

# CHOCTAWHATCHEE HIGH SCHOOL

## 2009-2010



### PARENT HANDBOOK

**School Vision**

Choctawhatchee High School will be a place that is clean, safe, and conducive to student learning; a place where students, faculty, parents and the community are a unified team; an academic institution that sets standards by raising the bar and promoting rigor; a place where respect is the rule and relationships are built.

**Mission Statement**

The mission of Choctawhatchee High School is to equip students to become confident, capable, ethical, and responsible citizens by creating a positive and nurturing school environment where students, staff, parents, and the community work together to promote lifelong learning and provide opportunities for all students to reach their potential.

**SCHOOL CALENDAR 2009-2010**

August 17-21, 2009.....Pre-School Planning  
 August 24, 2009.....First Day for Students  
 September 7, 2009.....Labor Day Holiday  
 October 23, 2009.....End of First Nine Weeks  
 Oct. 26, 2009.....Workday/Student Holiday  
 November 11, 2009.....Veterans’ Day Holiday  
 Nov. 23-27, 2009.....Thanksgiving Holidays  
 Dec. 18, 2009-Jan.4, 2010.....Winter Holidays  
 January 4, 2010..... Classes Resume  
 January 17, 2010..... M. L. King Birthday Holiday  
 January 22, 2010..... End of Second Nine Weeks

January 22, 2010..... End of First Semester  
 January 25, 2010.....Workday/Student Holiday  
 January 25, 2010..... Second Semester Begins  
 February 15, 2010.....Washington’s Birthday Holiday  
 March 25, 2010.....End of Third Nine Weeks  
 March 26, 2010... ..Workday/Student Holiday  
 March 29-April 2, 2010.....Spring Break  
 May 31, 2010.....Memorial Day Holiday  
 June 10, 2010.....End of Fourth Nine Weeks  
 June 10, 2010..... End of Second Semester  
 June 10, 2010.....Last Day for Students  
 June 14, 2010.....Last Day for Teachers

**GO GREEN!**

## CHOCTAWHATCHEE FACULTY & STAFF

### ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF

Principal	Ms. Cindy Gates
Assistant Principal	Mr. Lee Hale
Assistant Principal	Mr. Rick Soria
Dean of Students	Mr. Andy Snaith
Director of Student Services	Ms. Kittye Keck
Athletic Director	Coach Greg Thomas
Resource Officer	Deputy Tom Henry

### GUIDANCE, 833-3614, ext 618

Dr. Adela Mandel – Counselor (last names A-L) RTI  
 Kay Brock – Counselor (last names M-Z)  
 Judy Kane – IB and AP Coordinator/Counselor  
 Carol Bernich – Staffing Specialist, ESE, Section 504, ESOL

### STUDENT ACTIVITIES

Beth Smith, Jordan Renna  
  
 Elaine Stewart -Literacy Coach

### ABC (Art, Business, Computer)

Bill Martin, Art Dept. Chairman  
 Megan Million, Business Dept. Chairman  
 Scott Huerkamp  
 Sally Reagan

### AVIATION INSTITUTE

Leo Murphy - Director ERAU  
 Tom Godbold - Instructor  
 Jeannie Moss – Instructor

### ENGINEERING

Dr. Bill Cook

### ENGLISH

#### DEPARTMENT/SPEECH/DRAMA

Beverly Pedersen, Dept. Chairman  
 Linda Evanchyk  
 Nicole Edelman  
 Melanie Griggs  
 Amanda Hannah  
 Claudia Hesse  
 Brooke Lord  
 Virginia Mayfield  
 Kim McCarthy  
 Peggy Mitchell  
 Stephanie O’Dell  
 Linsey Outlaw  
 Steve Rushing  
 Sarah Sites

### EXCEPTIONAL EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

Donna Moorer, Dept. Chairman  
 Sherrie Barker  
 Shari Quintana

### FAMILY & CONSUMER SCIENCE

Ginny Hess, Dept. Chairman  
 Jill Newell  
 Becky McDonald

### FOREIGN LANGUAGE

Rose Applegate, Dept. Chairman  
 Miriam Laird

Mary McElvain  
 Jordan Renna  
 Ching Ching Shen  
 Dodie Sills  
 Sarah Tallent

### MATH DEPARTMENT

Dianne Grady, Dept. Chairman  
 Ruth Bandfield  
 Lisa Courtney  
 Pearl Farley  
 Christy Garland  
 Angela Nowell  
 Joan Smith  
 Andy Thigpen  
 Carol Webster  
 Lynn Worrall

