



NITA M. LOWEY 21ST CENTURY COMMUNITY LEARNING CENTER AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAM GRANT

Parent/Student Handbook *2023-2024*



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TABLE OF CONTENTS

Introduction

Section 1: Douglas County School System Mission and Goals

Section 2: Expectations

- Parents' Expectation of the Program
- Student Recruitment Plan
- Program's Collaboration with Parents
- Students Expectations of the Program
- Quality Standards
- DCSS 21stCCLC Quality Standards and Expectations
- Registration Requirements
- Student Attendance Plan
- Withdrawal Requirements

Section 3: Arrival and Departure

- Arrival
- Student Checkout
- Transportation
- Bus Stops
- Severe Weather/Emergency Closing of School
- Emergency Suspension of School Activities

Section 4: Snacks/Supper

Section 5: Daily Schedule

Section 6: Homework

Section 7: Field Trips

Section 8: Personal Property

Section 9: Health and Safety, Emergency Plans, Safety and Emergency Drills

Section 10: Acceptable/Unacceptable Use of Internet and Technology

Resources Section 11: Student Discipline

Section 12: Evaluation

Section 13: Other

- Reporting of Fraud, Waste, Abuse or Non-Compliance of Goods and Services Purchased with 21stCCLC Program Funds
- Mandatory Reporting of Child Abuse or Neglect

Introduction

Nita M. Lowey 21st Century Community Learning Centers After School

Program Grants District Overview

The Douglas County School System currently operates eight Nita M. Lowey 21st Century Community Learning Centers (CCLC) Grant Programs that serve 23 schools. These grants were awarded by the Georgia Department of Education through a competitive grant process. The 21st CCLC Grant provides federal funds to local schools and organizations to operate after school programs for the purpose of:

- Providing opportunities for academic enrichment and tutorial services for students · Offer students a broad array of additional services, programs, and activities to reinforce and complement the regular academic program; and
- Offer families of 21st CCLC students opportunities for literacy and related educational development

The STAR grant serves 3rd – 5th graders at Arbor Station Elementary, 2nd-5th graders at Winston Elementary, and 1st – 5th graders at Dorsett Shoals Elementary. The Factory Transition elementary grant serves 1st– 5th graders at Factory Shoals Elementary School. The SUCCESS CLUB grant serves students in grades 3rd-5th at Bright Star and North Douglas Elementary Schools. SMART grant serves students in grades 1st – 5th at Burnett and 3rd – 5th at Eastside Elementary Schools. These grants were awarded in July of 2020 and are funded for five years. Lithia Cohort serves 3rd – 5th graders at Annette Winn and Beulah Elementary, and 1st through 5th graders at Lithia Springs Elementary Schools and was recently renewed in July 2020. The FOCUS grant serves students at Chapel Hill, Turner and Chestnut Log Middle Schools. Factory Transition middle grant serves students at Factory Middle Schools. SMART grant serves Stewart Middle School while CHAMPS serves Yeager Middle School. All six of these sites serve qualifying students in grades 6th – 8th. These grants include a 6th grade transition component for students during the school year and summer. The CHAMPS grant was awarded in July 2017 and serves students at Douglas County High School, Mason Creek Elementary and Yeager Middle School. The SOAR grant was also awarded in July 2017 and serves students at Lithia Springs High School, and Mount Carmel and Sweetwater Elementary Schools. These two grants expired in June of 2022 were re-awarded as new grants in July of 2022.

All eight programs are an invitation only program and each school established the criteria for participation. There are limited slots and the program is not considered a drop in program. Each grant site provides students with a wide variety of after school activities such as academic tutoring, homework assistance, academic enrichment sessions, and cultural/fine arts, technological and character education. The program also provides students with opportunities to participate in summer camp and field trips and to listen to speakers on topics such as life skills, academic motivation, college and career prospects, drug awareness, conflict resolution, and violence/gang prevention. All students receive a daily snack or supper and are provided with transportation home each day. Strong emphasis is placed on intensive academic tutoring, remediation, acceleration, and enrichment activities. All activities correlate with the Georgia Standards of Excellence to ensure program activities correlate with the school day and meet the individual needs of each participant.

