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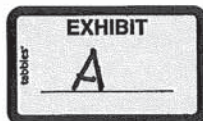
*Wesson Attendance Center*  
*Wesson, Mississippi*

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*Cobras*



**2009-2010**  
**Student Handbook**



### ALMA MATER

Hail Wesson High School  
Sons and daughters true  
Pledge thee our love  
We'll sing thy praise anew,  
Faithfully and loyally  
We'll ever honor thee,  
We'll push our colors on  
To Victory.

### SOURCE OF WESSON SCHOOL CREST

DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE—"WE HOLD THESE TRUTHS TO BE SELF EVIDENT: THAT ALL MEN ARE CREATED EQUAL. THAT THEY ARE ENDOWED BY THEIR CREATOR WITH CERTAIN UNALIENABLE RIGHTS, THAT AMONG THESE ARE LIFE, LIBERTY AND THE PURSUIT OF HAPPINESS."

### THEME OF WESSON SCHOOL CREST

OUR PURPOSE IN EDUCATION IS TO DISCOVER TRUTHS FROM THE LAMP OF KNOWLEDGE SO THAT THESE TRUTHS MAY BE USED WISELY FOR THE PRESERVATION AND IMPROVEMENT OF MANKIND'S RIGHTS OF LIFE, LIBERTY AND THE PURSUIT OF HAPPINESS.

### NON--DISCRIMINATION POLICY

WESSON ATTENDANCE CENTER PROHIBITS DISCRIMINATION O THE BASIS OF RACE, COLOR, RELIGION, SEX, NATIONAL ORIGIN, AGE OR DISABILITY.

THE COPIAH COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY ORGANIZATION

The Copiah County School District adheres to a policy of non-discrimination in educational programs, activities and employment. The district strives affirmatively to provide equal opportunity for all as required by Title IX and by Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 which prohibits discrimination against the handicapped

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact our district's Title IX and Section 504 Coordinator. This person is Mr. Robert Holloway and his location is at the Copiah County School District's Office in Hazlehurst, MS at 254 West Gallatin Street. The phone number is (601) 894-1341.

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notice, opportunity, of a hearing, and other procedural rights consistent with state and federal Due Process requirements.

- J. Students suspended from school must be accompanied by a parent or guardian when they return to school.
- K. Principals shall make a written report of each suspension to the Superintendent of Education including the name of the student, address, name of parent or guardian, and a statement of the reasons for the suspension including the date, time, and place.
- L. Special education students shall be controlled by applicable state and federal regulations. Before a special education student is placed in an alternative program, written prior notice for IEP revision is given to the parent, and the IEP committee will agree upon the services to be provided at this school. Before the disabled student is returned to his school, another IEP meeting is held.

If there is disagreement as to the appropriate placement of the disabled student, the student's parents will be notified in writing of their right to a SPEEDY impartial due process hearing.

The above regulations governing student conduct are given in the way of guidelines and shall not be a limitation on the right of a Principal, Superintendent of Education, or the Board of Education to initiate suspension, expulsion, or other disciplinary proceeding based on other grounds.

### DRESS CODE

- 1. All students are expected to observe certain minimum standards of hygiene, sanitation, and personal appearance. The following regulations are to be observed by all students. Students suspected of dress code violation will be sent to the office with a discipline notice. If a change in dress is required, and the student is out of class for more than one half of the class time, that absence will be designated as unexcused.
- 2. It is virtually impossible to write a regulation that will adequately cover every detail of appropriate dress. Therefore, it is necessary for the principals to make judgments as to whether a student is properly groomed and dressed. Our attention is turned to educational pursuits; therefore, we are attempting to eliminate as much confusion as possible.
  - A. Hair shall be groomed so as not to extend below the eyebrows and cover or obscure the eyes or any part thereof.
  - B. Hair shall not be groomed in class.
  - C. Hair shall be free from obnoxious odors, maintained clean in quality, and neat in appearance.
  - D. Picks and combs shall not be worn in hair.
  - E. Shoes or sandals shall be worn. House shoes may not be worn to school.