### MEDIA CENTER

Jacque Hale  
 Ellen Deckert

### MUSIC DEPARTMENT

Chad Hannah, Band Director  
 Kelly Deklinski, Asst. Director  
 Jennifer Denham, Choral Director

### PE/DRIVER ED

Sheryl Murphy, Dept. Chairman  
 Don Arthur  
 Addison Kendrick  
 Chris McDaniel  
 Mike Utter

### ROTC

Major Teofil “Butch” Sluschewski  
 Chief Master Sergeant Reginald Washington

### SCIENCE

Elaine Hagan, Dept. Chairman  
 Stephanie Brown  
 Kim Cassulo

Valerie Chubb  
 Joyce Gruber  
 John Paul Jones  
 Paul Landry  
 Betty Melvin  
 Trisha Mikel  
 Jan Nichols

### SOCIAL STUDIES

Marilyn Gentry, Dept. Chairman  
 Don Daniels  
 Dana Fusco  
 Jim Green  
 Michelle Heck  
 Keith Hendrix  
 Scott Johnson  
 Sherman Johnson  
 Jennifer Perez-Wolfkeil  
 Beth Smith  
 Marc Tisza  
 Danny Williams  
 Noble Wyninegar

### READING DEPARTMENT

Ashleigh Anderson  
 Annette Klabuhn  
 Heather Horn  
 Brooke Lord  
 Keisha Thomas

### AIDES

Interpreter - Nina Savedra  
 Don Brown  
 Debbie Hughes

### SECRETARIAL STAFF

Karen Anderson  
 Cindy Belcher  
 Marilyn Blalock  
 Penny Clemmons  
 Sara Englett  
 Dottie Porter

### Nurse

Lisa Pugh

## **STUDENT ACTIVITIES**

Our Student Activities program is divided into three governing groups: The “Inter-Club Council” governs clubs, classes and organizations; the “Student Council” governs the entire student body; and the “Classes” govern students by grade level activities. Listed below are the clubs and organizations available to students:

### **COMPETITIVE TEAMS**

Academic Team  
Forensics (Speech and Debate) Team  
Math Team  
Tech Bowl  
The Choctawhatchee Athletic Department (Baseball, Basketball, Cheerleading, Cross Country, Football, Golf, Soccer, Softball, Swimming/Diving, Tennis, Track, Volleyball, Weightlifting, and Wrestling)

### **PERFORMING GROUPS**

Band (Various)  
Indianettes  
Madrigals  
Step Team  
Thespians

### **SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS**

Band Department  
Choral Department  
Journalism Department  
Speech/Drama Department  
WBGi Tribal News

## **HONOR CLUBS**

Art Honor  
Beta Club (freshmen and sophomores only)  
French Honor  
German Honor  
Math Honor (Mu Alpha Theta)  
Music Honor  
National Honor Society (juniors and seniors only)  
Science Honor  
Spanish Honor  
Thespian Honor

### **SERVICE CLUBS (not open to freshmen)**

Interact Service Club  
Key Club  
Wheelette Service Club

### **INTEREST CLUBS**

Aviation Club  
Book Club  
Fellowship of Christian Athletes  
Future Educators of America  
**Minority Council**  
Pie Club  
Sailing Club  
Smoke Signals (school newspaper)  
Tomahawk (school yearbook)  
War Chiefs (juniors and seniors only)  
Wordsmiths

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## **STUDENT DRESS AND APPEARANCE CODE**

The purpose of the dress and appearance code is to enhance school safety, maintain school discipline and instill community values. It is not intended to inhibit legitimate student expression. However, clothing, accessories, and buttons or jewelry that contain vulgar, lewd, obscene, offensive images, or that may lead to substantial interference with school activities are prohibited.