All after school programs in Douglas County School System are registered with Bright from the Start, Georgia Department of Early Care and Learning. We are exempt from licensure and a letter of exemption is posted in the school office or after school room.

Section 1: Douglas County School System Mission and Goals

DCSS Mission, Vision and Beliefs

Vision

Our VISION is to build a community of lifelong learners who become responsible individuals, independent thinkers, and productive citizens in a global society.

Mission

We will serve our community with excellence by:

- Helping our students reach their potential as we prepare them for college and career in a safe and supportive environment
- Recruiting, cultivating and retaining the best teachers, staff and administrators
- Providing a challenging curriculum and relevant learning opportunities
- Providing the highest quality instructional resources and tools
- Fostering a culture of continuous improvement

Beliefs

We believe that we must:

Understand how children and adults learn and continue learning.

Build communities of lifelong learners.

Cultivate the leadership potential of every employee, student and parent in our school system.

Be creative, energetic visionaries who respond quickly to diverse and evolving issues.

Meet the diverse needs of all stakeholders (students, parents, employees and community).

Maintain efficient and effective administrative processes for instruction, operations, human resources and sound fiscal management.

21st CCLC Grant Desired Outcomes

- Show increased achievement in math, reading, and other academic subjects.
- Demonstrate enhanced reading ability and motivation.
- Complete more homework and increase the quality of homework.
- Increase confidence and self-esteem of students.
- Decrease truancy and drop-out rates
- Decrease grade retention.

SECTION 2: Expectations

Parents' Expectation of the Program

Parents may expect that:

- Their children are cared for in a safe, nurturing environment at a teacher/student ratio of 1:12 or better depending on the scheduled activities.

- They will be regularly informed about the 21stCCLC activities.
- They may visit with the Site Coordinator about concerns related to their child or the program. · They will be informed about any misbehavior on the part of their child and meet with the Site Coordinator to improve the situation.
- They will be informed promptly if their child is in jeopardy of being dismissed from the program.

Student Recruitment Plan

The 21st CCLC grant program is an invitation and has limited slots. The program uses a selection process based on school data, identified goals, targets, and improvement plan. Parents, teachers, counselors, and administration may make the referral to the site coordinator. The site coordinator will then complete the selection process to determine eligibility. Students who meet eligibility are then invited to attend the parent orientation seminar. This information session is mandatory for students to begin in the 21stCCLC program. Orientation sessions may take place in person or through a virtual platform. We do not distribute applications. The program recruits special education, homeless, and ELL students at each school through

the same selection process. Programs will have a waiting list once they reach their grade level and grant target numbers. We also consult with all private schools in our district within the first 60 days of grant award and annually in collaboration with our Title I Private School Notification meeting. Each private school is given a description of our program and an option to participate.

☆ *Parents must attend orientation before their child can attend.*

☆ *Parents will receive a copy of the parent orientation PowerPoint, in electronic format. ☆ Parents will receive a copy of the “Parent Agreement, Guidelines and Procedures” for signature, in electronic format.*

☆ *Parents will be asked to complete a “Parent Education Session Interest Inventory” to help us plan evening sessions.*

☆ *Parents will need to complete a “Program Registration Form” and CISDC Release Form at the time of orientation for each child enrolling in the program.*

- This form captures all of the basic information, which includes name, grade, address, demographics, etc.
- This form only needs to be completed for a child once a (school) year and requires a parent/guardian signature.

Program’s Collaboration with Parents

The 21stCCLC asks that the parent please provide new information to the Site Coordinator regarding emergency contacts, authorized sign-out persons, address or telephone number changes, and change of employers.

The Program asks that parents:

- Pick up their child(ren) on time if they are not riding the bus.
- Contact the Site Coordinator if the child will not be attending the 21stCCLC for 2 or more consecutive days.
- Be attentive to correspondence that comes from the 21stCCLC program.
- Provide input on desired parent education topics
- Complete end of year survey
- Attend required parent orientation and at least two additional education events each year • Volunteer if available

Student’s Expectations of the Program

Students may expect:

- To have a safe and nurturing environment.
- To receive respectful treatment.
- To have discipline that is fair.
- To have 21stCCLC staff that is actively involved with them.
- To participate in any virtual segments, if the school moves to a digital learning model.

