DILLON CHRISTIAN SCHOOL
PARENT/STUDENT HANDBOOK

2026-2027

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Member of and Accredited by the
South Carolina Independent School Association (SCISA)

Accredited by COGNIA

School Colors:
Maroon and Gold

School Mascot:
Dillon Christian Warrior

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Introduction

Welcome

We enthusiastically welcome each student and his or her parents to the Dillon Christian School (DCS) family. This Handbook is provided to help you understand our ministry and its commitment to Christian education.

Mission Statement

Dillon Christian School exists to provide spiritual leadership to our community by partnering with parents to train children to glorify God and enjoy Him forever.

Philosophy of Education

Dillon Christian School believes the Bible is the holy, inerrant, and authoritative Word of God. We further hold that all truth is God's truth. Biblical standards are an integral part of our school life. We joyfully and enthusiastically teach and promote the biblical perspective in all subjects and activities of the school. DCS has the responsibility to provide the best possible education for its students while equipping students to develop a biblical viewpoint in all areas of life. Our objective is for each student to be thoroughly prepared to pursue any vocation, higher education, or any profession.

As a Christian school, we believe that parents are the primary educators of their children and we are to partner with parents in this process. We work alongside parents to train each student to accept individual responsibility to God for his/her actions and challenge him/her to glorify God in every facet of his/her life. *"Train up a child in the way he should go, and when he is old, he will not depart from it." Proverbs 22:6*

We desire for each student to benefit:

Spiritually - The spiritual life of our school drives everything we do, including the staff we hire, the curriculum we use, and how we teach. We desire that each student sees Christ in staff members and develops his/her own biblical worldview that influences each decision that he/she makes.

Academically - Academic excellence should characterize a Christian school. We desire that each student be challenged to his/her potential and be given opportunities to excel. We desire that each student learns to think critically in the context of a biblical worldview and is prepared for college and/or the vocation that God has for him/her.

Socially - It is important that each student be afforded opportunities to develop socially, including the area of leadership. We desire that each student see godly relationships among staff members and develop positive relationships with others.

Core Values

Biblical Philosophy: We strive to integrate biblical truth and the character of God into all education at DCS. We believe that God is absolute truth and is the final authority in all matters of life. We believe that the Word of God is the standard for all decisions. We believe that each individual being created in the image of God, is of supreme worth and is created for the purpose of glorifying God. We value integrity in all relationships as we demonstrate communication, obedience, and accountability, as well as mercy and forgiveness.

A Personal, Active Relationship with Jesus Christ: We desire that each student have a personal relationship with Jesus Christ. We are committed to providing a safe, nurturing environment where students and staff members can actively grow in their faith.

Development of the Whole Person: We value each student as a unique creation by God, and our mission is to equip each student academically, spiritually, socially, and physically to his/her fullest potential. We desire that each student will love and pursue truth, live honorably, think critically, communicate persuasively, and be physically active. We endeavor to provide opportunities for every student to use his/her unique, God-given gifts.

Academic Excellence: We provide teachers who see their role as helping each student reach his/her full potential. Our curriculum is designed to provide an education that is comprehensive and challenging. Students are taught to think critically in the context of a biblical worldview.

Building of Community: We believe that God holds parents responsible for the education of their children. We seek to glorify God by partnering with families and Bible-believing churches in educating future generations through a Christ-centered approach to teaching and learning. DCS holds a sacred trust to partner with parents, churches, and the Holy Spirit in molding the lives of its students from a Christ-centered perspective.

Great Commission: Our goal is to prepare our students to be servant leaders in the world. Characteristics of a servant leader include humility over pride, taking time to listen rather than being judgmental and modeling behavior versus demanding it. We desire that our student leaders be equipped with a strong biblical faith, moral courage, spiritual discernment, and academic integrity to impact

society for Christ. We desire that our students take action in fulfilling the Great Commission by challenging them with opportunities to serve locally, regionally, and overseas.

Statement of Faith

1. We believe in personal salvation by faith in the blood of Jesus Christ which He shed on the Cross of Calvary for remission of sins for all who believe.
2. We believe that the entire Bible is the inspired, inerrant Word of God.
3. We believe that the Lord Jesus Christ was raised bodily from the tomb and now sits at the Father's right hand in heaven making intercession for all born again people.
4. We believe that Christ will return bodily to call His church unto Himself.
5. We believe in the eternal security of the born again believer.
6. We believe that our God is the Triune God – one God, in three Persons. Additionally, salvation is the work of the triune God. The Father sends the Son; the Son atones for sin; and the Spirit applies this atonement to us. The Spirit regenerates His people; thus, they trust in the Son alone; and the Son presents His people to the Father.

History

The guiding hand of God marks the history of Dillon Christian School. In the spring of 1991, several members of the community met, sharing a dream - a school that would provide a solid Christian education. Through prayer and God's provision, Dillon Christian School became a reality in the fall of 1991 with 22 students enrolled. In years since, enrollment has grown to over 425 students in grades 4K-12. The DCS campus is located on a 35-acre site on Commerce Drive in Dillon, South Carolina.

School Affiliations and Accreditations

Dillon Christian School is a ministry of the First Presbyterian Church (PCA) of Dillon, SC. Dillon Christian School is a member of and is accredited by the South Carolina Independent School Association (SCISA). SCISA offers numerous benefits to our students, parents, staff members, and board members. Dillon Christian School is also accredited by COGNIA.

DCS Student

A student at Dillon Christian School is defined as an individual who is officially enrolled, and actively participating in no fewer than four DCS courses at all times offered on the DCS campus. These courses must contribute toward fulfilling the academic requirements necessary for high school graduation as outlined by the State graduation standards. In alignment with Colossians 3:23 (ESV), "Whatever you do, work heartily, as for the Lord and not for men," students are expected to pursue their education with diligence and integrity, honoring God through their academic and spiritual growth.

School Spirit

Students have numerous opportunities to be involved in activities that promote school spirit. We are the "Warriors" and our school colors are maroon and gold. Be a part of "Warrior Pride!"

Household Program

One of the top reasons parents choose Dillon Christian School is the unique family atmosphere where all students are known by name and loved individually. We are excited to continue our Household program this fall as a way to further cultivate our family atmosphere as the Dillon Christian School family continues to grow.

In an effort to know our students and families better, the Household program will break down class and age barriers. With the goal of promoting the school's mission by providing greater care to all students as individuals, the program also strengthens the overall DCS community through prayer, mentoring, friendship, and competition.

Households will serve to build strong relationships between students and faculty. It also serves to increase student leadership and mentoring opportunities. The program increases the school's ability to provide pastoral care to each and every student.

Dillon Christian School's student body is divided into single-sex Households, with Households in the high school (boys and girls) and Households in the middle school (boys and girls). Each high school Household is composed of students in grades nine through twelve and each middle school Household is composed of students in grades six through eight. The upper class members in each Household (seniors or eighth graders) assume the role of student leaders. Each male Household is paired with a female Household to form brother-sister pairings. Household groups compete against other brother-sister teams during team competitions.

Students gather in Households each morning for announcements, morning prayer, and devotion. Household gatherings serve as an opportunity to plan for and carry out Household activities.

Each Household is under the direction of a faculty member known as the Household Dean. Deans serve as advocates, mentors, and guides. They are charged with nurturing each student's spiritual, academic, and social growth, and can help each student under their

care by knowing and meeting the student's individual needs during his or her years at Dillon Christian School. Each Dean is assisted by a parent helper who serves to assist the Dean with Household activities.

Registration Requirements

A student application for admission is available at the school office. Application forms must be completed and returned with a registration fee. The registration fee is non-refundable. The following are the registration requirements for admission to DCS:

1. Students enrolling in the four-year-old pre-kindergarten program must be four years old on or before September 1st of the upcoming school year. All students enrolling in the 4K program must meet the requirements in the 4K handbook.
2. Students enrolling in five-year-old kindergarten must be five years old on or before September 1st of the upcoming school year.
3. Students from the Dillon Christian Preschool have priority in being admitted to the DCS four year old pre-kindergarten program provided their applications have been received by the deadline.
4. Placement in all classes and grade levels will be based upon class size and available space as follows:
   Priority re-enrollment $350.00 will be from February 1st - 28th, and is for all current DCS and DCPS students.
   Open enrollment $400.00 will be from March 1st - May 31st and is for all students (current and new).
   Late enrollment $450.00 will begin on June 1st and continue until all class capacity has been reached.
5. For each new student seeking enrollment, the following guidelines apply:
   a. The applicant must be making satisfactory academic progress, which includes positive behavior from his/her immediate school. Any student expelled from his/her present school, including being sent to an alternative program and unable to return at the time of application with DCS will not be considered for enrollment with DCS
   b. Completion of any required testing that may be necessary if there is no sufficient supporting data. All 4K students new to DCS will be given a baseline assessment.
   c. Admission will be denied to any student who has failed two or more grades prior to their enrollment at DCS.
   d. All students are admitted on a nine-week trial basis contingent upon academic progress, behavior, and parental cooperation.

Attendance at Dillon Christian School is a privilege. The school administration may at any time request the withdrawal of a student who, in the opinion of the administration, does not submit to the school's philosophy and/or regulations. DCS has an open admissions policy without regard to race or sex and will not permit discrimination against any student.

Registration Procedures

The following information must be submitted before the Admissions Committee makes a final decision on acceptance of a student.

1. The signed, completed Application Form, Registration Fee, Statement of Cooperation, and Intent to Enroll (grades 5-12) should be received. All parents who enroll their child at DCS are to sign the Statement of Cooperation which indicates to the school their willingness to support the school in all endeavors. Should there come a time that the support of the parent can no longer be given, then we would ask the parent to withdraw the student from the school.
2. A copy of the most recent report card and/or school transcript including achievement test results for children in grades 1-12.
3. A state certified copy of the child's birth certificate for children in grades 4K-12.
4. A State of South Carolina Certificate of Immunization for children in grades 4K-12 should be in the office on file on or before the first day of school.
5. Completion of any required testing that may be necessary.
6. Attendance at an orientation session with the Head of School for children in grades 6-12.

Financial

Policies

It is necessary that fees and tuition be paid on time. **Payments are due the first of each month. If payment is not received by the 10th, there is a $25.00 late fee. It is our policy to request withdrawal of any student whose account is 60 days in arrears.** Any funds received for special activities will be applied to past due tuition. Progress reports, report cards, permanent records, and athletic participation will be withheld until all fees, tuition, and penalties are paid in full.

Tuition

Please refer to your current Tuition Contract to determine annual tuition, discounts, and payment options. If full payment in advance is not possible, one may pay tuition in monthly installments for twelve (12) months beginning in June of the upcoming school year. For families with more than one child enrolled, a discount may be given on the tuition of additional children. A substantial tuition reduction is offered for the fourth child and additional children within the immediate family.

