



Covington High School

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Dr. Robert DeRoche, Principal
Mr. John Boudreaux, Assistant Principal
Mrs. Jennifer Clark, Assistant Principal
Mrs. Joyce Davis, Assistant Principal
Mrs. Belinda Pennison, Assistant Principal

July 16, 2018

Dear Students and Parents,

Welcome to a new school year! To all new and returning students, I hope that your high school experience provides you with a lifetime of wonderful memories and prepares you for an abundance of opportunities in the future. Your time at Covington High School will move quickly, but the work you do here will be immensely impactful. As your principal, I assure that you will have the support and resources needed to be successful academically and socially. Whether you are just starting your high school experience with us or embarking on your senior year, your commitment and dedication to success is essential.

Covington High School has a rich tradition of community and as students and parents you are members of this proud community. We have many opportunities for all to be involved. The programs that we offer enable our students to be responsible and independent citizens. A key to student success is parent involvement. I encourage parents' continued involvement in their child's educational growth and encourage everyone to become an active part in the Covington High School community.

Included in this letter is information on the following topics:

- Uniform Grading Policy
- PaySchools - online fee payment service
- CHS Fee Package
- Student Parking Registration and Parking Tag Fee (Juniors and Seniors only)
- Parent Pick up and Drop Off
- Dates for Orientation Meetings and Parent Night Meetings
- Open House
- JPAMs
- Attendance and Dress Code
- P.E. Uniforms
- PTSA
- Senior Celebration

Grading Policy:

The Louisiana State Department of Education uses the following uniform grading policy for all public schools.

- A.....93 – 100
- B.....85 – 92
- C.....75 – 84
- D.....67 – 74
- F.....0 – 66

PaySchools:

CHS now offers parents the convenience of online purchasing through PaySchools. This is an easy and efficient method for parents to pay for school fees electronically. Parents may access PaySchools through a link on the home page of the Covington High Website. Electronic payments such as school lunches, CHS Fee Packages, textbook fees, classroom fees, dance tickets, and other school related fees will be accessible on PaySchools.

Covington High Fee Package:

Each student is asked to purchase a **CHS Fee Package** for \$20. The Fee Package may also be purchased through PaySchools. This package includes the following:

- The \$20 instructional supplies fee, which helps to provide additional classroom supplies.
- One Replacement Covington High ID -- valued at \$5.00
- Five Temporary Covington High IDs – valued at \$5.00

Student Parking Registration:

Student Parking Regulation forms may be obtained from the CHS Website for junior and senior students and must be returned during the student's orientation (listed below) or to the Attendance Office during the first week of school. Parking tags will be sold to senior and junior students on a first come basis. Sophomores may purchase parking permits after sale to juniors and seniors is completed, and if spaces are available. **All financial obligations must be cleared before the purchase of a parking tag. The cost of a parking tag is \$5.00 if purchased with the \$20.00 CHS Fee Package (\$25.00). If the parking tag is not purchased along with the \$20.00 CHS Fee Package, then the parking tag cost is \$30.00.**

Parent Pick up and Drop off:

Vehicles enter the campus from Ronald Reagan Highway (Hwy 190) on East Stadium (Lion) Drive, proceed around to West Stadium Drive and exit the Campus back onto Ronald Reagan Highway (Hwy 190). Students are dropped off in the morning and picked up in the afternoon between the Baseball Stadium and the Auditorium on West Stadium Drive. For the safety of our students, please be very cautious and follow the directions of the person(s) directing traffic by the Auditorium. **The front parking lot is for buses and Staff/Visitor Parking. No students** are to be dropped off or picked up in this area. For the safety of our students traffic is one way in the morning and afternoon. The Covington Police Department provides traffic control in the morning and afternoons as a courtesy to Covington High School. Depending on priority calls they will assist with traffic when available on Ronald Reagan Highway.

Dates for Orientation Meetings:

Covington High School will provide an orientation meeting for our students prior to the beginning of the school year. Dates and times are listed below. The orientation meeting will provide the following:

- Showcase of clubs, groups, and organizations will be on display and important information will be available.
- Students will pick up schedules and will have the opportunity to see a counselor to address schedule errors. No student initiated schedule changes will be made after the beginning of the school year. Only scheduling errors will be addressed. Therefore, it is vitally important that all students attend this meeting and check their schedule.
- Students will have the opportunity to purchase a CHS Fee Package for \$20.00, P.E. uniforms, and other spirit items.
- Parking permits will be issued to **11th and 12th grade** students who have no financial obligations. Please bring a completed *Student Parking Regulation* form (may be obtained on the CHS Website), and \$25.00 (\$20.00 CHS Fee Package and \$5.00 parking fee) or \$30.00 for only the parking tag.
- **For parents of freshman students, the orientation meeting will serve as a parent meeting. Please plan to attend for valuable information that will be discussed.**

Thursday, August 2nd

Freshmen	10:00 a.m.	Report to Auditorium
Senior Orientation	1:00 p.m.	Report to the Gym

Friday, August 3rd

Sophomore	10:00 a.m.	Report to Gym
Junior	1:00 p.m.	Report to Gym

Open House:

Open House will be held on Tuesday, August 21st at 6:00 p.m. We will begin the evening in the Gym.