Program Expectations of the Children

The program expects that children will:

- Be responsible for their actions.
- Follow school rules that guide them during the day and while at the 21stCCLC program. • Attend the program at least 2.5 hours per day Monday – Thursday and 2 hours on Friday for Elementary. Middle school programs operate 2.4 hours per day Monday through Friday. High school programs operate 3 hours per day Monday – Thursday.
- Remain with the 21stCCLC staff at all times until released by the proper authority.

The long-term goals for this initiative are as follows

- Increase the rate of students meeting or exceeding state standards in Reading, English/Language Arts, Math, Social Studies, and Science.
- Increase the rate of youth graduating from high-school **on** time.
- Increase parent engagement at school and at home

Quality Standards

The Douglas County 21stCCLC sites will follow and demonstrate elements of scientifically-based research models that are in alignment with Georgia Standards of Excellence. Our program aims to provide:

- Strong program management, qualified staff, and career enhancement
- Enriching learning opportunities that complement the school day learning
- Intentional linkages between the school day and after school staff including coordinating and maximizing use of resources and facilities
- Appropriate attention to safety, health and nutrition issues
- Family involvement in participants' learning and development
- Adequate and sustainable funding
- Evaluation for continuous improvement and assessment

DCSS 21st CCLC Quality Standards and Expectations

- Activities will reflect and promote the mission of the program.
- The daily schedule will provide activities that are engaging, varied, and flexible. · The program provides a mix of well-structured and loosely structured activities that support and promote creativity.
- Program activities will enhance the positive development of youth.
- Program staff will work to influence learning and increase knowledge of participants. · Participants will experience and learn about diversity.
- The program will build upon community resources.
- The program offers opportunities for age appropriate learning, physical activity, skill building and development.

Registration Requirements

Parents are required to attend an orientation session each year before students are allowed to attend the program. Parents must complete a student registration form, sign a parent agreement, and complete a survey during the orientation session. Documents and meetings will have a virtual option to accommodate parents' schedules.

Student Attendance Plan

Good attendance is critical for all participating 21stCCLC students! If students are not at school, they are missing critical instruction. Please strive for perfect attendance this year! The more days your child is in school, the more they are learning.

The following procedures must be followed each day 21stCCLC program is operated:

- It is encouraged for any child who is sick, to stay home from the program. Students will not be penalized if they are out due to sickness, as long as it is documented with a parent note.

- If a student is absent 3 consecutive days, the site coordinator will call the parent to check on the student.

- Students not riding the bus home from the program must be checked out in the office each day. · It is essential for students to attend each day. It is recommended that programs monitor student attendance each week. If students are absent frequently, checking out early or not attending, phone calls are necessary. If attendance continues to be a problem, the site coordinator must schedule a parent conference to review program goals, objectives & attendance requirements. · Failure to attend can result in suspension from the program until a conference is held. An Attendance contract may be necessary. All attendance issues, conferences & suspensions will be discussed and cleared by school administrators.

- If the program moves to a digital platform during remote learning days, the students will be asked to participate during ASP time frames. The staff will utilize the same digital platform as the school day. Programs must do their due diligence to provide 12 hours of programming a week, if possible. The structure of digital learning must comply with the Georgia Department of Education guidance related to use of 21stCCLC grant funds and take place during out of school hours.

Withdrawal Requirements

If a student is changing schools and needs to withdraw from the program, a written notification is required. If a parent elects for the child not to participate, the parent or guardian must provide written notification with the child's name, date of exit, and reason they wish to be removed from the program. The site coordinator will follow up with the parent to discuss their wishes and follow up to see if anything can be done to prevent the exiting of the student. If the program needs to remove a student, they should have a file of frequent documentation showing parent communication, conference minutes, and documentation to prove the parent was given adequate notification and consequences prior to being removed. The site coordinator must also show evidence that a meeting took place with the school administrator about the concern and seek their written approval for removal before notification can be sent to the parent. If the student attended the program 30 days or more, a student and parent survey will need to be issued at that time, if they are available to complete the survey.

the grant nor district will use any private source for transportation. The Douglas County school bus fleet meets all national and state safety specifications.