Tutorial Program

A program is available after school from 2:30-5:30 pm for the purpose of helping with homework or providing care after school hours. Parents must notify the school in advance of their desire to leave the student in the tutorial program. **This is a service for**

which parents must pay as they participate in it.

Early Bird Program

DCS offers an Early Bird program for students who need to be dropped off prior to the normal school drop off time at 7:30 am. Early Bird participants may be dropped off at 7:00 am. This service is available before school for the purpose of helping with providing care before school hours. Parents must notify the school in advance of their desire to participate in the Early Bird program. **This is a service for which parents must pay as they participate in it.**

General Policies

School Hours

School hours are 8:10 am until 2:30 pm for grades 4K-5 and 8:10 am until 2:55 pm for grades 6-12. School doors open at 7:30 am to care for students who arrive early; please do not leave students at school prior to this time. Any student who is not in his/her first period at 8:10 am is marked absent, then tardy when he/she checks into the school office. Parents, or their designated pick-up person, have 15 minutes after school to pick up their child. Any child through 8th grade remaining at the school and not in a supervised activity will be taken to Tutorial at that time. **Parents will be charged for use of the Tutorial Program.**

School Cancellation

In case of inclement weather, Head of School will notify parents via Renweb email/text, on social media platforms, and Dillon Christian School's website. Please check television stations and school communications for details.

Parental Involvement

We strongly encourage parents to be involved in the life of our school. There are numerous opportunities to be engaged through our parent organizations: Parent-Teacher Fellowship and Booster Club.

- **Booster Club:** The purpose of the DCS Booster Club is to organize and generate support for all DCS athletic programs.
- **Parent-Teacher Fellowship:** The purpose of the DCS Parent-Teacher Fellowship (PTF) is to uphold the philosophy and objectives of education at DCS and to provide funds beyond the school budget to be used for the academic enhancement of the school.

Parent Visitation

Parents are always welcome at DCS and should feel free to visit the school and classrooms. Parents who come to the school during normal school hours are asked to first go to the school office, identify themselves, and pick up a visitor's pass.

Drop-off and Pick-up Procedures

Please follow drop-off and pick-up procedures carefully. The safety of our children is of utmost importance. Students in 4K-5th grade pick-up will be directed by the teachers. If you wish to drop off your student in the morning during the first week of school, and walk him/her inside the main building, please do not park in the drop-off lanes. Please park beyond the flagpole in the front or beyond Warrior Hall in the back by the football field. After the first week of school, please use the drop-off line as parents will not be permitted inside the building for drop-off. Parents of students in grades 4K-5th are asked to notify the school office if someone is picking up your child who is not a regular driver.

Student Supervision Before, During, and After School

When students arrive at school, they should go directly to their designated location. No student should remain in the parking area without permission from a teacher or administration. After school, students waiting for their rides or after school activities are not allowed to leave campus without permission from their parents.

Transportation

Students with a valid driver's license and parental permission are eligible to drive to school. Any student that demonstrates careless or reckless driving will forfeit the privilege of driving on campus. Any student that drives to school and has excessive tardies may lose his/her driving privilege. Once a student has parked his/her vehicle in the morning, he/she is not permitted to return to the car until the end of the school day. Students may go to the parking lot only if they have permission from the administration or from the front office if an administrator is not available. Student vehicles may be subject to search, if there are reasonable grounds to believe that drugs or alcohol, weapons, stolen property, or other contraband might be present in that vehicle. The school is not responsible for any items left in cars or for any damage to vehicles while on school grounds or school areas adjoining the campus. For your protection, vehicles are to remain locked when parked. No loud and/or inappropriate music is allowed on campus.

Student participants may not drive to athletic events or field trips. Students may not leave campus during the school day without permission from their parents. Students may not leave campus for lunch, except those seniors who qualify for this senior privilege.

For extra-curricular and sporting activities, all drivers must meet the approval of the State Highway Department, our insurance carrier, and the Head of School. Under no circumstances are students allowed to drive to or from a school sponsored activity in a vehicle not approved by the school. DCS strongly discourages siblings accompanying other siblings on field trips. If a parent

chooses to take a DCS sibling on a field trip, the student will be counted absent and miss academic instruction. The sibling will not be allowed to ride DCS transportation.

Holiday Parties

Parties are permitted at DCS for students in 4K - 5th grade. Contact your child's teacher for information. Birthday parties are not permitted in the classroom.

Pledges

The recitation each morning of the words of the pledges given below is a consistent and continual reminder of the honor and privilege we have as American citizens and Christians.

Pledge to the American Flag – I pledge allegiance to the flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation, under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

Pledge to the Christian Flag – I pledge allegiance to the Christian Flag and to the Savior for whose Kingdom it stands. One Savior, crucified, risen and coming again, with life and liberty for all who believe.

Pledge to the Bible – I pledge allegiance to the Bible, God's holy Word. I will make it a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path. I will hide its words in my heart that I might not sin against God.

Class Enrollment Cap

The class cap varies according to the grades of the students. The maximum class sizes are: 4K-K5 is 18 students; grades 1-2 are 20 students; and grades 3-4 are 24 students. There is a recommended cap of 24 students per section in grades 5-12.

Student Placement Guidelines

In cases where DCS has more than one class per grade level, students are placed in the classes by the drawing of names. However, the administration does reserve the right to place students in a particular section when special circumstances need to be considered.

Textbooks

Hard backed textbooks and some of the soft backed textbooks are the property of DCS. Other soft backed texts are the property of the students. Teachers will inform the students as to whether they may mark or write in a given text. A charge will be assessed on any school owned text which is lost, defaced, or damaged.

Library Books

Library books are a precious resource and their use is a privilege, not a right. Parents are responsible for repair or replacement costs of library books which are damaged, lost, or destroyed.

Summer Reading

In order to maintain current reading levels, as well as to enhance reading skills, we encourage students to read during the summer months. A teacher recommended summer reading list is provided for your guidance. The list is sent home with final report cards and can also be found on our website along with some helpful tips to foster a lifetime love of reading.

Lunchroom

DCS provides a hot lunch program for all families. There is a flat fee of $500.00 or a monthly fee of $50.00 for the ten months that school is in session. The fees are due at the beginning of each month and should be given directly to the front office. There is no partial payment available for the plan. Parents of students who have special dietary needs and/or restrictions are asked to contact the front office for clarification and the possible exemption from the program. In this event, parents are responsible for sending lunch with the student to school each day. Students are expected to leave the floor, tables, and seating area clean before leaving the lunch area. Parents are discouraged from bringing fast food lunches to DCS. No commercial food deliveries will be allowed.

Specific School Procedures

1. Students are expected to keep the school grounds, their classrooms, lockers/cubbies, and halls clean and neat at all times.
2. A student, who wishes to enter a classroom other than his/her own, should seek permission from the teacher.
3. Objects left in school rooms and on school grounds should be turned into the school office. Students may redeem lost items from the Lost and Found areas.
4. Students are expected to be prepared for class, be attentive, and promptly obey the teacher's instructions. Disrespect, disobedience, and insubordination will not be tolerated.
5. Students are to address adults as Mr., Mrs., Miss, Coach, etc. and never by their first or last name only.
6. A student, dismissed from class for disciplinary reasons, is to report to the main office immediately. Failure to do so may result in additional disciplinary action.
7. The gymnasium is off limits to students except when under the supervision of a PE teacher, coach, or other teacher. Please do not walk on the gym floor without proper shoes.
8. Students are not to stick anything to the inside or outside of their lockers/cubbies or on the walls and classroom doors. Students who deface or destroy school property will be assessed the repair cost and will be subject to disciplinary action.
9. Students are to use restrooms during breaks and between classes.

10. Children may not bring toys to school except for "Show and Tell." Teachers will keep any toys brought without permission and return them only to the parent. No pets or animals of any kind may be brought to school without the expressed written permission of the administration.
11. No gum chewing is allowed on campus.
12. During assemblies, students should be attentive and courteous. Unacceptable conduct would include whistling, uncalled for clapping, boisterousness, and talking during a program.
13. While in the halls, students are asked to be courteous and keep to the right when moving. Running and shouting in the halls is never permitted.
14. The copy machines in the school are not for student use.
15. Solicitation by parents or students is forbidden at DCS without administrative approval. This policy includes the selling of tickets, candy, etc., the distribution of political or religious materials, and the circulation of petitions.
16. All fundraising and donation based projects are to be approved by the Head of School. Projects may be sponsored by administration, classes, clubs, and parent or student organizations.
17. All food and drinks are to be consumed outside of school buildings except Warrior Hall. Only water is allowed to be consumed in classrooms.
18. Chapel occurs one day each week. During that time, a message will be presented that is challenging, encouraging, and interesting to our students. Parents are always welcome to attend these services.
19. Student lockers or other storage areas are subject to search, upon reasonable suspicion for prohibited or illegally possessed substances or objects.
20. By attending DCS, a student and his/her parents acknowledge the school's right to search his/her cubby, car, possessions, or person, at any time he/she is on campus participating in a school activity, or otherwise representing DCS.

Cell Phone/Electronics Policy

For purposes of this policy, electronic communicating equipment shall include all devices such as mobile telephones, smart watches, devices that emit an audible signal, vibrate, display a message or otherwise summon or deliver a communication to the possessor.

The Negative Effects of Cell Phones in Schools:

- The average student spends more than four (4) hours per day on his/her phone or other electronic devices compared to just one (1) hour per day working on homework.
- Most school related drama stems from inappropriate use of social media.
- A lot of time and energy are wasted when students engage with inappropriate cell phone use while in the classroom. These distractions create a negative impact on teaching and learning.

Our Mission:

- To re-establish the classroom as a place where students focus solely on academic pursuits.
- To create a classroom environment dedicated to mutual respect and courtesy.
- To provide the best educational experience possible.
- To decrease school-wide distractions and drama associated with cell phone use during classroom time.

All elementary students in kindergarten through grade five are prohibited from using cell phones or any electronic devices on campus.
A violation of this policy will result in the student's phone/device being confiscated by their teacher or administration.

Students in grades 6-8 may possess a cell phone before and after school instructional hours. Cell phones for these grades will be turned in at the beginning of first period and returned at the end of sixth period. Any student who arrives late or leaves early will turn in or collect their cell phones in the front office.

Students in grades 9-12 may possess a cell phone on campus as long as they comply with DCS administration and staff rules. Cell phones or any electronic devices may not be seen or used during class time for any purpose unless specifically allowed by the classroom teacher and only then for instructional purposes.

DCS classrooms are "NO CELL ZONES" during class periods as indicated by the DCS bell schedule.

The "Warrior Cell Phone Parking Policy" went into effect the 2018-19 school year. Once a student crosses the threshold of the classroom door the policy remains in effect until the student leaves that classroom at the end of the period.
All cell phones will be "parked" in the Warrior Cell Phone Parking Place upon entering the classroom. Cell phone check in procedure will be… before the class period begins students will turn off or silence their cell phone and place the cell phone in one of the slots in the Warrior Cell Phone Parking Place. Students will retrieve their cell phone at the end of class. Cell phones may not be taken from their "Parking Place" during classes (this means no phones in the restrooms).

