

2026-2027

School

HANDBOOK SUPPLEMENT

KIPP COOPER NORCROSS HIGH SCHOOL

Contact Information

KIPP Cooper Norcross High	Details
Grades Served	9–12
Phone	856-263-6235
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Address	740 Chestnut St., Camden, NJ 08103
Website	kippnj.org/camden-high-school

Staff Member	Role	Email
Taylor Taylor	School Leader	ttaylor@kippnj.org
Crystal Peralta	Assistant School Leader	cperalta@kippnj.org
Kaneesha Moore	Assistant School Leader	kmoore2@kippnj.org
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Melissa Herder	ASL of Special Education	mherder@kippnj.org
Destiny Johnson	AP of KIPP Forward	djohnson3@kippnj.org
Lenesha Thompson	AP of Culture, Lower School	lthompson@kippnj.org
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Nia Paynter	Social Worker	npaynter@kippnj.org
Sandra Juarez	Director of School Operations	sjuarezleyva@kippnj.org

Mission, Vision & Values

Mission

The mission of KIPP Cooper Norcross Academy (KCNA) is to create a network of schools in Camden, New Jersey that instills in students the desire and ability to succeed in college in order to change the world.

Vision & Values

KHS is guided by four core values — known as BEAT:

Value	Meaning
Be Kind	We recognize, appreciate, and encourage others.
Effort	We work diligently and stay focused on tasks.
Accountability	We take accountability and responsibility for our actions.
Teamwork	We collaborate and work together to achieve the greatest outcome.

Academic Belief

At KCNA, we believe all students can reach their potential. Academic growth is built through high expectations, consistent effort, and a culture of accountability. We use a points-based grading system where grades reflect both mastery of content and strong work habits. Each quarter counts equally (25%) toward a student's final grade.

We are committed to ensuring all learners — including students with IEPs, 504s, and English Language Learners — receive the supports they need to succeed. We also believe in the power of revision: students have opportunities to revise formative assessments to demonstrate growing mastery.

School Hours

Schedule	Time
Regular School Hours	9:00 AM – 3:44 PM (Mon–Fri)
Early Arrival (Doors Open)	8:00 AM – 8:35 AM
Standard Arrival (Doors Open)	8:45 AM
Must Swipe In By	9:00 AM
Dismissal	3:44 PM

Delayed Opening Schedule

Delay	KHS Doors Open
1 Hour	9:45 AM
90 Minutes	10:15 AM
2 Hours	10:45 AM

Course Offerings

KHS serves students in grades 9 through 12 with the following courses:

Math

- Algebra I, Geometry, Algebra II, Math IV/Statistics,

English

- English 9, English 10, English 11, English 12, College Literature/Composition

History

- African-American/Latinx Studies, World History, US History II, Economics/Civics

Science

- Physics, Chemistry, Biology, Human Anatomy and Physiology

Advanced Placement

- AP Language, AP World History, AP US History, AP African American Studies, AP Pre-Calculus, AP Calculus AB

Electives

- Intro to Visual and Performing Arts, Spanish I/II/III, Arabic I/II, Art I/II, Music, Tech and Design, Intro to Computer Science, Intro to Business

Additional Programs

- Physical Education & Driver's Education
- College & Career Readiness
- English for ELL / Multilingual Support
- Math and Reading Intervention
- SAT Prep
- Special Education: Inclusion, Self-Contained, Life Skills

Extracurricular Offerings

KHS believes in educating the whole child. We offer a wide variety of afterschool programming for all students, including:

Activities	Sports Teams
Gaming	JV/Varsity Football
Cooking	JV/Varsity Basketball
News	Flag Football
Guitar	Volleyball
Student Government	Track
Photography	Soccer
	Cheerleading

Athletic Participation Requirements

The NJSIAA has **non-negotiable** eligibility rules:

- Students must earn 30 credits (details in chart below)
- Student cannot have turned 19 before September 1
- There is a penalty period if a student transferred from another school after the first day of the practice periods.

