

VAIL SKI & SNOWBOARD ACADEMY
Handbook and Guidelines
2021 - 2022



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INTRODUCTION

This handbook is written for the student-athlete and their parent(s)/guardian(s) and is designed to acquaint them with the policies, services, and activities offered by the Vail Ski & Snowboard Academy. Should the student-athlete or their parent(s)/guardian(s) have questions concerning statements or policies outlined in these pages please contact the main office at 970-328-2830.

VAIL SKI & SNOWBOARD ACADEMY MISSION

Vail Ski & Snowboard Academy (VSSA) provides a rigorous secondary and college preparatory academic program while supporting the athletic and personal goals of our students. In partnership with Ski & Snowboard Club Vail (SSCV) and Eagle County Schools, VSSA facilitates the attainment of our students' dreams by offering challenging academics, flexible scheduling, and individualized attention.

VAIL SKI & SNOWBOARD ACADEMY HISTORY

The idea of a dedicated winter sports academy in our community, integrated with the public school district, belongs to Aldo Radamus, former Executive Director of Ski & Snowboard Club Vail. The innovation required for this program to develop into a fully operational school relied on the flexibility and creativity of Michael Gass, former Assistant Superintendent of Eagle County Schools. Together, Aldo and Mike married the interests of public and private along with sport and school. VSSA began with grades 9-12 in 2007 with 31 students and 2 dedicated staff as a 'school within a school' program through Battle Mountain High School, housed in the Home Economics room at Minturn Middle School.

While much was very 'rough' in the first few years, VSSA staff, with the support of ECS and SSCV was the little engine that could. We pushed enrollment to 90 students by 2010, gaining our own school code from the Colorado Department of Education. This meant that we were no longer following in the 'wake' of Battle Mountain. As our school has grown the calendars, schedules, period lengths, nutrition, busses, and more were designed around the specific training needs of our SSCV family.

Our students hardly squandered the opportunity to train and get a high school diploma. Faye Gulini became our first Olympian in 2010 at Vancouver and Heidi Kloser, Adam Crook, and Aaron Blunck joined Faye in 2014 at Sochi, then Tess Johnson in the 2018 games at Pyeongchang. A dedicated facility to VSSA was established in 2011, which supported the expansion of grades 5-8, allowing kids the opportunity to chase '10,000 hours on snow' earlier in their young careers. Meanwhile, the VSSA staff marched forward with a vision to be 'rigorous and flexible', to develop the whole child, and to instill compassion in all who join our community. VSSA has been recognized as an innovative small school community with outstanding college exams and placement metrics.

Recently, the VSSA campus added the Minturn Fitness Center, a partnership between the Town of Minturn and Ski & Snowboard Club Vail which allows VSSA athletes to train more conveniently with expert strength and conditioning coaches. We have also added 2 trampoline facilities and a pump track to the building for aerial athletes.

Vail Ski & Snowboard Academy Handbook

Academic Dishonesty

Cheating (using the work or help of another person on a paper, formative work, test, or examination), plagiarism (using the words or ideas of another person without noting the reference), and lying in reference to academic work will not be tolerated. Any of these infractions will be ground for disciplinary actions.

First offense: All participants will receive a zero on the assessment. Student-athletes will be responsible for explaining to their parents the situation. Student will document the event with an email to parents, advisor and Principal. Student will serve 2 days of lunch detention.

Second offense: The above protocol will occur. Additional disciplinary action will occur with the Principal which could include a loss of athletic training. This event will be recorded as academic dishonesty in the PowerSchool incident report and colleges may request this information for enrollment decisions.

Third Offense: The above protocol will occur. This could result in a week's removal from training.

Fourth Offense: Will result in the above disciplinary action and the student will be required to re-apply to the program with no guarantee of acceptance.

Academic Concerns - This policy is subject to change based on our new grading policy. Any changes will be communicated to parents and students by the head of school.

Excused participation in athletics is a privilege and contingent on the student-athlete maintaining a minimum passing score at all times, in each class. All student-athletes who have a score lower than 2 in any class will be listed on the "VSSA Academic Concerns" which will be updated weekly. On week 2 & 3, students will email their advisor, teacher, VSSA Principal, and SSCV Primary Coach to inform of athletic eligibility for the coming week. Following are the procedures for notification, remediation, and consequences of Academic Concerns.