1. Head-gear including (but not limited to) hats, visors, dew rags, toboggans, hoods, caps, headbands, and sunglasses, may not be worn during the school day.
2. Shoes or sandals must be worn at all times (slippers are prohibited).
3. Clothing, accessories, buttons, jewelry, or tattoos that depict vulgarity, offensive images, or prohibited substances including (but not limited to) drugs, alcohol, or tobacco, will **not** be allowed.
4. Tank tops, thin-strapped tops, tees, mesh or see-through shirts, pajamas and similar blouses are not permitted.
5. The midriff must be covered. Undergarments must not be exposed at any time (skin may not show at any time, front or back, while standing, sitting, arms raised, etc.). No low-cut necklines or off-the-shoulder shirts may be worn.
6. The minimum length of clothing (shorts, skirts, dresses, etc.) should approach the KNEECAP within 3 inches. Biker shorts, gym shorts and other form-fitting attire are inappropriate.
7. Pants, skirts and/or shorts that sag below the waistline or must be held in place with the hands are not allowed.
8. Hairstyles must not interfere with a student’s vision. Hair must be neat and clean at all times. No facial hair, beards, or mustaches may be worn to school. Exception: written verification from a physician stating a medical problem.
9. Students who represent Choctaw in activities that require a certain uniformity in personal grooming may be required to groom themselves in a more moderate fashion during the time they participate in that particular activity.
10. Due to safety considerations, heavy chains, pointed jewelry, body piercing jewelry, or other items or accessories that

are readily adaptable for use as a weapon will be prohibited. No extremes in jewelry are allowed.

11. In the event that the school identifies items of clothing, accessories, buttons, or jewelry that are not set forth in this dress code, but are inappropriate or unsafe, the school may prohibit such items. Any form of dress or grooming which is distracting or disruptive will not be permitted.

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## **ATTENDANCE**

Frequent absences have a definite effect on grades and are often a direct cause of failure in school subjects.

1. No student will leave the school grounds without receiving permission from the Attendance Office.

2. Definitions of absences:

A. **Excused (E)**: death in family; appointments or illness requiring medical attention (physician's statement required); religious holidays; absences verified by a parent/guardian and approved by administration. Note: School-sanctioned activities do not count as absences.

B. **Unexcused (U)**: truancy or suspension.

3. All absences will remain unexcused unless verified within 5 days by a note from a parent/guardian, which must include:

- a. student's name and grade level
- b. reason for absence,
- c. date(s) absent
- d. telephone number where parent/guardian may be reached.

4. Students who arrive late to school must go to the tardy post for a check-in slip. After 7:25 a.m. students are to report to the attendance office for an admit form.

5. Students should enter the building immediately upon arriving on campus.

6. The Okaloosa County School Board Attendance Policy:

A. Upon the 5<sup>th</sup> excused or unexcused absence per semester in any course, the parents will be contacted.

B. Upon 10 excused or unexcused absences per semester, a letter will be sent to parents requiring a doctor's/agency or principal's excuse for additional absences.

C. Upon 10 excused or unexcused absences students can earn credit if they have a passing grade **AND** pass a comprehensive exam.

D. After the 15<sup>th</sup> absence per semester in any class period, no makeup work will be allowed. The student can still pass the class if, at the end of the semester, he/she has a passing grade and passes a comprehensive exam.

E. Within 3 days after the 16<sup>th</sup> absence per semester in any class period, parents/legal guardians may appeal to the school's attendance review committee for permission for their child to make up missed work. Both parent and student must be present during the appeal. Each absence after the 15<sup>th</sup> must be appealed separately. **Add comprehensive exam.**

7. Ninth grade students may be checked out if a parent/guardian picks up the student from Attendance. Tenth, eleventh and twelfth grade students may be checked out if a parent phones the Attendance Office or the student presents a note signed by his parent. The parent will be contacted before a check-out slip is issued. Notes should be submitted between 6:30-6:55 am.

8. **All students must have parent/guardian permission to check out. Students who leave campus without prior authorization are subject to disciplinary action (including suspension).**

## **TARDY PROCEDURE (Effective 2009-2010)**

Tardy Definition - Student is not physically in the classroom when the tardy bell rings.

1<sup>st</sup> Period is a separate reporting unit from the rest of the day.

Periods 2-7, including SPEAR, are considered 1 reporting unit.

### **Tardy Progression for first period is as follows:**

Tardy 1 - 6..... Warning

Tardy 7 - 9.....Students serve immediate In-School Suspension; class work **may not** be made up.

Tardy 10 -14...Students serve immediate In-School Suspension; class work **may not** be made up. Students referred to after school detention.

Tardy 15 and Up Students serve immediate In-School Suspension; class work **may not** be made up. Students referred to an administrator who will assign Friday after school or Saturday morning detention.

## **Tardy Progression for periods 2-7 is as follows:**

Tardy 1 - 6..... Warning

Tardy 7 - 9..... Students serve immediate In-School Suspension; class work **may not** be made up.