All district transportation policies are adhered to for our program. Each bus undergoes an annual safety inspection by the Georgia Department of Motor Vehicle, as well as monthly inspections conducted by our own transportation fleet mechanics. We carry liability insurance at the school district level; all drivers must have a Commercial Driver's License (CDL) and a safe driving record. Drivers are required to go through 31 units of various training modules including: safety, first aid, evacuation, and student management.

Drivers are required to have a background check annually for the grant, a minimum of 12 classroom hours, six hours driving time without students, 6 hours with students, yearly recertification physicals and random drug testing. All drivers have yearly motor vehicle record checks to maintain CDL status and continuing education workshops. Each driver receives a transportation handbook, policy and procedure review and child abuse protocol training. School bus drivers also receive employee evaluations annually conducted by the transportation department.

To provide sufficient transportation for our program, routes are determined by the number of students and route times. Safety of bus riders is always our greatest concern. Buses will be added as necessary to ensure that children are home within thirty – fifty minutes after dismissal from the afterschool program. Route times are in line with recommended state guidelines and adjusted as necessary to make sure routes are effective and efficient for our program.

Bus Stops

- Drivers are not permitted to deviate from their route without permission from a route supervisor.
- Parents will be notified of the designated stops, prior to the first day their child stays. • State regulations require bus stops to be spaced at least one-tenth (.1) mile or more apart. Exceptions are allowed only in response to a safety hazard.
- Buses are not permitted to travel on closed or flooded roads. Bus stops served by such a road will be temporarily relocated to the closest safe location. Service will be restored once conditions permit.
- Bus stops on the routes are not always the same as the previous year. Buses are not to be routed on private property (this includes most mobile home parks and apartment complexes). • A student will be returned to school if it is obvious there is no one home and the norm is for someone to be at home.
- If a student has no key, objects to disembarking the bus, or if the stop/home looks different than usual, the driver will radio for instructions from the school administrator.
- Students in grades Kindergarten through 3rd grade are required to have an adult or designated guardian at the bus stop. If the driver cannot determine if a parent or guardian is home, the will bring the child back to the school.
- If the normal routine is for no one to be at home or at the stop, the student will be allowed to disembark alone.

Severe Weather/Emergency Closing of School

The Superintendent is authorized to close schools in cases of emergencies or severe weather. WSB Radio, TV and the school system website are the first notifications of emergency announcements for the Douglas County School System. Students will practice drills often as a precaution and measure of preparedness. Parents are welcome to use their own judgement as to picking up their child early on severe weather days.

Emergency Suspension of School Activities

Abnormal conditions sometimes occur which require temporary suspension of school activities. These possible conditions include inclement weather (ice and snow storms); failure of power, gas, or water

supply, and breakdown of heating system.

Some situations affect only one school while in other cases several or all Douglas County Schools may be involved. In all instances the safety, welfare, and health of students and employees are the basic factors considered in making a decision as to whether or not to temporarily suspend the normal activities of a school day.

The Superintendent has the responsibility of making decisions on suspension of school activities. If the Superintendent is not available, a person designated by the Superintendent will assume this responsibility. School principals will be notified of such action by the most expedient direct means, either by telephone or personal contact. We encourage parents to sign up for the “Notify Me” link on the school website. This will ensure you have immediate notice of school weather decisions.

Programs will utilize additional methods of communication with parents such as REMIND, GROUP ME, or DOJO Applications.

SECTION 4: Supper

The school system's food nutrition department will provide students with Supper each day. Examples of a supper portion would mirror a school day lunch menu selection and portion size. Supper schedules can be found on the food service website or available upon request. Supper is typically held right at program dismissal from the school day.

SECTION 5: Daily Schedule

Students may be divided according to appropriate grade levels and/or areas of academic need. Classes will rotate to each activity daily. The daily schedule may vary slightly based on attendance.

A typical daily schedule will be as follows:

1. Attendance, supper, restroom
2. Homework assistance (Monday – Thursday)
3. Academic tutoring and remediation/acceleration
4. Academic enrichment
5. Physical or cultural enrichment activity
6. Character Education, Project Based learning, Service Learning Projects
7. Virtual learning activities, if programs implement such models.

Students will be asked periodically throughout the year to give suggestions of activities that will reflect their personal interests. The grant must provide a balance of enrichment and academic supports each day.