Important Note: Students' use or possession of any electronic devices indicates that they retain full responsibility for any loss, damage, or other incident that may occur. DCS is not responsible for any cell phones that are lost, stolen, or damaged while using the Warrior Cell Phone Parking Place.

Cell Phones/Electronic Devices Use:

- High School students may use their cell phones during the following times: before and after school, lunch, morning break, and between classes.
- Students may not use cell phones during school wide emergencies or emergency drills (including fire drills) unless instructed to do so by a DCS staff member.
- Administration/staff have the right to take possession of a student's cell phone when used in an inappropriate manner.
- DCS staff are not responsible for cell phones after 3:30 pm on the day a cell phone is confiscated.
- Students who post videos or pictures on social media that were made at school or at school sponsored activities that are considered inappropriate may face disciplinary action. If an issue arises at school regarding a social media post or text made off campus, students may be disciplined accordingly.

Cell Phone Offenses and Consequences:

1st Offense – The cell phone will be confiscated and remain in the main office until the end of the current school day, the student will have a consultation with administration, and parent/guardian notification will be made.

2nd Offense – The cell phone will be confiscated for the remainder of that day and one additional day. Parent/guardian notification will be made and the cell phone will be returned to the main office on the morning of the following day and remain there until returned to the student at the end of the second day.

3rd Offense – The cell phone will be confiscated for the remainder of that day and six additional days. Parent/guardian notification will be made and the cell phone will be returned to the main office each morning of the following six days and remain there until returned to the student at the end of each day.

4th Offense – The cell phone will be confiscated for the remainder of that day and each day for the remainder of the 9-weeks. Parent/guardian notification will be made and the cell phone will be returned to the main office each morning of the following nine-weeks and remain there each day until returned to the student at the end of each day.

Note: DCS staff is not responsible for returning confiscated items after 3:30 pm on any day.

Hats and Sunglasses

These are not to be worn in the buildings. Hats, hoods, and sunglasses may be worn outside but must have the bill of the hat facing forward. Students choosing to wear these items inappropriately will have them taken away.

Communicable Diseases

While it is not the desire of DCS to discriminate against any student, we are faced with the challenge of providing a safe haven for those students entrusted to our care. Our purpose is to protect our students from exposure to a significant illness.

If a child is vomiting or has a temperature more than 100 degrees, the child must be sent home. Any child taking medicine must bring signed and detailed written instructions concerning the proper administration of the medication to the office.

We also recognize that DCS, with its limited finances, is not equipped to care for the needs of very ill students or any student with a serious chronic or communicable disease. Therefore, because we are concerned with the sick child and well children, it is the policy of DCS to deny admission or to require dismissal from the school for a child with a serious, chronic, or lethal communicable disease. First, we do not want our students to become infected with any serious, lethal, or chronic disease from a current or potential student. Second, we do not want any sick child at DCS to be further infected with other diseases transmitted by fellow students or others within the school family. Students who meet these criteria will not be allowed to enroll or re-enroll in regular DCS classes until they have been medically diagnosed as no longer carrying the stated disease.

This policy applies to diseases such as, but not limited to: syphilis, gonorrhea, acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (AIDS), etc. Students who test positive for antibodies of Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV), AIDS Related Complex (ARC), or tuberculosis will not be admitted or will be asked to withdraw if already a student.

No Lice/No Nit Policy

A student who is found to have lice or nits will not be admitted to class for at least one full day after a student has been sent home (e.g., A student sent home Wednesday may return on Friday). When a student returns to school, he/she may not be readmitted to class until a school official has determined that the student is free of both lice and nits.

Communication

Philosophy

Dillon Christian School is in partnership with the parents and guardians of our students. God provides the biblical mandate for educating children in Deuteronomy 6:4-9. As partners in the educational process, it is important that we communicate on a regular basis sharing the positives and concerns about your children/our students.

Sending Papers Home

In grades 4K-5, teachers send papers home on a weekly basis. Parents should sign and return necessary papers. In grades 6-12, teachers may send home tests and other papers for parents' signatures.

Contact Information

E-mail is one of our primary means of communication with parents. Please keep an updated email address, home address, and telephone contact information on file with the school. Please check your email on a regular basis. No teacher or coach will communicate with a student via text or social media messaging (Facebook, etc.). Staff and coaches are allowed to communicate to students and parents via GroupMe app or school email. The only exception would be a coach, staff, or faculty member's own children/grandchildren.

Parent-Teacher Conferences

Parent-Teacher Conferences should be scheduled with the classroom teacher at a convenient hour, not during normal classroom hours. Parents should feel free to contact the office or the teacher directly and make an appointment with their child's teacher(s). Face-to-face conferences help eliminate misunderstanding and provide the opportunity for teachers and parents to give full attention to the conversation.

Technology

Using Dillon Christian School's computer network and accessing the internet through DCS computers is a privilege which comes with many responsibilities. DCS administration and faculty believe that the information available to students through computers and the internet can provide students with a global perspective and can be an invaluable research and learning tool. **Students who choose not to follow the guidelines of the Acceptable Use Policy will be subject to disciplinary consequences.** However, as there are countless pages of inappropriate material available to any user of the internet, the school has procedures in place to restrict access to such materials and limit inappropriate use.

It should be noted that control of all online activities is impossible. Therefore, all users who access the internet through DCS are required to adhere to strict ethical and legal guidelines. The policies which follow address many areas of technology and its use and misuse. These must be adhered to by all DCS students; lower, middle, and high. There are also many "gray" areas; students must learn to exercise common sense and apply high standards of conduct to ensure compliance with the letter and spirit of these provisions. If DCS users violate any of these rules and regulations, their actions will be reviewed by the administration and appropriate consequences will be enforced. These may include detention, suspension, or expulsion.

Acceptable Use Policy for Computers, Hand Held Devices, and Internet Access

The school provides to its students access to computers and other technology, including resources such as the internet, for educational purposes. The following acceptable use policies apply:

- The use of technology to create, access, or use offensive or illegal material is prohibited. Students must have specific permission from an administrator to load or download any programs on a school computer.
- Students must not interfere with the work of others which may be located on a school computer.
- Students must not illegally copy software, text, music, pictures, or graphics from any internet or software source.
- Students must not change or modify system configurations or control panels or knowingly deface, damage, or render inoperable a computer or its components.
- Students must not record any personal information, such as name, address, etc., about himself or herself or anyone else on any internet site.
- Students must not attempt to undermine or avoid the security restrictions Dillon Christian has put in place to protect its computer and network resources.
- Students must not use a teacher's computer.
- All of these rules apply to the use of any personal computer and/or hand held device on campus.
- Using the internet and e-mail is not private. The computer instructors and technology staff have access to all internet sites visited and e-mail sent or received by students.
- Personal electronic devices must be approved by the teacher and administrator to be utilized during class. Androids, iPads, iPhones, and other cellular devices that connect to the internet are NOT approved, acceptable devices.

Attendance and Tardy Policies

Philosophy

Irregular attendance is disruptive to students' academic progress. Students who are ill should not be sent to school, but parents are asked to avoid unnecessary absences. While the school realizes there will be unusual circumstances which arise from time to time, vacation plans and regular medical appointments should not interfere with school if it can be avoided. The school should be notified in advance of pre-planned trips to arrange for missed classwork and/or tests.

Tardy Policy to School and Class

Students are expected to be in their seats, ready to work, when the tardy bell rings. In order for a tardy to be excused, the student must have a note; however, a note does not automatically excuse a student's tardiness. In grades 6-12, the administration will regularly review tardy cases for disciplinary consequences. Tardies will reset each semester.

Parent/Student Responsibilities

Parents should encourage prompt and regular attendance.

- If a student is kept at home for an extended time, but is able to do school work, parents should contact the appropriate teacher to arrange for assignments.
- Excessive absenteeism is grounds for the school to retain a student at grade level or to refuse granting credit for course work. Excessive is defined as more than 10 absences in a year per the Compulsory School Attendance Law and S.C. Code of Regulations.
- Each case of excessive absenteeism will be reviewed by school administration.
- Students arriving late to school must report to the office before being admitted to class.
- Students who drive themselves and are leaving school early must present a note to the front office upon arrival at school. Parents should not write notes of dismissal for students unless there is a legitimate medical or other reason.
- All students who are leaving early must sign out in the main office just before departure.
- Once a student arrives on campus, he/she is not permitted to leave campus without specific permission. If given permission to leave, students must sign out in the office; this requirement also applies to senior privileges.

A student, who is not present in school, unless involved in an activity sponsored by the school, shall be counted absent from school. All absences lawful and unlawful, shall be considered when determining excessive absences. Students who miss more than 10 days (K5-5th) or 10 classes (6th-12th) of a full year's course or 5 classes (8th-12th) of a semester course, may be retained at the same grade level and may cause the student to lose or not receive credit for the course. Such cases will be reviewed on an individual basis.

To earn academic credit for any course, a student must meet strict attendance thresholds. The school will accept **no more than 10 excused absences accompanied by a medical/doctor's excuse**, and **no more than 10 unexcused absences accompanied by a written parent note** per school year. Exceeding either of these limits may result in the withholding of academic credit for the affected classes, subject to administrative review.

Early Dismissal from Class

Students will not be dismissed from school without permission from their parents for legitimate and reasonable purposes, generally meaning a medical appointment or family emergency. Students must either bring a written note from home or parents must call the school notifying us of your child's early dismissal. If a student is sick, he/she must come to the office and someone from the office must speak with a parent of the sick child before he/she will be dismissed. A student will be counted absent from any class from which he/she is absent half the period or more. Any student who is checked out must remain checked out for a minimum of one hour's time.

If a student leaves school, even temporarily, without permission and school authorization, regardless of the reason, an administrative consequence will be issued. All unauthorized departures and absences may result in that student being deemed ineligible for any extracurricular activities for that day.

Consequences for Tardies and Early Dismissal:

- **Five** Tardies - One Detention
- **Eight** Tardies - Two Detentions
- **Nine** Tardies - Three Detentions and a parent must accompany the student back to school and meet with an administrator. If a student drives, he/she will lose driving privileges for the duration of the semester.
- **Ten** Tardies - One day Suspension

Make-up Work

If a student is absent from class for illness, a one-day extension will be granted for each day absent, if necessary. The student is responsible to get the notes and announcements from the class missed during the illness and is responsible for:

- any material given during the absence including homework, quiz, test, project, etc.
- knowing of any future assigned quiz, test, project, etc. and taking them on time

If a student is absent from class for a pre-approved absence, or a school function the day before a quiz/test is scheduled, he/she is responsible to:

- collect all assignments and make arrangements for the quiz/test before the scheduled absence
- take the quiz/test on the day that he/she returns unless prior arrangements have been made with the teacher
- students should not ask for an extension from the teacher after a previously approved absence

If a student leaves school and returns during the same day and misses a test, he/she should make up that particular test that school

day, unless the teacher gives permission otherwise.