In addition to these requirements, at KIPP New Jersey, students are considered eligible for athletics based on the following ***three criteria***:

	July 1 st - January 31st* (Fall and most of Winter)		February 1st - June 30 (End of Winter and Spring)
1. Credits	Earned at least 30 credits the previous academic year (regardless if students was in a different school)		On track to earn 30 credits for the year as of the end of semester 2
	Fall Season*	**Winter Season**	**Spring Season**
2. GPA	≥ 2.2 GPA the previous academic year	≥ 2.2 Q1 GPA	≥ 2.2 Y1 GPA at the end of semester 1
3. Attendance	≥ 90% ADA the previous academic year	≥ 90% ADA at the end of Q1	≥ 90% ADA for the current year at the end of semester 1

*first-time 9th graders are exempt from GPA and attendance requirements until winter season and credit requirements until February 1st

To be eligible to try out for a team, students must be meeting all three criteria (credits, GPA, attendance). However, in the case of attendance, if a student had below 90% ADA for the allotted time

period but is showing improvement (and is meeting the other criteria), the athletic director can opt to put the student athlete on an attendance contract in lieu of the attendance requirement. The student will be considered on "probation" and can fully participate on the team as long as they continue to meet the attendance requirement.

If a student is not eligible due to having not earned enough credits then the student cannot be on team and cannot play in games until the next July 1st or February 1st. This is a state mandate.

Once a student has met the criteria for a team, the student must maintain 90%+ ADA and 2.2+ Y1 GPA to continue to play on the team. In the case that the student stops meeting the criteria during the season:

- **GPA.** If a student's Y1 GPA drops below:
    - 2.5 they are considered to be on "probation" and has mandatory office hours. The student must attend office hours every day they are offered.
    - 2.2 they are considered ineligible and cannot play in any games. The student must attend office hours every day they are offered. The student can resume playing in games once their Y1 GPA has increased to 2.2 or higher, but must attend office hours until their GPA is 2.5 or higher.
- **Attendance.** If a student:
    - Starts the season with an ADA ≥ 90% they must maintain an ADA ≥ 90%. If their ADA drops below 90%, the athletic director should put the student athlete on an attendance contract.
    - Breaks the attendance contract then in accordance with the contract the student cannot play in games until the student is upholding the contract. Continuing to not follow the contract will result in the student being removed from the team.
- **Credits.** Per NJSIAA regulations, athletic eligibility is re-evaluated February 1st which is in the middle of winter season. A student who was eligible for winter season, but then is not on track to pass 30 credits at the end of quarter 2, may not play in any games after February 1st for the remainder of the year. This includes the remainder of winter season and spring season.
    - Credits earned during Summer School count towards a student's credits for the previous year. Therefore, if a student was not eligible as of July 1st, but then completes summer school and is now earning 30 credits they have met the credit eligibility requirement.

Student eligibility is evaluated at the start of each season regardless of their eligibility in the previous season.

In the case of off season work-outs, students can participate in off-season work-outs including summer regardless of eligibility status. However, as soon as try-outs or the state determined "practice period" begins, the student must meet all three criteria (credits, GPA, attendance) in order to participate.

Arrival & Dismissal

Early Arrival

- Doors open 8:00 AM – 8:35 AM for early arrival.
- Students may participate in gym activities before school starts and will transition to homeroom at 8:45 AM.
- Phones must be turned in at arrival security checkpoints.
- Once inside, students may not leave until the end of day.

Standard Arrival

- Doors open at 8:45 AM; all students must swipe in with their ID by 9:00 AM.
- All students enter through the gym door entrance.
- All students will be scanned with metal detector wands; contraband items (lighters, vape pens, etc.) will be confiscated.
- Place all metal items in one pocket or clear plastic bag to speed screening.

