

PURPOSE: To allow students to stay up after lights out for as long as needed for educational purposes.

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BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MISSISSIPPI SCHOOL FOR MATHEMATICS AND SCIENCE SENATE:

SECTION ONE (REASONING):

The MSMS residential dorm experience is designed to prepare students for the independence and rigor of college life. Therefore, the current “lights-out” policy—which requires all lights and computer monitors to be turned off at a specific hour—is unnecessarily restrictive. MSMS students often face substantial academic workloads that occasionally demand studying past midnight to complete assignments or study for tests. Although the existing policy allows students to request permission from Residence Life staff to remain awake after 12:00 a.m., this rule is rarely enforced or followed. Given that the policy no longer reflects the academic realities of MSMS, a revised system should be implemented to allow students to work past midnight for legitimate educational purposes.

SECTION TWO (SPECIFIC CHANGE):

5. **Lights Out** – RL.42. All lights including computer monitors must be turned off by 12:00 a.m. Sunday through Thursday. To allow students to return to rooms prior to lights out, the laundry rooms and computer labs will be locked at 11:55 p.m. and open the next morning at 7:00 a.m. On Friday and Saturday, quiet time begins at 12:00 a.m., and the laundry rooms and computer labs will close at 11:55 p.m. and will open the next morning at 8:30 a.m. RL.43. Students found outside their rooms will be considered in an unauthorized area. Unless permission is given by the Hall Director on duty allowing time for extended study, students must retire to bed. For the purpose of early morning study only, students may leave their rooms, but not the building, no earlier than 5:00 a.m.
 - **Exception for Educational Purposes:**
Students may continue quiet, individual study in their rooms after 12:00 a.m. **provided that:**
 - His/her **roommate agrees** to allow extended study time.
 - **Noise and light** are kept to a minimum (e.g., use of desk lamps, headphones).
 - The activity is strictly for **educational purposes** (e.g., studying, research, projects).
6. **Quiet Time** – Quiet time is meant to allow students to be undisturbed in their quest to sleep, relax, or study.
RL.44. During quiet times, students must keep noise levels to a minimum and be respectful of others.

Schedule:

School Week - Sunday-Thursday Evenings

4:00 p.m. - 6:45 p.m.

Assembly/

Activity Time 7:00 p.m. - 9:00

p.m.

Study

Hours

10:25 p.m.

Curfew and front doors of residence halls locked

10:30 p.m.

"All

Accounted For" Check 10:30 p.m. -

12:00 a.m.

Halls quiet

12:00 midnight

Lights out & computers turned off unless permission given by hall director on duty for extended study or **unless studying quietly in own room with roommate agreement**. (Students in their own rooms)

**Pizza, etc. must be delivered by 10:15 p.m.*

Weekend – Friday and Saturday Evening

11:55 p.m.

Curfew; front doors of residence halls locked

12:00 a.m.

"All Accounted For" Check

12:00 a.m.

Halls quiet

1:00 a.m.

Lights Out (**unless studying quietly in own room with roommate agreement**.)