SECTION 6: Homework

The 21stCCLC staff will provide time for homework assistance. **The grant program is not a homework completion program.** During this time, students will receive study skill and time management strategies. It is the student's responsibility to make sure the agenda is completely filled out each day and comes prepared with the necessary materials. The program works to extend the school day curricula through the various enrichment and academic lessons offered during program hours. Programs work with the school administration on structure and design of the program at their school, following state and guidelines.

The program staff will check each agenda for his/her assignments. Program staff will not sign the agendas in place of the parent. Please make sure to review your child's homework assignments and sign necessary paperwork. 21stCCLC staff will work with school day teachers to modify homework as needed to help the student with academic areas or concerns. The program will focus on the most challenging homework component during program hours, at home projects or assigned reading passages will still be required for home completion.

SECTION 7: Field Trips

The 21stCCLC program is enriched by occasional field trips during the summer segments or on Saturdays. Parent permission is required for participation. The school system and the Georgia Department of Education must approve all field trip venues. Programs are not allowed to attend any venues that are deemed entertainment.

Code of Conduct for Field Trips: Students who are on a field trip as designated above must adhere to the Douglas County Code of Conduct.

The Douglas County School District, its officers, officials and employees are not responsible for injury or other loss which might occur to a student or a student's property while traveling on approved school field trips or activities.

SECTION 8: Personal Property

Personal property such as coats, clothing, school bags, etc., must be taken home daily. Any personal property left at the program will be placed in a "Lost and Found" box. Although the staff attempts to help children stay organized, the 21stCCLC cannot be responsible for lost personal property. It is recommended that children not bring money, toys, food, electronics, or other items not necessary for program activities without permission from the Site Coordinator. Please make sure to label clothing with the student's name.

SECTION 9: Health and Safety, Emergency Plans

Parents are encouraged to purchase school insurance if needed. Parents are required to complete a medical form on any child that has a chronic or temporary medical condition, or allergies. The completed form will state the medical condition, medications taken, directions for administering medications, how to treat/handle the medical condition and any additional information needed to ensure the safety of the child.

If students are injured during the program hours, parents will be notified by phone and a student injury report will be completed.

Safety and Emergency Drills

We will use school facilities for after school programming to provide safe, healthful, and nurturing environments. Facilities are inspected twice a year by the local Fire Marshal to ensure space is free of fire hazards and that there are adequate safety exits for students. Fire extinguishers are serviced yearly and inspected by an outside vendor to ensure they are up to code. All schools are equipped with an Automated External Defibrillator (AED) for which battery checks are required monthly.

The district holds CPR certification classes annually, and a minimum of two grant staff members per site are required to attend training. The program requires at least one CPR trained staff member on site during program hours.

Each school coordinator works with the school administration on the update and creation of the 21stCCLC safety plan prior to program start up. The plan required components include: an emergency flip chart quick reference, first aid protocol flip chart, safety notebook at the front desk, evacuation routes for 21stCCLC classes posted on each wall or in staff notebooks, emergency master roll and contact log in a to-go bag. Each program site will conduct four drills per semester consisting of: fire, lockdown, tornado, and bus evacuation drills. All drills will take place during ASP time and will be logged and filed for monitoring review.

All school exterior doors will remain locked during program hours, and all employees must have an

employee identification badge. These badges allow for badge entry into the building. Each school is on a buzz in the intercom/camera system. All visitors must enter the front office area and will be required to ring a bell. Grant staff will use the camera to visually see the guest and ask the guest who they are and the reason for the visit. Once this information is received and verified with student information on hand, the guest will be buzzed into the building. Once admitted, all visitors are required to sign in at the office. All students must be checked out on a sign out sheet where the individuals will sign their name, date, and time.

Each individual will be verified as an authorized contact based on what the parent/guardian submitted at time of registration.

Parents will be required to send in a note, fax, or email if someone not on the approved list will pick up their child. Students who ride the bus home each day will be called at dismissal to the bus loading area. A staff member will check off that each child was placed on the bus. Each school has a transportation radio, and a grant staff member will monitor bus routes each evening. The bus driver must radio the school once all students are dropped off. All after school transportation changes are required to be sent to the coordinator or school office in writing from the parent or guardian.