Extracurricular Activities and Student Absences

A student who is absent on a particular day will not be permitted to engage in any school activity including practice that is held that day or evening. Students must be present in three of the six classes to be eligible to participate in any school related activity. A student must be present in three classes; no matter how many courses the student takes on campus.

Perfect Attendance

- For students in grades 4K-4, an accumulation of no more than 180 minutes can be missed during the year in relation to absences, tardies, and/or early dismissals. Minutes out of school will be calculated within the official school day from 8:10 am – 2:30 pm.
- For students in grades 5-12, if a student is absent for half or more of a class period, he/she is not eligible for perfect attendance.

College Campus Visitation Absence

Students are encouraged to visit the colleges they are interested in attending. Contact with the college should be accomplished through bulletins or catalogs, personal contact with college representatives, and through visitation on weekends and summer months. Juniors and seniors are allowed the opportunity to miss two days during the school year to visit a college campus. The proper procedures to use are as follows:

- Discuss plans with the College/Career Counselor.
- Make an appointment with the Admissions Office at the prospective college.
- Inform each teacher one week before the appointment to avoid any assigned tests and conflicts. Make arrangements ahead of time for making up missed work.
- Take the appropriate paperwork from the College & Career Counselor to the college representatives indicated and have them fill out the documentation of your visit.
- Return signed paperwork to the College & Career Counselor to have the day excused.

Academics

South Carolina Graduation Requirements (24 credits)

Area of Study	Units Required	Courses
English / Language Arts	4.0	
Mathematics	4.0	Geometry, Algebra 1, Algebra 2, Statistical Modeling, Pre-Calculus
Science (Laboratory)	3.0	Earth & Space Science, Biology 1, Biology 2, Chemistry 1, Anatomy
Social Studies	3.0	Government, U.S. History, World History, Economics
Physical Education/Health	1.0	
Computer Science/Keyboarding	1.0	
Foreign Language	2.0	Spanish 1, Spanish 2
Fine Arts	1.0	
Personal Finance	*0.5*	
Electives	5.0	World Geography, Bible, Spanish 3 (online option), Calculus, Strength & Conditioning

College Preparatory Program (CP)

Curriculum is designed to better prepare our students and meet the more stringent scholastic requirements for entry into colleges, universities, or technical institutions. A student can move from the College Preparatory Program to the Honors Program if they attain the required average. See the chart below for the Course Programs in the 9th- 12th grades and half of the 8th grade courses - Geometry, Earth & Space Science, and PE/Health that are offered in the CP Program.

Honors Program (H)*

Curriculum designed for students exhibiting superior abilities in the course content area. Honors courses have published syllabi that verifies rigor beyond the College Preparatory curriculum requirements. Honors courses have an increased quantity of classwork, and expectations to achieve are at a higher level. Classes marked by * indicate that honors credit may be available, but optional. Classes marked by ** may be offered on campus or online.

Honors Program Placement

Students will be placed in the College Preparatory Program or the Honors Program based on their previous year's academic performance. To qualify for the Honors Program, students must meet the criteria listed below:
The student must have an 85 average in the subject area. Once accepted into the Honors Program, the student must maintain an 85 average in each course to remain in Honors. If the student does not have an 85 average at the end of the academic year, he/she must take courses the following year at the College Preparatory level. Students may re-enter the Honors Program again if they earn an 85 average in each course.

There will not be any waivers into the Honors Program. Students must qualify for all Honors Courses to be eligible for the Honors Program. Our schedule does not/may not offer the flexibility to take only one Honors Course.

Retaking a Course

- Eligible students - any with a D
- Grades 8-9 to be eligible
- On or off campus
- Off campus- Parents must find the course & must be approved by the Head of School
- Must be retaken before the sequential course
- Must be retaken within one calendar year
- Limit two courses per student
- Transcript will show all courses taken
- The higher score will be calculated in the GPA-not both

Course of Study at DCS (Grades 7-12)

7th Grade	8th Grade	9th Grade	10th Grade	11th Grade	12th Grade
English	English	English I*	English II*	English III*	English IV
Bible 7	Bible 8	Bible 9- NT Survey	Bible 10- OT Survey	Bible 11- Apologetics	Bible 12- Missions
Life Science	Earth & Space Science*	Biology I*	Chemistry I*	Biology II*	Biology II or Anatomy*
Math 7	Geometry with Statistics*	Algebra 1*	Algebra II with Probability*	Pre-Calculus* Statistical Modeling	Calculus*
American History	SC History	American Government*/ World Geography*	Computer Science	United States History	World History Economics Personal Finance
PE	PE	Fine Art/Music	Spanish 1	Spanish 2	Spanish 3**
				Strength & Conditioning	Strength & Conditioning

**honors may be available*
***online option*

Dual Credit

One benefit of attending DCS is the opportunity for juniors and seniors to take dual credit classes. Students may earn up to 12 semester hours (four college classes) during each of their 11th and 12th grade years. To take advantage of this opportunity, a student must qualify for honors in the subject area they wish to take the Dual Credit and follow the guidelines listed below.

- Students are permitted to take 12 hours of dual credit in an academic year to be added to their high school transcript.
- This term will begin the summer prior to fall classes.
- Any approved course the student takes, the grades will stand. If a student duplicates a course at a technical/community college that has already been taken on the DCS campus, both grades will be incorporated into their GPA.
- At least 6 hours (two college classes) of the 12 taken must be core courses. (Or one-half of the hours taken must be core classes.) Students do not have to duplicate classes on our campus. (If they take English 101, they do not have to take English IV on our campus or if they take government/economics at the college level, they do not have to take these classes at DCS, etc.)
- Numeric grades from the college institution will stand beginning with the 2010-2011 academic year.
- A student's tuition will not be discounted at DCS if he/she takes dual credit courses.
- Students may not take a course, including dual credit, to replace the grade of a course already taken.
  The two week drop time period will be extended to the first "Drop Add" Date for the course as dictated by the college or university offering the course.

Core Subjects are defined as:

English

- English 101/English 111 (or course equivalent at an accredited university/college/technical college)

Computer Science

- Intro to Computers/Computer Literacy

Fine Arts

- Art History /Appreciation

Mathematics

- Math 110 College Algebra (or course equivalent at an accredited university/college/technical college)
- Math 130 Calculus (or course equivalent at an accredited university/college/technical college)
- Math 140 Calculus (or course equivalent at an accredited university/college/technical college)
- Math 171 Pre-Calculus/Algebra (or course equivalent at an accredited university/college/technical college)
- Math 172 Pre-Calculus/Trigonometry (or course equivalent at an accredited university/college/technical college)

Social Studies

- Economics (0.5 credit)
- Government (0.5 credit)
- Personal Finance (0.5 credit)
- United States History
- Western Civilization/World Civilization

Science

- Biology 101 (or course equivalent at an accredited university/community college/technical college)
- Chemistry 101 (or course equivalent at an accredited university/community college/technical college)

Core Classes MUST replace a DCS Course and meet a Graduation Course Requirement.

Electives are defined as:

- Psychology
- Economics (as a second economics course)
- Political Science (as a second course)
- Sociology
- World Geography
- English 102/English 112 or equivalent
- Computer Science (as a second course)
- Medical Terminology
- Public Speaking
- Quantitative Literacy (as an additional math course)

In a student's junior year, at least half of all college hours taken must be core. If you exceed 6 core hours (two classes), they will then be applied to your Senior Year.

In regards to Personal Finance, Economics (Macro and Micro), and Government (Political Science 101 and 102), the first course taken counts for a half credit to fulfill the high school graduation requirement. The second course taken would earn one full elective credit.

Grading Scale

The academic year consists of two semesters of two nine-weeks each. Each semester is divided into two nine-week grading periods. The purpose of the reporting system is to give parents and students an indication of progress or lack of progress being made by the student. The letter grade system is as follows:

A 90 – 100
B 89 - 80
C 79 - 70
D 69 - 60
F Below 60

*An incomplete ("INC") is given when requirements are lacking for completion. Typically, the student is given two weeks to finish and submit the incomplete work; otherwise zeros will be averaged in with the nine-week grades.

Exam Exemption Policy

Students in grades 9-12, with teacher and administrative approval, may exempt a number of exams each semester according to the information below. The decision of which exam(s) an eligible student wishes to exempt must be made by the published deadline. Students may be denied the opportunity to exempt exams.

Students: number of exams

- Freshmen: one exam
- Sophomores: two exams
- Juniors: three exams
- Seniors: all exams

Criteria to exempt a class exam: a student must have:

- Semester average of 93
- Five or less combined excused/unexcused absences
- Five or less tardies
- No discipline concerns
- No referrals

Note:

- South Carolina Virtual School Courses and Dual Credit/Dual Enrollment courses must follow the course outline and students must take exams as outlined by the relative schools.
- Attendance will be taken during review classes.
- When exemption applies, seniors do not need a note for missing an examination period. Seniors must sign in and out.
- All underclassmen will need a tardy note or early dismissal note and sign in and out.

Homework Philosophy (Grades 4K-12)

The goal of homework is two-fold. First, the student has the opportunity to practice previously taught material. Second, the parents have an opportunity to see what their child is learning and provide assistance, if necessary.

- Homework may be given Monday-Friday nights, with a light load on Wednesday night.
- We use a Testing Schedule in grades 5-12. To spread tests out over five days, tests may also be assigned for Thursday meaning that there will be occasions where students will have to prepare for a test on Wednesday evening.
- Homework is to be done by the child, who takes responsibility for its completion and the assignment being turned in on time.
- If a student repeatedly chooses not to complete homework, a parent contact, parent conference, or consequence may be necessary.

Progress Reports

At the midpoint of each nine-week grading period, progress reports are e-mailed home to the parents. If parents do not have email, the reports will be sent home with individual students. 4K and kindergarten progress reports are sent home with the students and will need to be signed and returned.

Report Cards

Each nine weeks, students are issued a report card which contains academic grades for all applicable subjects, conduct grades for all applicable subjects, attendance, and teacher comments. Students need to return their report card covers on the day following their issuance, complete with a parent's signature. If report card covers are not returned within three days, disciplinary action will be issued by administration.

When a student transfers from another school, DCS will use a combination of the former school's grades and DCS grades if the student has attended DCS for less than 20 school days in the marking period. If the student has attended DCS for 20 days or more, we will use grades only received at DCS. Parent-Teacher conferences may be scheduled as needed through the classroom teacher or by the front office.

Academic Recognition

Headmaster's Honor Roll – In order for a student to be eligible for the Headmaster's Honor Roll, all grades for a nine-week period must be 90 or above, 89.5 will be rounded to 90.