JPAMs – Student Progress Center:

JPAMs at Home allows parents/guardians to view their child's attendance and grades in real time as posted by the school. This can foster school / home communication and provide frequent feedback necessary for your child's success. I encourage you to communicate frequently with your child about his/her experiences at school. Call, e-mail, or visit when additional information is needed.

Attendance and Dress Code:

Student success is extremely important, and it begins by taking pride in how one presents himself/herself as well as the level of commitment he/she demonstrates. Student dress, attendance, and tardies will be monitored closely throughout the school year. During the first week of school, your child will receive the St. Tammany Parish School Board Handbook on Attendance, Discipline and Student Records and the Covington High School Student Handbook, which are important documents explaining the procedures and policies our school will follow.

Covington High School hours are 7:24 am to 2:41 pm each day. It is extremely important that your child arrives to school in a timely manner and be in **attendance every day**. We will be following our **tardy and attendance** policies very closely starting the first day of school. **The Louisiana Board of Elementary and Secondary Education revised the state law attendance policies, which state that students will be allowed only five (5) absences per semester.**

To ensure that your child is in compliance with the St. Tammany Parish School Board dress code policy beginning the first day of school, I am indicating below a few of the dress code items that will be strictly enforced. Dress codes clarifications may be viewed in the St. Tammany Parish District handbook and the Covington High School Handbook and on the Covington High Website, <http://covingtonhigh.stpsb.org>.

- Pants worn by students must be secured at the waist with no undergarments visible.
- Students are not to wear tank tops (sleeveless) or under shirts as outer garments.
- Students are not to wear sheer/lace tops or shirts that expose the midriff when arms are extended overhead.
- Shorts may be worn as long as they meet the length requirements. Length may not be shorter than 5 inches measured from the top of the knee to the shortest point of the garment.
- Body piercing is limited to the ear. Earrings are not to be worn in other places such as the lip, eyebrow, nose, or tongue. Gauge earrings must be enclosed.
- No hats, caps and bandannas are not to be worn.
- Flip-flops, slides or slippers are not permitted.
- Male students are prohibited from wearing beards or goatees.
- Hoods are not to be worn on campus during regular school hours except outdoors in inclement weather.
- Any article of clothing with suggestive/profane symbols, words, or advertisements of products or substances prohibited by the St. Tammany Parish School Board is prohibited.
- **Students in grades 9-12 are required to wear student school I.D.'s visible above the waist during regular school hours.**

Student dress and grooming are not to adversely affect the student's participation in classes, school programs, or other school-related activities. Extremes in style and fit in the student dress and extremes in style of grooming will not be permitted. School principals maintain the right to determine extremes in styles of dress and grooming and appropriateness and suitability for school year.

P.E. Uniforms:

All Covington High Students enrolled in a Physical Education class will be required to wear clothing approved for the class. While not mandatory, students are encouraged to purchase a P.E. uniform. This will assist in students dressing appropriately as well as addressing safety issues during this activity period. One will be available to purchase at the student orientation meetings or through the P.E. department. The cost of each piece is \$10. The entire uniform is \$20.

Parent Teacher Student Association (PTSA):

We are committed to providing quality educational opportunities for your child. Parental support is a key element to student success in high school, and I invite you to expand your support by becoming an active member of the Covington High PTSA. Parents and students are encouraged to join PTSA; dues are \$5.00. A volunteer sign up form will be included in your child's student packet given the first day of school. Please complete the form and return it to our administrative office. Your involvement would be greatly appreciated.

Senior Celebration/Project Graduation:

Working with Senior Celebration is another excellent way for you contribute to your child's opportunities. This is an event that parents organize and plan for graduating seniors to attend after graduation ceremonies. The event hosts a non-alcoholic evening of fun and games for graduating seniors to allow them to celebrate graduation in a safe environment. A great deal of planning and preparation is necessary and volunteers are needed from all parents, not just senior parents.

During the first week of school, students will receive information that will put them on the path for success at Covington High. Students will also have the opportunity to pay the instructional supply fees during the first few days of school through homeroom. Please take the time to view this information at home together and return all documents that need to be returned.

Together we can assure the success of our students. Please contact me at 985-892-3422 or e-mail me at robert.deroche@stpsb.org if you need further assistance. A complete listing of the Covington High School Faculty e-mail addresses will be updated and posted on our school's website <http://covingtonhigh.stpsb.org>.

Sincerely,

*Robert DeRoche, Ed.D.
Principal*