WEEK 1 Academic Concerns (AC Green Zone)

Student-athletes who have a grade of a 2 or lower in any class will be placed on "Week 1 Academic Concerns Green Zone".

1. The student and Advisor will discuss the low grade and the student will create a remediation plan (This may include the teacher).

WEEK 2 Academic Concerns (AC Yellow Zone)

At the start of the second week, student-athletes who have a grade that remains lower than a "2" or lower will be placed on "Week 2 Academic Concerns Yellow Zone"

1. The student and Advisor will discuss the low grade and the student will create a remediation plan which should include the teacher for the class with the low grade.

2. The student will email the advisor and cc: parents, teacher, Principal, Counselor, Primary Coach, Head coach identifying the low grade and their intended steps to remediate the situation and provide a timeline for doing so.

WEEK 3 Academic Concerns (AC Red Zone)

At the start of the third-week Student-athletes who have a grade that remains lower than a "2" in any class will be placed on "Week 3 Academic Suspension Red Zone."

1. Advisor will email student and cc: parent, teacher, Principal, Counselor, Primary Coach, Head coach identifying low grade and the plan to fix it

Fall Academic Concerns

During the fall schedule, any student who is on week 3 will be required to report to lunchtime study hall until the student removes themselves from the AC list.

Winter Academic Concerns

Student-athletes on "Academic Concerns Red Zone" will not be allowed to participate in on-snow training during school days or be provided excused absences from school for training or competition. Student-athletes on "Academic Concerns Red Zone" during the "Winter Schedule" will report to VSSA for a proctored study period at 10:30 am - 12:30 Tuesday through Friday. If a student is on "Academic Suspension" for 2 weeks (week 4 total), a meeting is required between the Principal, teacher, and parent.

As soon as the student-athlete grade has reached a 3, the teacher of the course in question will:

1. Email the primary coach to release the student-athlete to train or compete and update the "VSSA Academic Concerns."
2. Email student-athletes if they have been released from "Academic Concerns" in their class.

Additional "Academic Concerns Red Zone" Details

- The student-athlete must maintain a grade above "3" for a minimum of a week following the release from "Academic Suspension" before their academic notice status is reset to "Week 1 Academic Concerns."
- While away from VSSA on excused athletic absences for 3 days or more in any week a student's academic status will not change.
- The student-athlete will receive 1 school day for every school day of SSCV excused athletic absence to make up a summative assessment.
- Any student who skips one "Academic Suspension" day will be required to make up the time with two days.
- If a student is 15 minutes late or more for study hall, they will be required to make up the time with an additional day of study hall.

Addressing Faculty

All students and parents are requested to address VSSA faculty members by their surnames. Example: Mr., Ms., Mrs. This request supports an environment of respect and an attitude of academic success.

Advanced Placement (AP) Courses

The College Board has developed a national program of college-level courses and exams for high school students. VSSA offers preparation in various AP courses. Student-athletes are responsible for the cost of the exams. Vouchers are available for students with financial need. The exams are given on national test dates in May. Each college establishes a level that it will accept for college credit, which can be viewed by visiting individual college websites. Contact our Counselor for more information on AP courses.

Seminar and your Advisor

Seminar provides the student-athletes with a faculty advisor who is a conduit between the student, parents, teachers, and coaches. It gives advisors a designated time each week to check in with each student-athlete by monitoring their academic and athletic progress through weekly goal setting, grade checks, and individual support. Seminar is also used to explore careers & post secondary options, host speakers, host events, administer district surveys and other programming, and provides supervised access to teachers for upper school students where students can request extra help from a teacher. Social and community issues address student's responsibilities to be involved and active in our community through community service projects and awareness of issues that affect our local communities.


Athletics outside of VSSA/SSCV

Student-Athletes are allowed to participate in athletic sports at other schools as long as it is approved by the student-athletes Program Director at SSCV. Please contact the other school you are interested in having your student-athlete attend for information regarding their athletic programs. Student-athletes are expected to complete the full school day at VSSA before going to practices elsewhere.

