

FAQ: Anson County Schools - HB 959 & Use of Wireless Communication Devices Policy

- 1. What is HB 959, and when does it take effect?**

HB 959 is a new North Carolina law that focuses on regulating the use of wireless communication devices in schools and promoting safe, distraction-free learning environments.

It took effect on January 1, 2026.
- 2. What are considered Wireless Communication Devices?**

Wireless communication devices include, but are not limited to, cellular phones, electronic devices with internet capability, paging devices, two-way communication devices, wireless earbuds and headphones, tablets, and similar devices.
- 3. Does Anson County Schools already have a wireless communication device policy?**

Yes. Our board-approved Policy 4318 states that students are permitted to possess such devices on school property so long as the devices are not activated, used, displayed, or visible during the instructional day or as otherwise directed by school rules or school personnel.
- 4. Are there any changes to the current policy right now?**

No. There are **no changes** to our cell phone policy at this time. Policies will be reviewed and updated as needed. We work closely with state education policy advisors and school governance experts to ensure our policies remain aligned with the law. If changes are needed, we will share them with families.
- 5. What are the current rules for elementary and middle school students?**

Wireless communication devices as defined above shall not be activated, used, displayed, or visible during the instructional day or as otherwise directed by school rules or school personnel from the moment students step onto campus until the end of the school day. In addition, elementary students who participate in after-school care programs are prohibited from using wireless communication devices during such programs.
- 6. What are the current rules for high school students?**

Students may have devices out before and after school, as well as during lunch in the cafeteria. Devices must be off and out of sight during instructional time unless authorized by a teacher or administrator.
- 7. Are there exceptions for medical or learning needs?**

Yes. This policy does not override accommodations in a 504 Plan, IEP, or Health Plan.
- 8. Can students have their phones during after-school extracurricular activities?**

Yes, with the approval from the coach/sponsor.
- 9. Can students use wireless communication devices on school buses?**

Use of wireless communication devices is generally allowed on school buses before and after school; however, it may be prohibited when noise from such devices interferes with the safe operation of the bus.
- 10. What happens if a student uses their device without permission?**

School employees may immediately confiscate any wireless communication devices that are on, used, displayed, or visible in violation of this policy. Please refer to Policy 4318 for further information.
- 11. How should parents help their children follow this policy?**

We encourage parents and guardians to talk with their children about the policy and the upcoming changes in state law. Understanding expectations and reasons behind the rules will help students have a smooth and positive school experience.
- 12. Who can I contact with questions?**

Reach out to your child's school directly or call 704-694-4417.





MILITARY & FIRST RESPONDERS APPRECIATION NIGHT

★ GOLD STAR FOOTBALL GAME ★

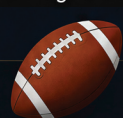
The Anson County School District is proud and honored to recognize our military and first responders during the Friday, September 11 Varsity Football Game! This is also our Gold Star Football Game where we honor and remember local military heroes and their families.

FREE Admission into the game for all military service members, veterans and first responders with ID. Please enter at the handicap accessible gate located directly behind the baseball center field. Individual recognition will be given during the game.



ANSON BEARCATS

VS



CHESTERFIELD RAMS

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 11, 2026 | 7:00 P.M.

ANSON HIGH SCHOOL STADIUM



Anson County School District Athletic Event Safety Protocol

Endorsed/Effective 06.26.2023

Athletic Event Safety Protocol
ANSON COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT (ACSD)

ACSD Families: We are asking for your continued support in helping us ensure that all Anson County Schools' athletic events remain safe and secure for everyone. We will be continue to strengthen our security procedures at all home athletic events across the district. These enhanced measures are part of our ongoing commitment to providing a safe environment for our students, staff, families, and community members.

Protocol
ENDORSED/EFFECTIVE 06.26.23

- All spectators will be required to wear an event wristband after successfully completing security entrance procedures. This wristband must be worn at all times while on school grounds during the event.
- Any elementary or middle school student(s) attending a high school event should be accompanied by an adult 21 years of age or older.
- All spectators are expected to be seated during the athletic event, except for trips to the concession stands or restrooms.
- Spectators should not congregate in walkways, fence lines or near bathrooms and concession stands.
- Law enforcement and ACSD staff will be on site to address any potential disruptions that may occur.
- Entrance procedures may include the use of walk-through or handheld metal detectors.
- Prohibited items include, but are not limited to:
 - Weapons (including pocket knives), vapes, tobacco products, lighters, etc...
 - There will be no re-entry to any contest after exiting the athletic facility.

The Anson County School District reserves the right to deny entry to any athletic event for any person who fails to comply with these procedures.

Bag Procedures

Fans are encouraged not to bring any type of bags inside any Anson County Schools' athletic facilities. However, the following bags are permitted:

- Bags that are clear plastic, vinyl or PVC and do not exceed 12" x 6" x 12"
- Small clutch bags, with or without a handle or strap, that do not exceed 4.5" x 6.5" (approximately the size of a hand)
- An exception will be made for medically necessary items after proper inspection. Diaper bags are permitted as long as the child is in attendance.
- Any bag brought to the athletic event may be subject to search prior to entry into the athletic facility.

Thank you for your cooperation and support of ACSD Athletics!

UPCOMING SCHOOL EVENTS & ACTIVITIES

PPES

August 20 - Open House 2:00-6:00pm

September 9 - School Improvement Team Meeting 3:00pm

September 25 - Fall Pictures

September 29- Curriculum Night 6:00pm

October 14 - School Improvement Team Meeting 3:00pm

November 13 - Fall Picture Make-ups

November 17 - PTO Night and Terrific Kid Celebration

November 18 - School Improvement Team Meeting 3:00pm

AMS

PTO Dates

PTO Meetings are held in the AMS Media Center at 5:30pm with a virtual meeting option.

September 10

October 8

November 12

December 3

January 14

February 11

March 11

April 8

ACEC (Anson County Early College)

August 13 - 9th Grade Orientation at ACEC (2:00pm for Students and 5:30pm for Students and Parents)

August 14 - First Day of classes at SPCC

August 25 - Senior Sunrise at 6:30am

August 27 - SPCC Involvement Fair and ACEC Club Day during Lunches

September 7 - School Improvement Team Meeting at 3:30pm

September 13 - 18 - Start with Hello Week

September 14 - PTO Meeting at 4:00pm

September 30 - Early Release/Staff Professional Development

October 5 - School Improvement Team Meeting at 3:30pm

October 12 - 13 - SPCC Fall Break

October 19 - 25 - Free College Application Week

October 20 - End of the First 9 weeks

October 22 - Parent – Teacher Conferences

October 23 to 31 - Red Ribbon Week

October 30 - First 9 weeks Honor Roll Celebration for Students

LES

August 20 - Open House 2:00 – 6:00 PM

September 3 - SIT Meeting @ 4:00 PM

Title 1 Right to Know Meeting/Curriculum Night @ 6:00 PM

September 7 - Labor Day Holiday

September 21 - Fall Pictures

MES

August 20 - Open House 2pm - 6pm

August 31 - SIT Team Meeting 2:40pm

September 9 - Gathering w/ Guardian 8am

September 10 - Title 1 & PTO Meeting

October 30 - Celebration of Learning 8am

November 10 - Veterans Day Celebration 8:30am

December 17 - Christmas Program 1:00pm

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Anson County Schools’ employment opportunities can be found at www.ansonschools.org on the homepage under the “Jobs” tab.