Honor Roll – In order for a student to be eligible for Honor Roll, a student's grades for a nine-week period are 80 or better. An 79.5 will be rounded to an 80.

Beta Club

Jr. Beta Club (Grades 6-8): Students enter the Jr. Beta Club at the end of the fifth grade based on the yearly average of 93, with no grade lower than an 85. All students will have their averages re-evaluated each year. If students fail to maintain academic standards, they will be placed on probation for one year. If, after this probationary period, students still do not meet academic standards, their membership will be revoked. Students may reapply at the end of their ninth grade year.

Sr. Beta Club (Grades 9-12): Students are eligible to enter the Sr. Beta Club after their eighth grade year. Students must have a cumulative GPA of 4.5 to enter and continue as a Beta Club member. All students will have their cumulative averages re-evaluated each year. If students fail to maintain academic standards, they will be placed on probation for one year. Parents will receive written

notification when their child goes on probation. If, after this probationary period, students still do not meet academic standards, their membership will be revoked. Parents will receive written notification when their child's membership has been revoked. A student may not apply for reinstatement.

High School Class Rank (Grades 9-12)

Class rank will be based on a student's cumulative grade point average, which begins with their first official high school course, which may be taken in the eighth grade. College Preparatory, Honors, and Dual Credit courses will all be calculated into a student's cumulative grade point average.

All subjects are included except courses transferred as additional PE electives such as weightlifting, and courses taken outside the typical fall and spring semester courses at DCS or public school. Dual Credit Courses are included in High School Class Rank. No two students may occupy the same class rank.

Highest Academic Averages

The 6th - 12th grade student earning the highest average throughout the current school year will receive a plaque to recognize their achievement. This award is not cumulative. It is represented by year end grades and/or GPA calculations at the time of the award.

The highest academic award at Dillon Christian School is the Valedictorian Award, which is given to the graduating senior who has obtained the highest class rank beginning with the first semester of ninth grade and will include any grade received for a Carnegie Unit earned in the eighth grade. The graduating senior with the second highest class rank will receive the Salutatorian Award.

The member of the Junior Class that has obtained the highest class rank at Q4 Progress Report of his/her junior year will be declared Head Marshal. Junior Class Marshal selection is based on cumulative GPA. Junior Marshals will attend and participate in Baccalaureate, Class Day, and Graduation exercises in an honorary and service capacity. Junior Marshals will be distinguished by the wearing of maroon and gold stoles.

To qualify for Valedictorian, Salutatorian, or Junior Marshal, a student must have been enrolled at DCS as a full-time student, taking a minimum of four DCS classes, six consecutive semesters prior to the date of recognition (all Dual Credit classes only count as half Carnegie unit per SCISA bluebook guidelines). During these six consecutive semesters, all academic work leading to the DCS diploma requirements must be successfully completed through Dillon Christian School. Summer school or home school units and grades obtained to complete requirements would automatically eliminate the student from the top academic honors stated above. Dual Credit courses that are acceptable in GPA calculations are outlined in the Dual Credit section of this handbook.

Transcripts

Parents of current students may request transcripts if their account is current. Students who have graduated from DCS may request transcripts. Official transcripts are sent directly to the receiving educational institution or employment agency.

Grade Exemption

Each student that attends DCS in grades one through twelve will not exempt any grade. It is the philosophy of the administration that each grade has its academic and social value and that a student exempted from the particular experience will miss an opportunity offered only once in a lifetime. However, this may be waived with the approval of the School Board.

Promotion – Retention

- Grades K-6: Students must have a passing grade in language arts, math, and two other academic subjects to be promoted. If a student fails the same subject two consecutive years, the student will be retained.
- Grades 7-8: Students must pass all core subjects (Bible, English, math, science, history) in order to be promoted. A student may make up one class in an approved summer school setting. If the student fails two classes, he/she will not be promoted. If a student fails the same subject two consecutive years, the student will be retained.
- Grades 9-12: Students receive one credit for each 180-day academic course passed at the end of the academic year; students receive one-half credit for each 90-day academic course. A student may make up one course in an approved summer school course. If a student fails the same subject area two consecutive years, the student will not be eligible for Credit Recovery, a full course repeat will be required; both grades will be incorporated into the student GPA.
- Any courses retaken during an approved summer school setting will earn a grade of 60 if passed.
- All graduation requirements must be met to participate in Baccalaureate and Graduation exercises.
- In cases of excessive absenteeism, more than ten days for each 180-day academic course, more than five days for each 90-day academic course, Credit Recovery must be completed to earn high school credit for the course.

Standardized Testing Program

Grades 11 and 12	Scholastic Aptitude Test (SAT) *suggested*
Grades 11 and 12	American College Test (ACT) *suggested*
Grades 11 and 12	Armed Service Vocational Aptitude Battery (ASVAB)
Grades 10 and 11	PSAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test (PSAT/NMSQT)
Grades 8 and 9	Primary Scholastic Aptitude Test (PSAT)

Grades 3 - 7	Standardized Achievement Test
Grades 3, 5, and 7	Abilities Test
Grades K5-2nd	Let's Go Learn or Standardized Achievement Test

Guidance Program

The purpose of the Guidance Program is to help each individual student achieve his/her potential academically, spiritually, socially, and physically. We strive to accomplish these goals by doing the following:

- Help each new student feel at home in the school with new teachers and friends.
- Individual conferences are available when a parent, student, or a teacher deems it necessary.
- Our testing program is designed to help students learn about his/her capabilities and performance.
- We welcome the opportunity to speak with any student or parent to assist in resolving scholastic or social challenges.

South Carolina Uniform Grading Policy

10 Point Grading Scale

South Carolina Uniform Grading Scale Conversions				
Numerical Average	**Letter Grade**	**College Prep Weighting**	**Honors Weighting**	**AP/IB/Dual Credit Weighting**
100	A	5.000	5.500	6.000
99	A	4.900	5.400	5.900
98	A	4.800	5.300	5.800
97	A	4.700	5.200	5.700
96	A	4.600	5.100	5.600
95	A	4.500	5.000	5.500
94	A	4.400	4.900	5.400
93	A	4.300	4.800	5.300
92	A	4.200	4.700	5.200
91	A	4.100	4.600	5.100
90	A	4.000	4.500	5.000
89	B	3.900	4.400	4.900
88	B	3.800	4.300	4.800
87	B	3.700	4.200	4.700
86	B	3.600	4.100	4.600
85	B	3.500	4.000	4.500
84	B	3.400	3.900	4.400
83	B	3.300	3.800	4.300
82	B	3.200	3.700	4.200
81	B	3.100	3.600	4.100
80	B	3.000	3.500	4.000
79	C	2.900	3.400	3.900
78	C	2.800	3.300	3.800
77	C	2.700	3.200	3.700
76	C	2.600	3.100	3.600
75	C	2.500	3.000	3.500
74	C	2.400	2.900	3.400
73	C	2.300	2.800	3.300
72	C	2.200	2.700	3.200
71	C	2.100	2.600	3.100
70	C	2.000	2.500	3.000
69	D	1.900	2.400	2.900
68	D	1.800	2.300	2.800
67	D	1.700	2.200	2.700
66	D	1.600	2.100	2.600
65	D	1.500	2.000	2.500
64	D	1.400	1.900	2.400
63	D	1.300	1.800	2.300
62	D	1.200	1.700	2.200
61	D	1.100	1.600	2.100
60	D	1.000	1.500	2.000
59	F	0.900	1.400	1.900
58	F	0.800	1.300	1.800
57	F	0.700	1.200	1.700
56	F	0.600	1.100	1.600
55	F	0.500	1.000	1.500
54	F	0.400	0.900	1.400
53	F	0.300	0.800	1.300
52	F	0.200	0.700	1.200
51	F	0.100	0.600	1.100

Extracurricular Clubs and Activities

Extracurricular activities are a daily component of any well-rounded school. Recognizing this, Dillon Christian School offers a variety of social, academic, and athletic opportunities for students.

- Students have the ability to participate in literary meets, math meets, spelling bees, art shows, student government activities, quiz bowl competitions, chess tournaments, drama festivals, and chorus competitions hosted by SCISA.
- DCS has several active student organizations and clubs available for student participation. Beta Club, Anchor Club (Pilot Club), Fellowship of Christian Athletes, Student Council, Art & Photo Club, STEAM Club, 4-H Club, Quiz Bowl, "The Warrior" (Yearbook), and Praise & Worship Team.
- There are some athletic sports teams that require students try-outs and others that are open to interested students (B-Team, Junior Varsity, and Varsity); however, all sports teams are tied to academic standards that must be met in order to qualify for participation. Pep Club is for K-5th grade students who would like to learn alongside the cheerleading squads (JV and Varsity).
- Activity classes include Library class (4K-4th grade), STEAM class (4K-6th grade), Physical Education class (4K-7th grade), Music class (4K - 6th grade), and Theater class (5th-6th grade).
- All students participate in a weekly Chapel Service (4K-12th grade).

Required Service Hours

Students in grades 8-12 are required to complete bona-fide community and school service hours each year in order to be promoted to the next grade level and/or for graduation. Hours must be completed and reported between June and May to be eligible for the current school year. Please report service hours within 5 days of completion. Qualifying service hours are services that students complete without receiving pay or during school hours. Examples of service hours are working at VBS, mission trips, and helping the elderly. In addition to community volunteer hours, a required number of service hours must be completed on the DCS Campus. There are many opportunities throughout the year where students' services are needed to help care for our beautiful campus. Examples of service on the DCS campus would include but are not limited to:

- Spring/Fall clean up days
- Teacher Workdays
- DCS sponsored events

Grade	Anywhere Hours	Hours that must be completed at DCS	Total Required Hours
12th	20 hours	5 hours	25 hours
11th	16 hours	4 hours	20 hours
10th	12 hours	3 hours	15 hours
9th	8 hours	2 hours	10 hours
8th	4 hours	1 hour	5 hours

Student Elections

1. **Student Council Elections** - Students MUST be registered for the following year. (*see Student Council section for details*)
    a. High School representatives will be elected from the rising 9th-12th grades. They will be elected by their peers each May and serve for a term of one year.
    b. Middle School representatives will be elected from the rising 6th-8th grades. They will be elected by their peers each May and serve for a term of one year.
2. **High School Homecoming Court and Queen:** Candidates are to be elected by their class (All senior girls are eligible; Juniors select two; Sophomores select two; Freshmen select two). The Junior or Sophomore girls chosen cannot have previously represented the class. If there are two homerooms per class, elect one girl from each homeroom. Only senior girls are eligible to be elected Queen, First Runner Up, and Second Runner Up. Students in grades 9-12 will vote at the discretion of the faculty Advisor. Votes will be tabulated by the faculty Advisor and Head of School or designated representative. The senior girl with the most votes will be declared the winner and will be announced at half-time of the homecoming game. Each girl will choose a male escort from DCS high school or a family member to present her at the school assembly. Each girl's father or male guardian will escort her at the half-time ceremony during the homecoming game.
3. **Middle School Homecoming Court and Princess:** Candidates are to be elected by their homeroom or class (All eighth grade girls are eligible; seventh grade students select two; sixth grade students select two). The sixth or seventh grade girls chosen cannot have previously represented the class. If there are two homerooms per class, elect one girl from each homeroom. Only eighth grade girls are eligible to be elected Princess, First Runner Up, and Second Runner Up.