Note: All Student-athletes also must uphold the VSSA Academic Concerns policy for playing sports outside of VSSA/SSCV. Students are not excused for practices if any of their grades are below "2".

Athletic Eligibility for Colorado High School Athletic Association (Not SSCV Programs)

The student-athlete must be enrolled in a minimum of 5 classes each semester before and during participation, with no failing grades. Colorado High School Athletic Association (CHSAA) guidelines are as follows.

1. The student-athlete may not fail more than one class per semester, given five or more classes, in order to participate. Eligibility is based on the grades of the previous semester of attendance until the date CHSAA has determined when eligibility can be regained with successful schoolwork.
2. The student-athlete may not participate in the upcoming year if they reach the age of 19 prior to August 1st. Students may not participate for more than four years.
3. Any student-athletes who has attended more than 4 years of high school is ineligible for high school athletics.
4. Student-athletes interested in playing NCAA  college sports need to contact their college counselor for eligibility information or visit www.ncaaeligibility.com

Attendance & Absences

Student-athletes must attend all of their classes unless they have an excused absence. Due to the highly condensed academic programming, **families are expected to utilize the designated breaks for family vacations and not extend these designated breaks for vacation.** Families that choose to take vacations during school days are compromising their child's education at VSSA and their student-athlete will be held responsible to complete the assigned work for their courses.

Absent Notifications

When a student-athlete is absent due to something other than an SSCV Excused Absence, parents must notify the school by emailing the Office Manager. VSSA may request a doctor's note for physical therapy appointments or if numerous days are missed due to illness. Student-athletes continuously need to inform their teachers and advisors via email of their training and competition absences. Student-athletes are responsible for all courses missed in a timely manner during absences.

Excused Absences

Excused absences include athletic competitions and training, college visits, illness, and family emergencies. Primary Sport Coaches are responsible for communicating with VSSA on all excused absences for competitions and training. Parents do not need to contact the school in regards to these absences.

Late Arrival /Early Departure

Student-athletes arriving late or leaving early need to sign in and out in the main office. Parents are strongly encouraged to schedule appointments during non-school hours. An email to the Office Manager will suffice in letting the office know of the late arrival or early departure.

Non-athletic excused absence form (SSCV or Alternate Primary Sports Program)

Student-athletes with foreseeable future absences outside of their athletic Excused Absences need to fill out the pre-excused absence form 5 days prior to the absence, which is available in the main office. Forms must be signed by all teachers and a parent before they are submitted to the Principal.

Tardies

1. Tardies will be documented in PowerSchool and after three tardies the Principal will meet with

- student-athletes to discuss getting to class on time. If the issue persists, the Principal will contact parents.
2. Weather and traffic is not an excused absence unless there are extreme circumstances, please plan accordingly.
 3. Students will not be allowed to leave early for sports if they reach 3 unexcused tardies in that season.

VSSA Community Code of Conduct and Honor:

“As a contributing member of the VSSA community, I will make choices that demonstrate the values of character, courage, commitment, and compassion in everything that I do”.

The VSSA community code of conduct and honor is guided by the 4 C's. These codes help instill integrity in all that we do and support the development of solid and upstanding community members.

The 4C' s as defined by the VSSA Community:

- **Character:** to be an individual who contributes to the integrity of my school, my community, and my sport by being honest, being engaged, and speaking out against bullying, cheating, and disrespect of individuals and property.
- **Courage:** To stand up for all members of my community, to speak out against bullying, and do my part to ensure all community members of VSSA feel safe and valued both in school and on the hill.
- **Commitment:** Dedication to academics through perseverance and integrity. Dedication to my community through advocacy for others and for the common good, commitment to excellence in my sport through discipline and passion.
- **Compassion:** to choose kindness first, to set an example of helping others without being asked, and to set a standard of acceptance, inclusion, and gratitude for others in our community both in school and on my team.