All program facilities are equipped and suitable for after school activities. Facilities are easily accessible and in compliance with American Disabilities Act (ADA) regulations. Schools with multi levels have elevators for students or individuals with physical disabilities and are accessible during program hours. According to the Georgia Department of Human Resources, our schools are exempt from state childcare licensing; the exemption letter is housed in the school office. Activities will be held in regular school classrooms, media center, technology labs, gymnasium, and cafeteria. In addition to the weekly schedule, each site will have specific monthly enrichment calendars based on student needs and benchmark data.

EMERGENCY DRILLS

Fire Drills are necessary for the safety of the students and faculty. One drill per semester will be held. The specific directions for reaching a point of safety from all areas of the building are posted in each room. Misconduct can endanger lives.

Tornado, lockdown and bus evacuation drills will be practiced once a semester to be prepared. Follow instructions given by teachers to assume safe positions during drills.

SECTION 10: Acceptable/Unacceptable Use of Internet and Technology Resources

Students are expected to follow the Douglas County School System's internet use policy found in the Student Handbook. The policy is also listed on the DCSS website: DCSS Policy IFBG and IFBG-R(1). The Douglas County Board of Education is committed to providing access to advanced technology and increased opportunities for learning by providing Internet access. Use of this network offers the opportunity for students to utilize information resources not generally available within the school or local community. Parents and students must recognize that students will be required to make independent decisions and use good judgment in their use of the Internet. It is understood that some materials on the Internet may be objectionable, but parents accept responsibility for guidance and conveying standards for their son/daughter to follow when selecting, sharing or using this media.

The primary purpose of using the Internet is educational--that is, to support learning and enhance classroom instruction. As parents, we understand that inappropriate use of the Internet may result in the termination of access and possible disciplinary action. Parents may also be responsible for compensation to the school or school system for any expenses or costs incurred as a result of my child's violation of Internet policy. While we understand that it is impossible to control all materials on a global network and that an industrious student may discover inappropriate material. Information obtained from the Internet is at the user's own risk. The school cannot be responsible for accuracy or quality of the information. Parents will be asked to sign an acceptable use of the internet and use of technology resources upon registration into the 21st CCLC Grant program. This signed acceptance releases the

school, 21st CCLC grant and the Douglas County School System from any liability relating to consequences resulting from your son/daughter's use of the Internet.

SECTION 11: Student Discipline

The program strives to provide students with a pleasant and harmonious environment. Reasonable efforts will be made using positive reinforcement and management methods to assist children in adjusting to the program setting.

If positive reinforcement and management methods are ineffective, the 21stCCLC staff will send the child to the Site Coordinator who will counsel the student. The program will follow the Douglas County School System student discipline policies and procedures. This document can be found inside the student handbook and on the school system website.

Each program is required to establish discipline expectations for their program site in accordance to the school and district discipline guidelines. Staff must be trained and directed as to the procedures and expectations. Parents must receive written documentation outlining expectations and procedures at orientation.

PROGRAM RULES

1. Respect self and others. Fighting will **Not** be tolerated.
2. Use positive language. Foul language or other inappropriate language will **Not** be tolerated.
3. Follow all staff instructions. Remain in the activity area designated by staff.
4. Students must remain with staff members during the program.
5. Students shall abide by the District's student code of conduct and all rules in the Student/Parent Handbook. The Regular campus and classroom rules apply to the after school program.
6. Students are expected to attend the program every day, as attendance plays an important role in your child's success. A child may be dropped due to excessive unexcused absences or tardies.
7. Bus transportation is provided free of charge. Parents who choose to pick their child up need to be here no later than program ending time as documented under hours of operation. A late fee of \$1.00 per minute will be charged after that time. Payment is expected on arrival. A child may be dropped from the program due to late pickup by parents.

THE PROGRAM SITE COORDINATOR MAY, AT ANY TIME, SUSPEND OR WITHDRAW A STUDENT FROM THE PROGRAM FOR ANY OF THE FOLLOWING REASONS:

1. Failure to meet appropriate behavior standards.
2. Refusal to follow program procedures and rules.
3. Verbal abuse, physical abuse or sexual harassment of student or staff member by student or their parents.
4. Being in the wrong place or unauthorized departure from a bus or activity site.
5. Consistent late pick-up. (Up to 3, without prior arrangements with Site Coordinator)
6. Child's needs cannot be met by the program.