Students in grades 6th-8th will vote at the discretion of the faculty Advisor. Votes will be tabulated by the faculty Advisor and Head of School or designated representative. The eighth grade girl with the most votes will be declared the winner and will be announced at half-time of the homecoming game. Each girl will choose a male escort from DCS middle school or a family member to present her at the school assembly. Each girl's father or male guardian will escort her at the half-time ceremony during the homecoming game.

General Guidelines for Student-Athletes

DCS has a separate *Athletic Handbook* that thoroughly explains all guidelines relevant to our athletic program. Please note the important points listed below.

- Athletic Philosophy – The primary goal of the athletic program at DCS is to use athletic competition as a positive tool in the lives of our student athletes to bring glory to God through our participation and to develop within those who participate in athletics the character traits of Christ.
- Students' academic eligibility will begin at the ninth grade level. Students will be eligible for athletic participation for eight consecutive semesters beginning the first year they enter the ninth grade.
- Academic eligibility will be determined by nine weeks grades once the school year begins. In order to participate during the second, third, and fourth nine weeks of the current year, a student must have a passing grade of 60 or better in all their classes in the previous nine weeks. For fall sports, you must have passed the previous year courses to be eligible to participate the first nine weeks.
- A maximum of ONE credit may be earned/recovered during summer sessions and accepted from a DCS approved accredited school with an established summer school program; this will be considered a fifth 9-weeks grading period.
- A new student transfer must have passed all classes from the previous semester for block schedules or the previous year for traditional schedules to be eligible for the first 9-weeks of school.
- DCS student athletes are to conduct themselves with respect for their coaches, fellow teammates, fans, property, equipment, officials, the sport, and the event in which they are competing. Representing your school as a student-athlete carries a great deal of responsibility **on and off the field or court**.
- Transportation: Student athletes are to ride to the game and back to campus in transportation provided by DCS. A student may ride home with another student's parents only if his or her own parents have turned in a signed permission form to the Athletic Director or coach. At no time is a student permitted to ride back with another student.
- Assignments: Student athletes who miss classes are responsible for all class work missed. Homework assignments are due the next scheduled class period and all assigned tests are to be completed before leaving for any match or game.
- Student-athletes are responsible for seeing their teachers and getting their assignments prior to leaving for athletic contests.
- Students must be present in three of the six classes to be eligible to participate in any school related activity. A student must be present in three classes; no matter how many courses the student takes on campus.

Student Conduct and Discipline

Philosophy

DCS expects students to exhibit norms of behavior that are consistent with biblical standards and conducive to a healthy educational environment. DCS thus places a strong emphasis upon the following: whole-hearted devotion to God, unselfish regard for others, and consistent respect for those in positions of authority. In matters of student conduct and discipline, DCS acts as a partner with parents by means of adequate and timely communication.

DCS is for students who are sensitive to the many principles of Christian living that are found in the Bible. Therefore, DCS has expectations that students will refrain from certain activities that are not in accordance with biblical principles. Although such man-made regulations cannot improve our standing in Christ, they can strengthen the life and testimony of both the individual and the school. Each member of the school community must assume responsibility for his or her own actions and must conform to the rules established by the school, as well as the laws of society and the law of God.

Students are expected to be punctual and to take responsibility for their own appearance and that of the school campus. Dishonorable, abusive, or disruptive behavior is unacceptable. Behavior standards apply both on and off campus. The school reserves the right to implement disciplinary actions whenever it is deemed necessary by the administration and to refuse continued enrollment to a student whose behavior is unacceptable.

A progressive disciplinary policy is followed which begins with warnings and counseling by the teachers. If inappropriate behavior continues, the student will be brought to an administrator. Detention will be the next step followed by suspension. Ultimately, the school reserves the right of expelling any student for not complying with the rules of DCS. At the point of detention, the classroom teacher will notify the parents and Administration. Detentions are served by students at the convenience of the teacher or administrator in charge and failure to attend a detention will result in further disciplinary action. The school reserves the right to exclude students from participation in off-campus trips and activities in cases of excessive inappropriate behaviors.

Out of school suspension results in an academic penalty. Students whose absence is due to disciplinary suspension are not allowed to make up missed work and earn a "0" for the missed classwork assignment or quiz administered during the suspension period. Tests will, however, be the exception; students will be permitted to make up any major tests administered during their suspension,

provided they coordinate with their teacher to complete them within two school days of their return.

At any grade level, dismissal from school may be the result of major disciplinary infractions, continued refusal to obey the rules of the school, or when a student's activities out of school are determined to be potentially detrimental to the name of Christ, the school or the student body. While it is not the intention of the school to monitor student conduct during non-school times, the school reserves the right to make its own investigation of incidents involving enrolled students and to determine whether continuation of the student's attendance is in the school's best interest. The administration may suspend or dismiss a student for actions made on or off campus which reflect unfavorably upon the school.

Specific Guidelines for Behavior

Violation of the following guidelines may result in disciplinary action. Since no list of behaviors can anticipate every possibility, this list is not meant to be all-inclusive. The school may take disciplinary action for some behaviors which are not listed here, but which are inappropriate in the opinion of the administration. All students shall:

- fulfill their responsibilities in reporting to all classes, being on time, and completing their assignments
- show proper respect for all persons
- respect school and individual property, including other students' lockers, book bags, etc.
- adhere to the dress code
- avoid behavior which could lead to the injury of others
- avoid racial, ethnic, sexual, or any other form of harassment
- avoid bringing onto campus any item which may be perceived as a weapon
- drive slowly and park automobiles only in designated student parking places
- avoid areas which are off-limits during the day, such as the wooded areas around campus and the student parking lot (except seniors with off-campus privileges)
- avoid eating and drinking outside of approved areas
- avoid any form of gambling
- avoid possession or use of any form of tobacco, e-cigarettes, vaping devices, alcohol, drugs, drug paraphernalia, any intoxicating substance, etc.
- avoid obscene language or threatening statements or actions directed at any other person
- remain on campus during school hours unless they have specific permission to leave
- avoid fighting or horseplay
- avoid borrowing or using another person's property (books, cell phone, clothing, etc.) without permission
- refrain from texting or emailing teachers' personal email accounts (use school email accounts to communicate)
- refrain from using social media with teachers

Additionally, the following items specifically are not permitted at school: playing cards, knives, guns, explosives of any kind (including firecrackers), lighters, skateboards, water guns, electronic games, and pornography of any type.

Consequences for Behavior

Level One

- **Warning** – Teacher counsel, parent and administrative notifications.
- **First** Infraction – Administrative counsel and parent notification.
- **Second** Infraction – Administrative counsel, parent notification, and one after school detention is assigned unless severity of offense elevates it to level two.
- **Third** Infraction – One-day suspension and parent notification.
- **Fourth** Infraction – Three-day suspension and parent notification.
- **Fifth** Infraction – Five-day suspension and student is placed on probation. Student and parent must meet with Administrators and possibly the Board of Directors Discipline Committee.

The fifth infraction may result in expulsion from Dillon Christian School.

Level Two

Some infractions will necessarily bypass after school detention and be subject to immediate suspension and expulsion. The following is not all-encompassing but this would include: fighting, possession of a weapon, possession of drugs or intoxicants, possession of any drug paraphernalia, possession of vapor products, flagrant disrespect, direct disobedience, verbal threatening of staff and other behaviors that the Administrators deem worthy of a level two action. Depending upon the severity of the action, suspension will range from one to five days and possibly recommendation for expulsion.

Senior Privileges

DCS seeks to help with the transition to college by extending some freedoms and privileges during the senior year which are similar to those experienced by college students. Senior class officers will meet with Administration to discuss and approve privileges after class elections take place each August.

Seniors who do not fulfill their obligations will have senior privileges revoked for such time as determined by the Head of School. These obligations include meeting academic and behavioral standards, class attendance, required meetings, and completing the requirements of the College Counseling Office.

Substance Abuse Policies

Substance Abuse/Search & Seizure: To help insure a safe, healthy, and productive educational environment for our students, staff, and employees, the school has adopted a strict policy with regard to the possession, use, or distribution of controlled substances and alcohol. Students under the influence of drugs and/or alcohol pose serious safety and health risks not only to themselves, but to all those who come in contact with them. Accordingly, the possession, use, consumption, distribution, or sale of alcohol or controlled substances, or having controlled substances in one's system without medical authorization during school hours, on school property, or while a participant or spectator at a school-sponsored event, or at any time when the student represents the school, will result in disciplinary action up to and including expulsion. Drug related paraphernalia are also prohibited. The school reserves the right to search any student's person on campus or off campus while participating in a school sponsored event, or while representing the school, and to search property belonging to the student, including without limitation the student's vehicle, equipment, clothing, personal effects, lunch and equipment boxes, lockers, bags, purses, cases, or other containers. Such searches may be conducted upon such cause as shall be deemed reasonable by the Head of School or designee; and, furthermore the school reserves the right to engage in random searches of a student's property without the requirement of notice and without the existence of reasonable cause. A refusal to submit to testing and/or inspection may be grounds for dismissal.

No student is allowed to possess or use a weapon at any time. This rule pertains to buses, school grounds, inside the school, field trips, special school events, and any place or situation where the image of the school may be threatened or degraded. A weapon is defined as anything that can be used to inflict harm on another person. Students found guilty of possession, or use of a weapon, on or off campus, are subject to suspension or expulsion. The school reserves the right in instances where there is potential imminent danger to the members of the school community, such as the discovery of a lethal weapon, to involve law enforcement officials.

Suspension, Probation, and Expulsion

Suspension, probation, and expulsion are severe consequences at DCS. A student may be suspended from attending DCS for a period of time to be determined by the administration. Parents will be notified of all such actions. Any student suspended from school automatically becomes ineligible for participation in or attendance at extracurricular activities such as sports, field trips, social events, etc. during the entire time period of suspension.

A student may be placed on probation for three reasons: academic, attitude, and/or disciplinary:

- Academic probation is for students with insufficient academic progress.
- Attitude probation is for a student with a rebellious spirit, which is unchanged after much effort by the teachers or a continued negative attitude and/or bad influence upon the other students.
- Disciplinary probation is for students with continued deliberate disobedience or committing a serious breach of conduct, which has an adverse effect upon the school's testimony.

The student will generally be placed on probation for a nine-week period but if the issue is significant, the time may be lengthened.