We expect our students to uphold the 4C's which includes not engaging in the following behaviors:

- **Bullying** can include but is not limited to, pushing, shoving, hitting, and spitting, as well as name-calling, picking on, making fun of, laughing at, and excluding someone. Bullying causes pain and stress to victims and is never justified or excusable. We believe that everybody should enjoy our school equally, and feel safe, secure, and accepted regardless of color, race, gender identification, popularity, athletic ability, intelligence, religion, nationality, or sexual orientation.
- **Lying** involves intentionally misleading a classmate, teacher, or staff member with false statements, actions, or objects.
- **Cheating** occurs when you gain an unfair advantage over others on an assignment, homework or test. Such an advantage might come from looking at another student's paper; looking at your notes while a test or quiz is still out; sharing answers in written or spoken form before, during, or after a test, using technology without permission to find answers, copying or requesting/granting

an answer to a homework question is also a violation unless explicit permission to work together is granted by your teacher(s). Collaboration is when multiple students submit one product. If the assignment dictates one product per student collaboration is not permitted unless dictated by the teacher in writing.

- **Stealing** involves the intention to take and keep property belonging to someone else without his or her permission or without payment.
- **Plagiarism** is when someone takes credit for another's words or ideas, intentionally or unintentionally using direct work from another source without placing material in quotes and citing it.
- **Vandalism** includes not respecting other's property. It is also the deliberate damage of an individual or property. Some acts are very clear (drawing or writing on a desk or wall, throwing a classmate's calculator on the floor, and others may not be, such as those resulting from horseplay.).

Dress Code

Vail Ski & Snowboard Academy is an academic community that subscribes to a dress code. VSSA expects that clothing fits properly, as well as being neat, clean and modest. The Principal and the faculty will determine what is considered appropriate. Noncompliance will result in disciplinary consequences.

MONDAY DRESS CODE: The point of Monday Dress is for students to develop confidence & knowledge around how to dress in a professional manner. Monday dress should be similar to what a student would wear to an interview, scholarship or sponsorship opportunity..

Males: Ties with a collared button-down dress shirt. No golf shirts. Shirt-tails must be tucked in. Belts help keep them tucked in. Dress slacks such as chinos, corduroys, or polyester/wool blend trousers, khaki pants and shorts are acceptable.

Females: Dresses, skirts, business style pants. Dress shirts or sweaters are acceptable.

Unacceptable dress for Monday Dress Code

- Denim of any color, workout or yoga pants
- Sweatshirts, hoodies, t-shirts and hats

All Students everyday expectations:

VSSA expects that clothing will fit properly, be neat, clean and modest. The Principal and faculty will determine what is considered appropriate.

- Necklines should land 2" above the cleavage and cover the chest.
- Shorts, dresses, and skirts must be at least a 3" inseam.
- Tops should cover the midriff area completely.
- Garments with inappropriate graphics or texts including but not limited to sexual connotations, violence, swearing or drugs/alcohol/tobacco are not allowed.
- Hats, beanies, bandannas, items intended for use as headwear, are allowed in the building (except on Mondays) but may be prohibited in some classrooms and/or during specific academic activities.

NONCOMPLIANCE

1. First offense: A warning will be given and the student-athlete will be asked to report to the main office to change immediately. The Principal will be available to meet with the student-athlete to discuss the code and questions they may have.
2. Second offense: The student-athlete will be asked to report to the main office to change immediately.

Parents will be notified and expectations will be conveyed.

3. Third offense: Parents will be notified and student will be sent home and marked unexcused.

VSSA supports & accepts a gender neutral dress code

Driving/Parking Lot

All student-athletes with licenses must adhere to posted speed limits, Colorado law, and drive with care on campus. Faculty parking is in the west parking lot. Student-athletes are to park in the east lot and must always park on the pavement and never drive over the grass. Student-athletes must have insurance and registration for the vehicle they bring to VSSA, and should be prepared to present these documents to the administration if asked.

Dual Enrollment (DE) Courses

Dual Enrollment courses are specific courses at VSSA that earn both high school credit and college credit. VSSA covers the cost of tuition for all students and Colorado Mountain College generates a college transcript and grades for the student. Parents are required to purchase books and parents must reimburse Eagle County Schools for any grade lower than a C. Students with successful completion of the course are guaranteed that the credit will transfer to any in-state public (CO) institution. Each year we strive to offer several DE courses for students. Contact the College Counselor for more information on DE courses.

Early Graduation

Seniors who will have completed their graduation requirements prior to the spring term of their senior year and wish to graduate early, must complete the following.