Tardy 10 -14... Students serve immediate In-School Suspension; class work **may not** be made up. Students referred to after school detention.

Tardy 15 and Up Students serve immediate In-School Suspension; class work **may not** be made up. Students referred to an administrator who will assign Friday after school or Saturday morning detention.

## **ID BADGE POLICY**

All students will be issued an I.D. Badge during the first few days of school. **Students are required to possess or wear the badge while on the CHS campus and at school activities.** Students will be required to produce their I.D. badge when requested to do so by Choctawhatchee High School staff. Badges will be required for a wide variety of student activities including but not limited to the following: Checking out books, access to computers, buying student tickets to school events, guidance department services, taking exams etc. **Failure to possess and produce I.D. badges when required will result in disciplinary action.** Students will incur the cost of any replacement badges.

## **BULLYING POLICY**

In accordance with the Okaloosa Code of Student Conduct Choctawhatchee High School has a zero-tolerance policy toward bullying.

The Okaloosa County School District is committed to encouraging and assisting each student in developing his or her individual talents. In order to accomplish these purposes, it is necessary that the school climate be free of disruptions that interfere with teaching and learning activities. All students and employees are entitled to a safe, secure, and equitable environment from harassment and bullying of any kind.

Bullying or harassment will not be tolerated and shall be just cause for disciplinary action. This policy shall be interpreted and applied consistently with all applicable State and Federal laws and the Board's collective bargaining agreements. **Conduct that constitutes bullying and harassment, as defined in the Board policy, is prohibited.**

Bullying means systematically and chronically inflicting physical hurt or psychological distress on one or more students or employees. It is further defined as unwanted and repeated written, verbal, or physical behavior, including threatening, insulting, or dehumanizing gesture, by a student or adult, that is severe or pervasive enough to create an intimidating, hostile, or offensive educational environment ; cause discomfort or humiliation; or unreasonably interfere with the individual's school performance or participation.

Harassment means any threatening, insulting, or dehumanizing gesture, use of data, technology or computer software, or written, verbal or physical conduct directed at a student or school employee that places a student or employee in reasonable fear of harm to his or her person or damage to his or her property; has the effect of substantially interfering with a student's emotional performance, opportunities or benefits; has the effect of substantially disrupting the orderly operation of a school.

Students and teachers should report any instance of bullying to Administration or the School Resource Officer. For more information on this policy, please refer to the Okaloosa School District website, [www.okaloosaschools.com](http://www.okaloosaschools.com).

## **TRANSFER OF INAPPROPRIATE DATA**

In accordance with the Okaloosa Code of Student Conduct, students are prohibited from taking, disseminating, transferring, or sharing data considered **illegal** or **inappropriate** in categories including, but not limited to: photographs, videos, text messages, emails, blogs, notes, etc.

## **RECORDING DEVICES**

In accordance with the Okaloosa Code of student Conduct students are not permitted to use audio or video recording devices without first obtaining express permission from the Administration.

## **INAPPROPRIATE USE OF CELL PHONES, CAMERAS AND OTHER ELECTRONIC DEVICES**

Students using or having on or in an operational mode any device that permits recording the voice or image of another person, unless all persons whose voices or image of another person, unless all persons whose voices and images are being recorded are made aware of recording prior to the actual recording of their voices or images are subject to discipline. Students are prohibited from using any recording device in any manner that interferes with or is disruptive to the

educational process or invades the privacy of students, employees, volunteers, or visitors. If they violate this prohibition, then they are subject to discipline under the provision and /or any other provision of the Code of conduct that may be applicable to the circumstances involved.

Students are prohibited from taking, disseminating, transferring, or sharing of obscene , pornographic, lewd, or otherwise data considered **illegal** images or photographs, whether by electronic data transfer or otherwise (commonly called, texting, sexting, or emailing, etc.) may constitute a **CRIME** under state and / or federal la. Any person taking, disseminating, transferring, or sharing obscene, pornographic, lewd and otherwise illegal images or photographs In such a manner in any manner that interferes with or is disruptive to the educational process or invades the privacy of students, employees, volunteers, or visitors is prohibited. If they violate this prohibition, then they are subject to discipline under the provision and /or any other provision of the Code of conduct that may be applicable to the circumstances involved.