Probation will last for nine weeks beginning the Monday following the conference with the parents and student. While on probation, the student's activities will be limited and all positions of authority must be relinquished. At the end of nine weeks, the student will be taken off of probation, given a second probationary period, or asked to withdraw from the school. A student may not be placed on probation more than twice during his/her tenure at DCS.

Couples/Public Display of Affection

Physical display of affection between students is not allowed on the DCS campus or at any school activity. This includes, but is not limited to the following: holding arms or hands, hugging, kissing, etc. Serious inappropriate physical or sexual conduct may result in suspension or expulsion of students. Married students and/or pregnant students are not allowed to attend DCS. Students who live with someone outside the home and are involved in an inappropriate physical relationship may not attend DCS.

Hazing

Hazing is defined as repeated physical or verbal abuse of another student, such that the student no longer feels safe at school. Sexual harassment is considered an act of hazing. DCS complies with all state and federal statutes regarding harassment. Hazing will normally result in suspension or expulsion.

Academic Integrity Policy

At Dillon Christian School, we partner with parents to develop the whole child. We strive to integrate biblical truth and the character of God into all education at DCS. Our dedication to the development of the whole student and belief in biblical standards for our students is the basis of our Academic Integrity Policy. God's commandment is clear. He instructs us in Exodus 20:15, "Thou shalt not steal." If a student is cheating, in any form, then that student is stealing work that is not his/her own work. We take this commandment very seriously and integrity is a vital component in developing the whole student.

The Honor Code

Dillon Christian School values and strives to uphold biblical principles and the truth and character of God in all aspects of the educational process.

Academic Integrity & AI Student Policy

Dillon Christian School values and strives to uphold biblical principles and the truth and character of God in all aspects of the educational process. In obedience to Scripture, students are called to work with honesty, integrity, and excellence, doing all things as unto the Lord (Colossians 3:23). AI is intended to enhance learning—not replace the critical thinking, creativity, and diligence that God calls us to developThis policy governs the truthful and ethical use of Artificial Intelligence (AI) tools.

Honor Code Reference

Using AI deceitfully or trying to pass off computer-generated work as your own violates the Dillon Christian School commitment to biblical truth and personal honesty. Scripture reminds us that "Lying lips are an abomination to the Lord, but those who act faithfully are his delight" (Proverbs 12:22). Therefore, misrepresenting AI work as your own constitutes **cheating, plagiarism, and academic dishonesty.**

- **The Default Rule**: Teachers will indicate when AI is not allowed on an assignment.
- **Ask First**: If you are unsure whether an AI tool is permitted, you must ask your teacher for guidance before using it.
- **Truth and Accuracy**: AI tools frequently produce false information and bias. As a student, you are fully responsible for any errors or false claims in your final submission.
- **Consequences of Violation**: Confirmed misuse of AI will result in an honor code violation. Penalties include an automatic zero on the assignment, parent notification, and a referral to administration.

Allowable Uses

When a teacher explicitly permits AI assistance for a specific assignment, it may only be used as a tool to develop your God-given intellect. When AI is permitted as a resource, **Gemini** is the approved platform. You must **always disclose** how the tool was used:

- **Brainstorming**: Generating broad topic ideas, conceptual themes, or basic structural outlines to help get you started.
- **Proofreading**: Pasting your own original writing into a tool to identify spelling, punctuation, and grammar mistakes.
- **Understanding Concepts**: Asking AI to explain a complex historical event, scientific process, or literary device in simpler terms.
- **Skill Practice**: Requesting sample problems or vocabulary flashcards to study for an upcoming test.
- **Language Translation**: Using translation tools to help learn foreign vocabulary words, provided it is permitted by your language teacher.

Prohibited Uses

To protect your academic growth and moral character, the following practices are **completely banned**:

- **Generative Copying**: Allowing AI to write sentences, paragraphs, essays, or full responses for you to copy and paste.
- **Testing Dishonesty**: Utilizing AI during quizzes, tests, exams, or any other closed-book assessments.
- **Deceptive Submissions**: Handing in an assignment that utilized AI assistance without including a clear note of disclosure to your teacher.
- **Short-cutting Homework**: Feeding worksheets, math equations, or reading prompts directly into AI to generate immediate answers.
- **Bypassing Assigned Material**: Using AI to summarize a book, article, or chapter that you were explicitly assigned to read yourself.
- **Privacy Violations**: Typing personal data, such as your full name, student ID, address, or information about others, into public AI models.

Artificial Intelligence is a powerful tool that should be used wisely and ethically. As students at Dillon Christian School, we are called to pursue excellence, develop the minds God has given us, and demonstrate integrity in every assignment and every decision. AI should support learning while preserving the honesty, diligence, and personal responsibility that honor Christ.

Honor Code Violations

It is a fundamental assumption that any work presented by students will be their own. Cheating on a test, project, homework assignment, or examination includes any case of assistance solicited, received, or offered without the prior approval of the teacher. It also includes possession or viewing of notes or other materials which could give the student an unfair advantage. Violations include, but are not limited to, the list below:

- **Plagiarism**: Any use of someone else's ideas or words without proper recognition of the source constitutes intellectual dishonesty. The methods of acknowledgment instructed by the MLA (or APA) style manual will serve as guidelines, unless a teacher provides other specific instructions.
- **Self-Plagiarism**: Submitting the same piece of work in more than one course without the explicit permission of the instructors involved.
- **Non-compliance of Dillon Christian School's Testing Environment**: Failure to comply with Dillon Christian School's testing environment will result in an Honor Code Violation.

- **Cheating**:
    - Giving or receiving assistance from written material, electronic devices, AI references, another person, or another person's paper, prior to or during an examination, test, quiz, or any other assignment which is to be the product of one individual.
    - AI unauthorized use will result in an honor code violation as outlined in the complete academic integrity and AI student policy.
    - Having another student's classwork, homework, test, quiz or workbook, or allowing a student to copy or have access to the same materials without permission from the subject teacher.
    - Discussing test or quiz questions and answers in advance. For example, discussing a quiz or test during lunch when other students still have to take the quiz after lunch or when a student has been absent from school and missed assignments.
    - Utilizing, without prior approval from teacher, Cliff's notes or other assistance.
    - Storing or obtaining unauthorized information on a calculator or phone to use for cheating purposes. The use of cheat notes, writing material on hands, or other such methods.
    - Students are not allowed to take quizzes or complete other assignments together unless approved by the teacher. It is our expectation that all work completed would be a student's own work.

Personal Statement of Verification of the Honor Code

It is Dillon Christian School's expectation that students will verify that all work is their own by writing a statement of verification on academic work that they will submit for a grade. Students will write, "I have neither given nor received any unauthorized assistance on this assignment." They will sign their name to the statement. Refusal to do so will result in an Honor Code Violation.

Honor Code Violation

The teacher will notify the student, parents, and Head of School as soon as the violation is discovered. Students may also anonymously report violations. Forms are located in the main office and must be turned in to the Head of School. Although it is Dillon Christian School's intention for the report to remain anonymous, it is not guaranteed. All violations of the Honor Code, whether teacher or student reported, will be fully investigated by the Head of School.

Honor Code Appeal Process

Once a report has been made against a student, the student will have the right to appeal the reported violation. An appeal request must be completed and turned into the Head of School within five school days. Once the appeal has been submitted, the Head of School will meet with the student and parents to explain the appeal process. At that meeting, the student and parents will be provided with a copy of the violation, teacher statement, and any additional materials.

Honor Council

The Honor Council will hear all student appeals. They will carefully evaluate all of the evidence presented and then decide if the Honor Code Violation will be upheld or overturned. The Honor Council is comprised of five members of the faculty and will remain anonymous.

Sanctions

All Honor Code Violations will be entered in the student's discipline record as an academic violation. Honor Code Violations may be reported to post-secondary institutions. In addition, students may be ineligible for awards, exam exemptions, scholarships, and participation in school organizations and leadership roles.

DRESS CODE

Philosophy

We strive for modesty, neatness, and wholesomeness in our dress code. We feel that the way a person dresses influences his/her performance and self-concept. Our dress code reinforces the standards that we have for our students, and we believe that the benefits will be far reaching into the future. It is for these reasons, we have established the following dress code standards. It is our intent to follow biblical guidelines and principles in our dress code. It is imperative we have full parental support with the dress code and all the policies/procedures of the school. When dress code requirements are not met, it takes attention away from the educational process. The DCS Administration reserves the right to decide if a student is in violation of the philosophy of this dress code. The school requests that parents help enforce the dress code by ensuring that students are appropriately attired before leaving home. Your support of the administration's decisions regarding a questionable dress situation is important. If a student comes to school dressed inappropriately, the parent may be asked to bring appropriate clothing or the student may be asked to change clothes.

Guidelines for All Students

Students are not to wear clothes that are oversized, baggy, dirty, or extremely tight. Pants that sag below the waist are not to be worn. Students are not to wear clothing advertising alcoholic beverages, tobacco, drugs, or those with offensive, obscene, or questionable printing on them. All clothing should be clean, not torn or tattered and undergarments should not be visible. No hats, caps, head coverings, or sunglasses are to be worn in the building. Hats (bill facing forward) and sunglasses may be worn outside of the buildings. Hair should be neat, clean, and without unnatural dyes or colors with no unnatural additions to the hair (no pinks,

oranges, or greens, etc.). Hair must be of a naturally occurring color and must not be styled in a "fad" style. Long wallet chains may not be worn. Inappropriate or obscene tattoos are not allowed. Pants and jeans may not have holes or cuts. Accessories must be neat and appropriate. Pajama pants, bedroom shoes, and other night clothes are not allowed unless at designated times during Spirit week. Shoes must be worn at all times.

Dress Code for Girls

- Shorts (not athletic shorts), dresses, and skirts can be worn, but must be ***no shorter than 6 inches above the knee*** (including splits). The length is determined by measuring from the floor to the hem of the garment while the student is kneeling.
- Tops should fit across the shoulder from the neck to the edge of the arm. Tops must be long enough to cover midriff while raising both arms. Tops should be loose fitting with modest coverage over the chest. No tank sweaters or tank tops are to be worn without an appropriate shirt covering. Shirts may not have cut-outs on the sides, front, or back.
- Earrings must be limited to one or two rings worn in the ear.
- Rings worn in body parts, besides the ear, are not to be displayed. However, SCISA regulations require that all jewelry be removed for athletic practices and events.
- Proper undergarments must be worn at all times and must be completely covered by outer garments. No see through, transparent, or sheer fabrics through which undergarments can be seen may be worn on campus.
- Leggings, jeggings, and yoga pants are not considered school appropriate pants.
- No two piece bathing suits allowed on any DCS sponsored events, including class trips and mission trips.