- F. Tank tops and muscle shirts shall not be worn. Any shirt or dress must have some type of sleeve at the shoulder with no undergarment showing.
- G. Midriffs shall not be exposed at any time.
- H. Cleanliness of both dress and body is mandatory.
- I. Belts, if worn shall be buckled. All belts must be worn at or above the waist.
- J. Fasteners designed for use with an article of clothing will be used appropriately at all times.
- K. Clothing with vulgar, indecent, or suggestive writing or symbols shall not be worn.
- L. Clothing advertising tobacco, alcohol, weapons, ammunition, and drugs shall not be worn.
- M. Unless prescribed, sunglasses shall not be worn inside the buildings.
- N. No clothing considered and designed, as underclothing shall be worn as an outside garment.
- O. Any article of clothing designed to cover the lower part of the body must come no higher than four (4) inches above the center of the knee, regardless of any type of leggings, leotards, etc. worn underneath. This includes dresses, skirts, overalls, skorts, shorts, etc. Skirts or dresses with slits, kick pleats, or any openings must have the top of the opening within four (4) inches of the middle of the knee. Also, no writing across the seat of the pants will be allowed.
- P. Hemmed, loose fitting walking or Bermuda shorts and skorts may be worn.
- Q. Unacceptable outerwear for the lower part of the body includes: unhemmed, ragged and cutoffs, running or soccer shorts, bicycle/spandex shorts, cut-off warm-ups, and pajamas or pajama-like material. No sagging pants, which expose undergarments, will be allowed. Pants must be worn at or above the waist.
- R. Jeans, shorts, and other garments with holes shall not expose the skin or any undergarment.
- S. No head covering such as hats, caps, bandanas, etc. shall be worn inside the building unless it is approved for religious purposes.
- T. Appropriate underclothing shall be worn.
- U. No see-through clothing shall be worn unless worn with appropriate underclothing. (Must meet outer garment requirements for tops.)
- V. No clothing top shall be so low in the front as to expose any part of the breast; this includes cleavage, or shall be excessively low in the back.
- W. Any style of clothing determined to be immodest in dress is prohibited.
- X. Any style of clothing or accessory deemed unsafe shall not be worn. Examples are wallet/watch chains, heavy medallions, or spiked jewelry.
- Y. Mouth pieces are not to be worn unless prescribed by a dentist/orthodontist.

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- 3. Students are expected to dress and groom within the limit set by these standards. Students are expected to obey the rules and directions of their teachers and principals in charge of their educational program. Parents are requested to see that their children conform to the limits set by the personal appearance standards. Parents are requested to encourage their children to participate in the spirit intended by the standards for personal appearance. Teachers, principals, and administrators will positively enforce the personal appearance code.

4. These standards for dress and grooming with appropriate methods of enforcement and appeal have been established to provide an environment and conditions whereby the school district's educational program can be so planned, adopted, and conducted as to provide each child the training and opportunity to take his/her place in a democratic society. The personal appearance code has been developed to establish a standard of decency for covering the body and should be interpreted in the spirit for which it was intended.
5. Dress for school activities and extra curricular activities should be modest and in good taste. Failure to comply could result in the student being asked to leave the activity and/or have more clothes brought to the activity.

### **Discipline Guidelines**

1. Realizing that the best type of discipline is self-control, teachers should try to instill in each student the desire to be a good school citizen. Emphasis should be placed on what students are doing right and recognition and award given for good behavioral conduct.
2. Punishment for rules infractions should be fair and commensurate with the severity of the infraction. When other measures have been tried and have not resulted in corrected behavior, corporal punishment may be administered under the following safeguards:
  - a. The only type of corporal punishment permitted is paddling of the buttocks that does not result in physical harm to the student.
  - b. Paddling may be done only by a principal, the student's teacher (in the presence of the principal), or someone specifically designated by the principal.
  - c. A student cannot receive more than three licks when being paddled.
  - d. A student cannot be paddled more than once in a day.
3. In all other instances staff members should keep their hands off students unless physical restraint is required to prevent harm to other individuals.
4. Discipline should be individualized. The Covich County School Board of Education does not condone group or classroom discipline for the actions of one or two. It is the responsibility of the principal and the teacher to see that this provision is followed as intended.
5. As stated in the District's Code of Conduct Policy, appropriate State and Federal regulations will be followed regarding suspension/expulsion of a student with disabilities.
6. Do not chew gum.

### **Classroom Rules**

1. Students will be expected to do what they are told the first time asked.
2. Show respect at all times to others.  
Do not use any part of our bodies or our words to hurt or harm any person, place, or thing.
3. Raise your hand to speak or get permission to leave your seat.
4. Be prepared for class.

book and their care during the school year. A fine will be charged for the abuse of books. In case of a lost book, the list price must be paid before report card will be issued. (See form in back of this handbook page 78).

## VISITORS

Students who wish to bring visitors to school must first get permission from the principal's office. Under no circumstances will a student be allowed to bring a visitor into the classroom with him/her. Parents who come to the school must enter the front door of the building sign in with the respective offices.

## YEARBOOK/ANNUAL

The Wesson Cobra, the school annual, is a pictorial review of the year's activities. It contains pictures of school life, leadership, features club activities, and classes. The annual is published by students under the direction of a teacher/sponsor. The sponsor is selected by the principal. The staff is appointed by the sponsor with approval of the principal.

