Student's Signature

Date

Student's Parent or Legal Guardian Signature

Date

APPENDIX D

Name of student: _____



Over-the-Counter Medication and Treatment Permission Slip

The over-the-counter medicines, listed below are available at Heritage Academy for your child, if needed. Please **circle** the medication[s] permitted for your child.

- Tylenol
- Ibuprofen
- Cough Drops

Please check if permissible.

☐

I give employees permission to treat my child in case of injury or illness.

Parent/Guardian Signature

Date

APPENDIX E

Student Driver Information

Your Name: _____

Do you drive yourself to school? _____

If no, how do you get to school? _____

If yes, do you drive other students to school? _____

If yes, who: _____

Color of Car: _____ License Plate #: _____

Year – Make - Model: _____

APPENDIX F



Heritage Academy Policy Signature Page for Students, Parents and/or Guardians

Overall Statement: I have read the Student Handbook and understand and agree to abide by all policies, procedures, and expectations therein.

_____ Student Initials _____ Parent/Guardian Initials

Specific Statement: I have read and will abide by each of the following policies, procedures, and expectations.

Students, Parent & Guardian please initial each line below.

Student Initials	Parent/Guardian Initials	
_____	_____	Academics Only! Training Policy
_____	_____	Academic Honesty Policy
_____	_____	Attendance Rules
_____	_____	Behavioral Expectations & Consequences
_____	_____	Dismissal from School Due to Off-Campus Infractions Policy
_____	_____	Dress Code Rules
_____	_____	Drug Testing Policy
_____	_____	Dual Enrollment Policy
_____	_____	Extracurricular Training & Drug Testing Policy
_____	_____	Final Exam Policy
_____	_____	Force Majeure School Closure Policy
_____	_____	Health & Immunization Policy
_____	_____	Homework Regulations
_____	_____	Housing for Students Policy
_____	_____	Network and Computer Acceptable Use Policy
_____	_____	Re-admission Policy
_____	_____	Tuition & Payment Policy
_____	_____	Withdrawing from Course Policy

Student Printed Name: _____

Student Signature: _____ Date: _____

Parent/Guardian Printed Name: _____

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____ Date: _____

Students are to submit this form, signed, initialed, and dated, to their 3rd block teacher no later than the 3rd day after you begin classes at Heritage Academy.

APPENDIX G

Heritage Academy Waiver and Release of Liability and/or Negligence

In consideration of being allowed to participate in any way in school events and activities, the undersigned acknowledges, appreciates, and agrees that:

1. There is a risk of injury from the activities involved in this program, including the remote potential for permanent injury and death and while particular rules, equipment, and personal discipline may reduce the risk of serious injury, risks including those risks associated with Heritage Academy, its employees, agents, subsidiaries, and assigns, including travel in any form cannot be completely eliminated; and,
2. I KNOWINGLY AND FREELY ASSUME ALL RISKS, and assume full responsibility for my participation; and,
3. I willingly agree to comply with the customary terms and conditions for participation including compliance with all oral and written instructions. If, however, I observe unusual and/or significant hazard during my presence or participation, I will remove myself from participation and bring such to the attention of the nearest official immediately; and,
4. I, for myself and on behalf of my heirs, assigns, personal representatives, family and next of kin, HEREBY RELEASE AND HOLD HARMLESS ALL EMPLOYEES, AGENTS, officers, trustees, board members, sponsoring agencies, sponsor, advertising, and, if applicable, owners and lessors of premises used to conduct the event ("Releasees"), WITH RESPECT TO ANY AND ALL CLAIMS, DEMANDS, CLAUSES OF ACTION ARISING FROM ANY INJURY, ILLNESS, DISABILITY, DEATH or loss or damage to person or property, WHETHER ARISING FROM THE NEGLIGENCE OF THE RELEASE OR ANY OTHER ACTS OR OMISSIONS OF THE RELEASEES.
5. I, for myself and on behalf of my heirs, assigns, personal representatives, family and next of kin, hereby agree to indemnify, hold harmless and covenant not to sue the persons and entities and hereby release same against costs, damages, liens, expenses (including attorney's fees), lawsuits, claims procedures, actions or other liability claimed or imposed upon the person or entities hereby released for any property damage or loss, personal injury or any kind, illness and/or death, whether arising from the negligence of the Releasees or otherwise.
6. The undersigned further expressly agrees that the forgoing waiver and assumptions of risk agreements is intended to be as broad and inclusive as is permitted by the law of South Carolina and that if any portion is held invalid, it is expressly agreed that the remaining terms and conditions shall, notwithstanding, continue in full legal force and effect. The undersigned further agrees that this Agreement will be construed under the laws of the State of South Carolina and the venue of any dispute between the parties shall be Beaufort County South Carolina.

I HAVE READ THIS RELEASE OF LIABILITY AND ASSUMPTION OF RISK AGREEMENT AND FULLY UNDERSTAND ITS TERMS. I FURTHER UNDERSTAND THAT I HAVE GIVEN UP SUBSTANTIAL RIGHTS BY SIGNING IT AND FULLY INTEND THIS AGREEMENT TO BE A COMPLETE AND UNCONDITIONAL RELEASE OF ALL LIABILITY OF THE RELEASEES TO THE GREATEST EXTENT ALLOWED BY LAW. I SIGN THIS AGREEMENT FREELY AND VOLUNTARILY WITHOUT ANY INDUCEMENT.

Participant's Signature _____ Date _____

Participant's name, printed _____

I hereby authorize the enrollment of my child in Heritage Academy. I further certify that I, as parent/guardian with legal responsibilities for this participant, do consent and agree to his/her release of all Releasees as provided above, and for myself, my heirs, my family, and next of kin, I release and agree to indemnify the Releasees from any liabilities incident to my minor child's involvement and participation in these programs as provided above, EVEN IF ARISING FROM THE RELEASEES NEGLIGENCE. I fully understand the terms and conditions of this Agreement as set forth and expressly agree to be bound by the foregoing terms and conditions.

Parents/Guardian Signature _____ Date _____

Parents/Guardian's name, printed _____

APPENDIX H



Heritage Academy Consent Form

Medical Release:

Dear Parent/Guardian of _____

Please read the following carefully and fill out all of the requested information. Permission is hereby granted to the attending physician to proceed with any medical medial treatment or minor surgical treatment, x-ray examinations and immunizations for the above-named student. In the event of serious illness, the need for major surgery, or significant accidental injury, I understand that an attempt will be made by the attending physician to contact me in the most expeditious way possible. If the physician is not able to contact me, the treatment necessary for the best interest of my child may be administered. I do not and will not hold Heritage Academy, its subsidiaries officers, assignees, or its staff responsible for accidents or illness of my child during his/her participation in any school, athletic and residential programs.

Signature of Parent or Guardian: _____ Date: _____

Contact name and address, other than parent, in case of emergency when parents can't be reached:

_____ Phone: _____

*HERITAGE ACADEMY
11 NEW ORLEANS RD.
HILTON HEAD IS., SC 29928
Phone: (843) 842-8600
Fax: (843) 842-9620*

*WELCOME BACK TO
SCHOOL!!!*