Dismissal

Students	Exit
9th & 10th grade (and students with 8th period on 1st floor)	Main entrance on Chestnut St. near the gym
11th & 12th grade	2nd floor entrance in center of main building onto Chestnut St.
Bus riders	Exit and board buses promptly on Chestnut St.

Dismissal areas are supervised until 4:00 PM. Students with detention, sports, or extracurriculars must report to those spaces immediately at dismissal.

Uniform Policy

All KHS students are required to wear the complete school uniform every day. Our uniform policy builds school pride and ensures students look professional while remaining comfortable.

Item	Requirements
Shirts/Tops	Navy or Scarlet red polo (short or long sleeve). Must cover midriff at all times. No graphics or words. Plain navy cardigan (with or without KIPP logo) is permitted.
Jackets	No jackets, coats, or hoodies inside the building. Outermost layer must be a polo or approved swag item.
Pants	Khaki-colored slacks, shorts, or skirts only. Shorts/skirts must be fingertip length or longer. No visible undergarments.
Shoes	Closed-toe shoes with covered heel (or heel-straps) required. Slippers and sandals are not permitted.
Headwear	No hats or headgear of any kind inside the building (except for religious reasons).

Ordering from Flynn & O'Hara

Method	Details
Online	www.flynnohara.com
Phone	(856) 931-8838
Store	Garden State Pavilions, 2240 W. Marlton Pike, Cherry Hill, NJ 08002
Hours	Mon 10am–7pm | Tue–Wed 10am–6pm | Sat 10am–5pm

> *Violations: Students who attend dressed improperly may be required to call a parent/guardian to bring appropriate clothing. Repeated or intentional violations will result in additional consequences.*

Parent Involvement

Parent-Teacher Communication

KHS provides consistent communication through progress reports (every two weeks) and report cards (quarterly). Parents can access grades at any time through PowerSchool.

Report Card Conference Dates:

Quarter	Conference Dates
Quarter 1	November 19-20, 2026
Quarter 2	February 10, 2027
Quarter 3	April 28, 2027
Quarter 4	June 16, 2027

Visitors

- All visitors must check in at the main office and present a photo ID (driver's license preferred).
- Visitors will be issued a badge that must be worn at all times while in the building.
- Visitors must sign out at the main office before leaving.
- Staff reserve the right to ask non-compliant or disruptive visitors to leave school grounds.

Birthday Policy

KHS does not have a formal birthday celebration policy. For questions about birthday acknowledgements, please contact the main office.

Recommended Supplies

Students and families should be prepared to purchase the following as needed:

- Additional sticky notes
- Additional packs of loose-leaf paper
- Specialty pens or pencils, if desired
- Specialty backpack, if desired
- Additional 1-subject notebooks

> *Chromebooks: The majority of homework will be completed on school-issued Chromebooks. Students must bring their Chromebook to school charged every day and take it home to complete assignments nightly.*

Hall Pass & Bathroom Policy

Students may be excused from class to use the bathroom after the first 5 minutes and before the last 5 minutes of class, with teacher consent. Students are given a floor-specific pass and are permitted to leave class for up to 5 minutes.

Students discovered in the halls without teacher consent, who falsely claim permission, or who are out for 10+ minutes will receive a behavioral referral, which may result in lunch or afterschool reflection.

Personal Electronic Device Policy Summary

To ensure our students can thrive in a distraction-free environment that promotes academic excellence, social-emotional growth, and character development, KIPP Cooper Norcross schools implement a strict No Cell Phone Policy during school hours, including recess.

For all official policies and additional important information, visit the KIPP Cooper Norcross Regional Student & Family Handbook at:

https://kippnj.org/school-resources/

KIPP COOPER NORCROSS PUBLIC SCHOOLS

kippnj.org

This is a school supplement only. To access official district policies, see the KIPP Cooper Norcross Regional Student & Family Handbook at: https://kippnj.org/school-resources/