## RESIDENCY

By law, you are required to go to the school in the district where you live unless you have been released by your local school board and accepted by the Copleah County School Board. If it is determined that you are attending Wesson Attendance Center and do not live within the district and have not been released by your local board and approved by Copleah County, then you will not be allowed to stay in school at Wesson. Students that are living with a guardian must have legal documentation stating so. No student will be allowed to attend Wesson under guardianship of someone that is not his or her natural parent unless we have on file a copy of the legal documentation showing guardianship.

*\*The administration at Wesson Attendance Center has the right to revoke a student's out of district transfer for excessive discipline problems, tardies to school or class, and excessive absenteeism.*

## TRANSFER FROM OTHER SCHOOLS MUST HAVE:

1. Report cards with withdrawal form from the last school attended.
2. Verification of residence within the Wesson School District.
3. Parents or Guardian must accompany transfer students who are enrolling in order to furnish personal data.
4. Certificate of compliance of immunization.

No report cards will be issued to such pupils until a transcript of credits has been received from the school last attended.

All new students entering school will report to the counselor's office for classification. After being classified, their schedule will be worked out and they will be told where to report for their classes.

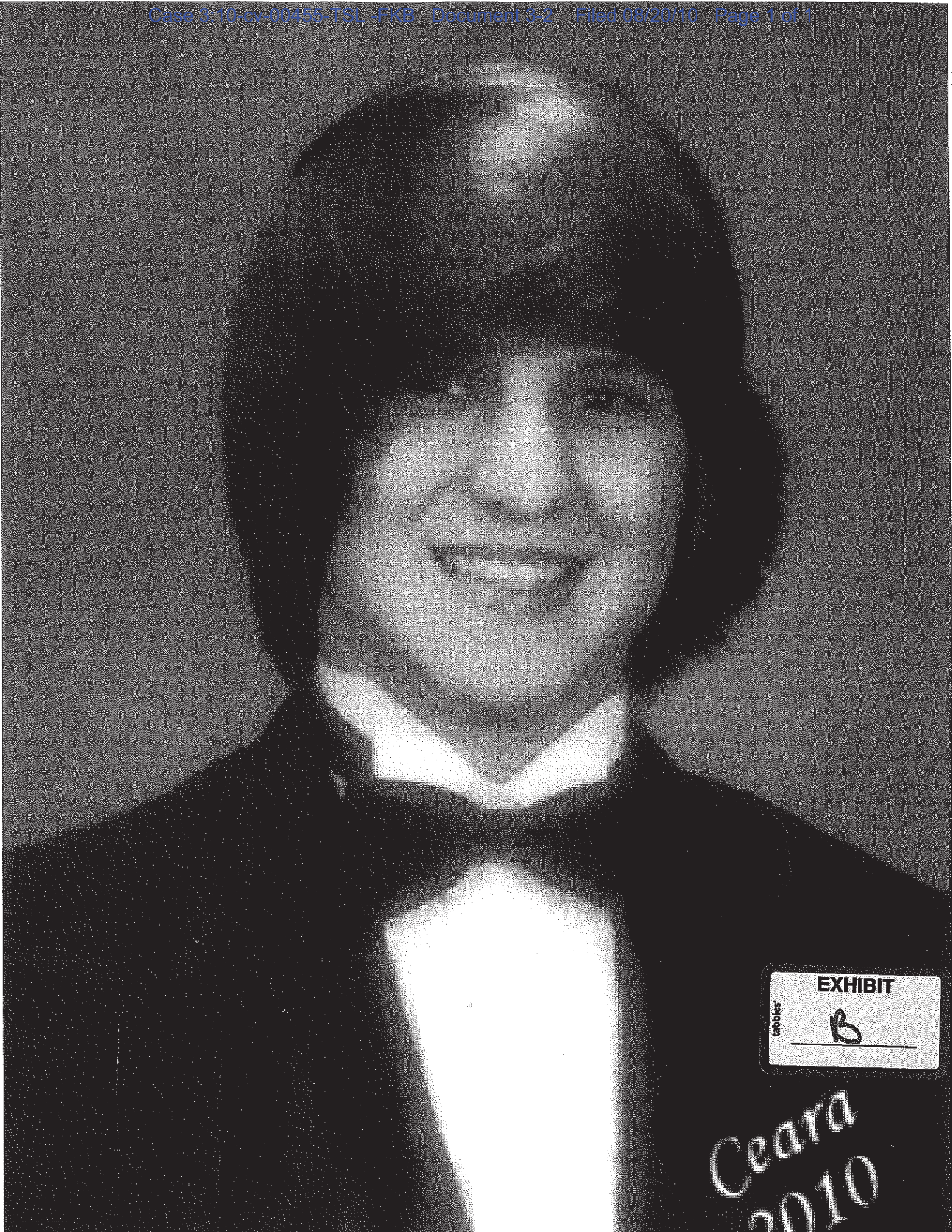


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