Parents are also reminded that Board policy states that any student possessing a wireless communications device while he or she is on school property or in attendance to a school function must insure that the device **must not be visible and must not be turned on during school hours**. Any violations of the conditions and requirements of this policy will result in **confiscation** of the wireless device by school officials, and may result in other disciplinary actions depending upon the severity of the violation and whether or not the violation is of a repeated nature by the same student. The confiscated wireless device will be returned to the student at the end of the regular school day after the first violation. **In the event of any subsequent violations by the same student, the wireless communications device will be returned to the student’s parents/ guardian only.**

**STUDENT INDEBTEDNESS**

Failure to turn-in textbooks, pay outstanding course fees, or return fundraiser items, etc. will result in a Monies Owed Form being placed on file. These files will be maintained throughout the student’s education at Choctawhatchee HS and will need to be resolved before the student can withdraw or graduate.

**GRADING SCALE AND GPA CALCULATIONS**

Students should be aware that as final transcripts are sent to colleges, any significant changes in college candidates' academic status or qualifications between the time of recommendation and graduation will be reported to the receiving institution upon request.

**Grade Point Average (GPA) Calculations / Quality Points Earned**

Beginning with the 2006/2007 school year, the Okaloosa County School District instituted a 3-tiered scale for calculating grade point averages. All courses held to a college standard will receive weighting of one (1) point, including all AP, IB, Dual-Enrollment and designated CHOICE courses.

For school year 2007/2008, 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> grade students will receive a weighting of one (1) point for all courses listed in the table on page 26 in the Curriculum Catalog. This catalog can be viewed online under “Publications” at [www.choctawindians.net](http://www.choctawindians.net).

For school year 2007/2008, 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> grade students will receive a weighting of one (1) point for all courses designated with an asterisk (\*) and one-half (½) point for all other classes listed on page 26 in the Curriculum Catalog. This catalog can be viewed online under “Publications” at [www.choctawindians.net](http://www.choctawindians.net).

	<b>A</b>	<b>B</b>	<b>C</b>	<b>D</b>
<b>Unweighted</b>	4 quality points	3 quality points	2 quality points	1 quality point
<b>½ Weighted</b>	4.5 quality points	3.5 quality points	2.5 quality points	1.5 quality points
<b>Weighted</b>	5 quality points	4 quality points	3 quality points	2 quality points

**HONORS AND AWARDS CRITERIA**

Summa Cum Laude: Weighted Cumulative GPA of 4.5 and above

Magna Cum Laude: Weighted Cumulative GPA of 4.2 - 4.49

Cum Laude: Weighted Cumulative GPA of 4.0 - 4.19

At the end of the second semester, honor graduates will be determined by averaging 19 credits: 3.5 English credits; 3.5 Social Studies credits; 3.5 Math credits; 3.5 Science credits; 1.5 Foreign Language credits (of the same language); 3.5 Elective credits.

## **STUDENT SERVICES/GUIDANCE**

### **Schedule Corrections**

Due to class-size amendment constraints, the only reasons under which a schedule will be corrected for the 2009-2010 school year are as follows:

#### **From August 13<sup>th</sup> through August 31<sup>st</sup>**

- Students are missing a graduation or scholarship requirement
- Students are repeating a course for which they have already earned credit
- Students have too few classes
- Students are missing a class requirement
- Class size or master schedule constraints
- Space available basis for AP courses
- Recommendation from a teacher

#### **Procedure:**

- A. Complete Schedule Change Request Form.
- B. Obtain required signatures: student, parent, and teacher of course to be dropped.
- C. Return form to the Guidance Office in designated Drop Box.  
Note: incomplete forms will not be considered.
- D. Guidance will respond to requests and notify students by note or appointment.
- E. Students will remain in original course until they receive notification from their Guidance counselor.

#### **After the first progress report**

- Class size or master schedule constraints
- Recommendation from the teacher

### **Required Credits**

Graduation requirements changed beginning with the class of 2011. Please refer to the curriculum catalog for an updated list of graduation requirements for each class.

### **Homework Policy**

Requests for homework will be made through the Guidance Office. Please call 833-3614, ext. 618.

### **Progress Reports and Report Cards**

Each student will receive a mid-nine-weeks progress report for each class. Report cards will be given to students at the end of each nine-week period to take home.

### **FCAT Reading Class**

All students who score level 1 or level 2 on FCAT Reading are required to take an Intensive Reading class.

### **MISCELLANEOUS:**

#### **Outside Food/Other Deliveries**

Outside food is discouraged. Students will not be called out of class for food, balloons, flowers or other similar deliveries. Please remember that classroom time is valuable and will not be interrupted for these reasons. Lunches may be dropped off at the attendance for students to pick up between classes. Please do not bring drinks in fast food or other non-sealable containers, since they are not permitted in school and will not be given to students.