Dress Code for Boys

- Shorts (not swimming shorts) may be worn, but must be ***no shorter than 6 inches above the knee***. The length is determined by measuring from the floor to the hem of the garment while the student is kneeling.
- Tank tops and muscle shirts are not allowed. Tops should fit across the shoulder from the neck to the edge of the arm and should not be cut out under the arm. Tops must be long enough to cover the midriff when raising both arms.
- Boys may only wear boxer short style bathing suits when taking a class trip to a pool or to the beach.
- Boys are not allowed to wear earrings while representing the school. Other exotic body piercing is not permitted. Shoes must be worn at all times.
- Hair must be worn above the collar and off of the eyebrows. Hair must meet dress code without the assistance of a rubber band or other hair accessory. Facial hair is discouraged, but may be worn in a becoming manner that is subject to the opinion of DCS administration.

Lower School Dress Code (4K-5th grade)

- Tank top straps must be at least two inches wide.
- All tops must be long enough to cover appropriately with no bare midriffs showing.
- The hem of walking shorts must be at or below a student's fingertips while their arms are held at their sides.
- Tennis shoes (running shoes, sneakers, etc.) must be worn during PE classes.
- No clothing should be tight enough to reveal any undergarments.
- No costumes are permitted except during Spirit Week.
- Boys are not allowed to wear earrings while representing the school.
- Boys' hair must be worn above the collar and off the eyebrows. Hair must meet dress code without the assistance of a rubber band or other hair accessory.

Dress Code High School and Middle School for any Special Event including: Induction Ceremonies, Awards Ceremonies, Ring Ceremony, Homecoming, Baccalaureate, and Class Day

Female dresses/outfits must be approved in person with shoes to be worn.

Any student in attire that is deemed excessive or inappropriate will not be permitted to participate in the event.

Females - All dresses must comply with the below standards:

- All dresses must be of modest and appropriate taste.
- Strapless dresses, spaghetti strap dresses, tank top dresses, one strap dress and/or halter top dress are NOT approved dresses for Homecoming or special events.
- Dresses should be modestly cut in the front so as not to show cleavage; plunging necklines are not permitted.
- Dresses may not be excessively tight in appearance—please keep this in mind when selecting the fabric of the dress
- Dresses must be free-flowing, hang naturally (no body-hugging styles—this means that you must not be able to pull the dress up and have it stay up).
- Appropriate undergarments, including slips if needed, must be worn.
- Two-piece or see-through tops or bra-top-type dresses are not acceptable.
- Dresses may not have cut-outs on the sides, front, or back.
- Midriffs should not be exposed. All dresses must cover the midriff region and be modest in style with no sheer fabric.
- Slits in the dress should not be higher than six inches above the knee. The hem of the dress should not be higher than six

inches above the knee when kneeling. No sheer fabric may be used to meet the required length.
- Undergarments should be covered by the dress and should not be visible.
- No cover-ups will be allowed over a dress in order to make them meet dress code.
- Appropriate footwear must be worn for the assembly in the gymnasium, no spike heels may be worn, shoes must have a chunky heel or a heel protector (to protect the gym floor).

Males - the expected attire is:
- Dress slacks or khakis
- Dress shirt
- Tie (bow tie or long tie)
- Jacket (optional)
- No earrings/gauges are allowed

Attire for Baccalaureate and Class Day is for both Seniors and Junior Marshals:
- Boys will wear khaki pants, a white collar shirt, and a dark color tie.
- Girls will wear a white dress or white dress pants (must meet regular and special event school dress code requirements).
- Girls' dresses/outfits must be approved no later than the Wednesday prior to the Baccalaureate Service.

Note: Please remember this attire will be worn to walk up the Church steps, in the front Church pews, and also in the gymnasium facing fellow students on the morning of your Graduation!

Please Remember: Special events are for all DCS students and their families; we hope to maintain the integrity and formality of these special occasions by enforcing a respectable and appropriate dress code. There are a multitude of beautiful, tasteful and appropriate dresses, suits, and attire available for special events. Any student should seek prior approval concerning his/her attire if questions remain before purchase.

Special Note:
If a student breaks dress code, he/she will be asked to change clothes. If no change of clothes is available, parents will be contacted to bring an appropriate replacement.

This dress code is representative for all school hours and extracurricular activities, practices and dressing out. Dress code applies to students attending all DCS functions, awards programs, induction ceremonies, athletic programs, and ring ceremonies. Since fads and clothing styles change almost yearly, the administration reserves the right to make rulings on any new fads or changes in style that may occur. Prevailing fashion may not always reflect what the school considers appropriate.

Student Council

Election

Any student wishing to run for a Student Council office will sign his or her name at the designated time. It will be the duty of the faculty sponsor of the Student Council to check the grades and potential of the candidates. To be a candidate for Student Council, a student must have an overall 87 average, no more than five (5) tardies and five (5) absences per semester, no disciplinary concerns, and all positive teacher and administrative recommendations. Any negative evaluations will result in candidate disqualification.

Preamble

We, a committee representing the Dillon Christian School body, in order to form a firm and workable Student Council Constitution, are submitting our Constitution as the official approach to the planning of a direct and reliable Student Council school organization, to promote cooperation with the administration and to secure the amendments of the Constitution.

Constitution of the DCS Student Council

Article I – Officers

Section 1. It shall be the duty of the student body to elect Student Council officers and to strive at all times to uphold and preserve the provisions of the Constitution in every department of school life.
Section 2. The student body shall elect the following officers: President, Vice-President, Secretary, and Treasurer.
Section 3. The seventh through twelfth grades shall elect the following officers: President, Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer. A sign-up sheet shall be available for any student interested in running as an officer. The candidate list shall then be screened by the Head of School, the Student Council faculty Advisor, and the homeroom teacher for eligibility. The remaining candidates shall then be voted on by their fellow classmates. If only one student signs up to run for an office, he/she will still be required to participate in the campaign process; if he/she meets candidate criteria, he/she will automatically hold the office.
Section 4. Each homeroom in the sixth through twelfth grades shall elect one homeroom representative in the fall semester. This representative shall have voting power on the Student Council.

Article II – Eligibility

Section 1. To be eligible for any student office, a student must have an overall average of eighty-seven (87) in his/her immediate

past semester's average. If elected and he/she fails a course during a nine (9) week period, he/she will be given a grace period of nine (9) weeks in which the student will be inactive. At the end of this time, if his/her grades are not up to the required average, he/she must give up his/her office. If the office of President becomes vacant, the Vice-President will assume the President's duties, and an immediate election will be held to fill the vacancy of the Vice-President. If any of the other offices become vacant, then an election will be held to fill these vacancies.

Section 2. No student shall hold more than one major and one minor office. The major offices shall be Editor of the yearbook, Editor of the newspaper, Class President, and President of the student body.

Section 3. Student Council officers shall be elected with the President from the rising Senior class, Vice-President from the rising Junior class, Secretary from the rising Sophomore class, and Treasurer from the rising Freshman class.

Article III – Election

Section 1. The election of the President of the student body and the new council shall take place during the first week in May.

Section 2. Any student wishing to run for a Student Council office will sign his/her name at the designated time. It will be the duty of the faculty Advisor of the Student Council to check the grades and potential of the candidates. If the Student Council faculty Advisor feels for any reason that the student is not eligible for office, the student will be notified. Otherwise, he/she will be eligible to campaign for office.

Section 3. Each student running for office shall have one (1) campaign manager from any grade he selects (7th-12th). The campaign shall last three (3) days. On the first day, posters shall be displayed. Each student is limited to three (3) posters. On the third day of the campaign, speeches will be made to the student body and faculty. Voting shall take place on the fourth day.

Section 4. The polls will close with the bell that rings that completes the class period used for voting on the designated voting day. The counting of the votes will take place immediately following school on this day. The ballots shall be counted by the Student Council faculty Advisor and the Head of School or designee. The candidates with the largest number of votes shall win. The winners of the election shall be announced the following day. The inauguration shall take place on this day. These officers, elected for a term of one (1) school year, shall assume their duties immediately upon inauguration.

Section 5. Should any one of the above offices become vacant for any reason, the vacancy shall immediately be filled according to the plan of election.

Section 6. At the time of the inauguration, the current officers of the Student Council shall tap in the newly elected officers and charge them with the duties of the office. After accepting their charge of duties, the newly elected officers shall subscribe to the following oath, administered by the outgoing President:

> "I do solemnly swear that I will do the best of my ability to perform the duties of the office to which I have been elected: that I will neither charge anyone, so far as I know, encourage anyone to escape the proper judgment of the Student Council for fear, favor, reward, or hope of reward, so help me God."

Article IV – Duties of Officers

Section 1. It shall be the duty of the President of the Student Council to call emergency meetings to report any violations of any provision of the Student Council Constitution that comes under his/her observation; to preside at school assemblies under the direction of the school administrator, to appoint necessary committees, to work with the Student Council faculty Advisor as a preliminary advisor before consulting the administrator, to strive at all times toward the improvement of conditions within the school and on the campus. The President shall vote only in case of a tie.

Section 2. It shall be the duty of the Vice-President of the Student Council to preside at meetings of the Student Council in the absence of the President.

Section 3. It shall be the duty of the Secretary to keep accurate minutes of all Student Council meetings and to preside at meetings of the Student Council in the absence of both the President and the Vice-President.

Section 4. It shall be the duty of the Treasurer to collect all Student Council funds and to keep an accurate record of all money given over to his/her care.

Article V – Student Council Meetings

Section 1. The Student Council shall meet at least once every four (4) weeks and at such other times as provided in Article V; each Council setting itself a definite time and place for meetings.

Section 2. No Student Council officer shall be absent from Council meetings without permission from the President of the Student Council and the Student Council faculty Advisor. Any officer having three (3) unexcused absences shall be asked to resign from his/her office.

Article VI

Section 1. No student shall be guilty of lying, stealing, or bringing disrespect to Christ, DCS, or to one's self.

Section 2. No students shall be guilty of drinking alcohol or taking illegal drugs, or having the same in his possession.

Section 3. No student shall be guilty of missing a scheduled class or activity without permission from the proper authorities.

Section 4. No student shall leave the school campus without permission from the proper authorities.

Section 5. No student shall be guilty of forging the name of parents or guardians.

Section 6. No student shall be guilty of borrowing or using without permission any property that belongs to another.

Section 7. Every student shall be honor bound to refrain from cheating either on recitations, review, examination, or any other pledge work.

Section 8. Daily attendance to school and to classes is essential.

Article VII

Section 1. Any major violation of this Constitution or of the Student Handbook observed by a student officer should be brought to the Student Council and reported to the administration.

Section 2. If any minor violations are observed by a Student Council officer, it shall be his/her responsibility to uphold regulations by way of individual contact with the violator.

Article VIII

Section 1. The desired amendment shall be read before the Student Council, after which it shall lie on the table for fourteen (14) days; at the end of which time a vote by Student Council shall be taken. A three-fourths (¾) majority of all present and entitled to vote shall be necessary for an amendment to be adopted. An amendment adopted in this manner by the Student Council shall immediately become part of this Constitution.

Article IX

Section 1. This Constitution shall be in effect during school hours and during any student activities or functions.
*Clarification of School Policy (July 2006)

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