The 21stCCLC grant will work with students and parents to address any issues that arise. Student consequences during program hours will include the following Discipline Notices. Each time your child receives an official Discipline Notice there will be a parental conference. Depending on the nature of the infraction, students may be suspended from the program for a few days. Discipline consequences will be appropriate for the child's age and infraction. Additionally, the school will follow the school system discipline code. Continual discipline may result in being withdrawn from the program. **Note if the discipline infraction falls under a designated Level violation, removal from the program could be immediate.**

- **1st offense (verbal warning)** —Site Coordinator talks with the student, documents incident

and notify parent.

- **2nd offense (written warning)** - Site Coordinator talks with the student, parents will be notified and written notification will go home to parents. A copy of the letter will be placed in the student's file.
- **3rd offense (parent conference)** - Site Coordinator talks with the student and holds a parent conference. A student behavior contract will be created during this conference. A copy of this notice is placed in the student's file and monitoring will take place.
- **4th offense (suspension)** - Site Coordinator talks with the student and holds a conference with the parent & school administration. The student may be suspended from the 21stCCLC program for several days. Length of suspension will be based on nature of infraction. A copy of this notice is placed in the student's file.
- **5th offense (dismissal)** - Site Coordinator schedules a meeting with the parent and the school administrator to discuss possibility of the student being dismissed from the program for the remainder of the year.

SECTION 12: Evaluation

The goal of the 21st CCLC grant is to help students gain an array of skill sets to help them be productive and successful in their educational journey. Students may be invited to participate in the program for a year or longer, depending on progress. The program staff will review student's grades, attendance, and discipline records each nine weeks to evaluate student progress. Parents, students and teachers will be asked to complete surveys in order to evaluate program success, challenges, and improvements needed. Aggregate data is required to be collected by the evaluator and state to evaluate the effectiveness of the program. Collection of this data is a requirement of the program and parents who do not wish for the program to collect this data will need to contact the school site coordinator. The student may not be allowed to participate if we are not able to meet state guidelines for lack of data.

SECTION 13: Other

Reporting of Fraud, Waste, Abuse or Non-Compliance of Goods and Services Purchased with 21st CCLC Program Funds

Any individual has the right to anonymously report concerns or suspected fraud, waste, abuse or non compliance of goods and services purchased with 21stCCLC program funds. Examples are personal use of supplies or equipment, falsification of timesheet documents, and unallowable grant expenditures. All reports can be made to the DCSS Grants Accountant (770-651-2227) or the district Accounting Director at the Central Office who will conduct an investigation. Individuals can also send notice in school mail, or place in suggestion boxes at Central Office mailroom. Per DCSS Board Policy DIE, any and all reports of suspicious activity and/or suspected fraud, waste, abuse, or corruption will be investigated.

Mandatory Reporting of Child Abuse or Neglect Policy

Refer to Descriptor Code JGI-R for the full policy in the DCSS Policies.

The purpose of this policy is to provide protection of children whose health and welfare are adversely affected and further threatened by the conduct of those responsible for their care and protection. It is intended that the mandatory reporting of such cases will cause the protective services of the state to be brought to bear on the situation in an effort to prevent further abuses to protect and enhance the welfare of these children, and to preserve family life wherever possible. The policy shall be liberally construed to carry out the purposes thereof.

Digital Learning:

Grantees may offer alternative enrichment programming in the absence of onsite programming, if the district moves to full digital for the school day. If the school system is operating in a business as usual mode, the program will follow the same model. Consistent with grant regulations, such programming must operate outside of day school hours (if the school is offering virtual learning) and available to all participating children, to the best extent practicable.

All 21st CCLC subgrantees must adhere to the hours of operation detailed within the approved grant application. Program sites that are serving students virtually are required to keep attendance records and may be penalized if student attendance is low.

Digital Learning Programming and Curricula:

21st CCLC subgrantees will utilize Google Meets as the online platform and students will be assigned a Google 21st CCLC Classroom. All program participants will follow guidelines for virtual learning and digital expectations. Virtual learning activities will be aligned with district and state performance standards and objectives.