#### **Extended Hours of Operation:**

##### **Extended Media Center Hours:**

Tuesday and Thursday  
6:45 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

##### **Extended Guidance Department Hours:**

Tuesday and Thursday  
6:45 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

## **Student Parking**

**Driving and parking on the CHS campus is a privilege.** All students who park in the CHS parking lot are **required** to purchase and display appropriate decals on their vehicles. **Senior parking permits are \$25. All underclassmen permits are \$20.** Students are restricted to parking in the areas designated for their specific colored decal. Students who park outside their restricted area (e.g., senior parking, emergency lanes, disabled parking, etc.) are subject to administrative action to include “booting” or towing at owner’s expense. Students may not park in teacher or visitor parking areas. Students who temporarily drive a vehicle that does not have a CHS decal should check in with the front desk in the main office immediately upon arrival; a temporary parking permit will be issued and must immediately be displayed on the rearview mirror of the vehicle. The temporary permit must be returned to the front desk once the student begins driving the original vehicle or receives a new permanent decal.

## **Emergency / Lockdown Procedures**

In the rare event that the school is in a lockdown or extreme weather situation, please help us keep lines of communication open for support personnel by not phoning the school site. Information will be disseminated through media outlets as quickly as it becomes available. Parents are reminded that students will not be allowed to leave or be checked out during these times.

## **ONLINE GRADES AND ATTENDANCE**

Teachers use Pinnacle software to calculate averages and post assignments. The website can be accessed through the Choctaw web site at [www.choctawindians.net](http://www.choctawindians.net). Parents may access student grades and attendance with the student’s 10-digit Florida ID number. The full ID number is the user name, and the last 4 digits serve as the password. Users who have difficulty entering this site may call Guidance at 833-3614, ext. 618 for assistance.

## **GEMS**

A Global E-Mail System is being used to communicate school information (important dates and testing information). Families should register on-line at [www.okaloosaschools.com](http://www.okaloosaschools.com) or obtain a registration form in the Guidance Office.

**Okaloosa County Sheriff's Office  
School Resource Officer Program**

Dear Parent:

As School Resource Officer's assigned to Choctawhatchee Senior High School, we would like to briefly explain why we are here.

The Okaloosa County School Board and the Okaloosa County Sheriff's Office jointly fund the School Resource Officer Program. The program provides full-time law enforcement coverage here at the school.

As a Deputy Sheriff, our first responsibility is that of Law Enforcement Officer. Our task here is to ensure that students and teachers have a safe environment in which the students can learn and the teachers can work. Second, we also act as a resource person in the area of law-related education, by helping your child's regular classroom teachers. Lastly, we are available for guiding students to seek appropriate services for counseling, and can help to educate the students with the most commonly used laws.

The following is a list of recommendations that could help to protect your child as well as protect their property.

1. Familiarize yourself with the warning signs of drug abuse, such as estrangement from the family, red eyes, hostility, being secretive or vague about social activities, or the most obvious symptoms – a major change in your child's behavior.
2. Familiarize yourself with suicidal warning signs, keeping in mind that with over 6,000 teenage suicides a year it can happen to your son or daughter. Watch for preoccupation with death, either through music, drawings, or statements such as "you'll be better off without me", a preoccupation with final arrangements like giving away prized possessions, or a prolonged depression ended by a sudden marked improvement, which may indicate that the decision to commit suicide has been made.
3. Caution your child not to leave personal property unattended, even for a short time. Book bags left alone become ideal targets for being stolen or the contents within them being stolen. While we know that your children are technically advanced with small portable devices, it is suggested that items like PSPs, i-Pods, and other portable electronic devices stay at home. These items are small and easily stolen and removed from backpacks, lockers, etc. School policy states that use of these items are not allowed because of the distractive nature they bring with them. This also takes away from the SRO's trying to help with other problems that may and can arise throughout a regular day when we have a student report these items as stolen. These items are considered contraband by policy and are not permitted to be used while at school. If your student uses a locker, no matter where the location on campus, please ensure that they utilize a lock so that their personal items cannot be stolen.

We are here to assist you the parent and your child, and can be reached during the school hours at Choctawhatchee Senior High School through the main office.

Sincerely,  
Deputy Thomas Henry  
School Resource Officer