1. A written request and accompanying letter to the principal stating the reasons for wanting to graduate early signed by the student-athlete and their parent(s). This form must be presented to the principal two weeks prior to the beginning of the term in which they wish to finish.
2. Upon receipt of the written request, the principal will review the student's academic standing with a college counselor and respond accordingly. If approved, diplomas will be awarded during commencement ceremonies that spring. Only those students who have earned their required number of credits may participate in the graduation exercise. All outside credits need to be submitted and approved at least 10 school days prior to the graduation ceremony.

Fees at VSSA

There is a required Eagle County School District fee of \$550 for every ECS student. For VSSA students, this fee goes towards the following: transportation, books, field trips, social events/dances, classroom supplies, lab renewables, spring trips, and printing/copying. The fees are bundled and can be paid in full or a payment plan may be arranged with the Office Manager. We are proud to have held fees at \$550 for the last 12 years.

Final Exams

Attendance is mandatory during the scheduled final exam window. All courses will have a final assessment, which will not be administered prior to the designated exam window unless there are extenuating circumstances. Student-athletes who do not attend their final exams will forfeit a significant percentage of their final grade.

Free Period

Juniors and seniors who are scheduled in a Study Hall may leave campus. They are required to attend their study hall if they are on the Academic Concerns list. Seniors and Junior are allowed to leave campus for lunch. 9/10 students are required to remain on campus.

Forgiveness Policy

Student-athletes who receive a D or F on a course may seek approval from the College Counselor to retake

the course. The new grade will be binding and the previous grade will be changed to a NC for No Credit, but will remain on the transcript to indicate that the course was repeated. Students need to have pre-approval when retaking a course and need to sign a contract at that time.

Grading Vision

Grading in Eagle County School District dignifies our students by telling them exactly where they are academically and what they need to be successful. Our practices promote the most aspirational thinking of what our students are capable of as learners, regardless of their race, first language, family's income, or their previous educational experiences.

Core Beliefs

Grading is a critical element to affirmatively promote equity... Traditional grading practices perpetuate our achievement and opportunity gaps while equitable grading practices promote objective assessment of academic mastery, transparent expectations, growth mindsets, a focus on learning instead of points, and student agency - all key ingredients to serve diverse learners and create culturally responsive classrooms.

1. Equitable grading and assessment practices strengthen student-teacher relationships through building trust and shared understanding. In this environment, all students know where they are academically and what they need to be successful.
2. Students are active collaborators in their own learning, partnering with teachers to ensure understanding of learning standards in a way that is transparent and responsive.
3. By fostering a culture of revision, grades inspire a growth mindset, where achievement is not fixed, but rather a process of learning through consistent recalibration of perceived ability.
4. Gradebooks communicate important and valid information for students, families, and future teachers. Grades represent a student's proficiency at the end of the learning period and honor principles of a growth mindset.

School Year 2021-2022 Focus is to move our grade book so that grades accurately reflect knowledge, understanding, and skills (not environment or behavior)

Grades Based on Academic Proficiency: Grades reflect proficiency of knowledge, understanding, and skills (standards) as measured by summative assessments or a body of evidence. Formative assessment of academic skills will be recorded in the gradebook to monitor progress, but will not be included in the final score of the course.

A Culture of Revision

All students can succeed in achieving proficiency of academic content. Building a culture of revision in our schools challenges students to continue their learning until they meet or exceed proficiency. All staff will complete their grading of student assignments within 72 hours (maximum) of receiving it. Students are discouraged from asking teachers to immediately grade work, particularly if that work is late.

Due Date Extensions

When student-athletes recognize that they will be unable to meet assignment dates, they may request an extension. The student-athlete's request may not always result in an extension. Extensions are reserved for extenuating circumstances and typically involve athletic competitions of an extraordinary nature or medical situation.

Graduation Requirements

VSSA Academic Graduation Requirements are set by the Eagle County School Board. Close attention is given to NCAA requirements when a VSSA student-athlete is interested in competing athletically at the college level. In the Spring 9th-12th grade course scheduling will be done with the College Counselor. Parents are welcome and encouraged to participate in these meetings. Please note that 25 credits are required to graduate. Guidelines for required credits are listed below. To graduate with a diploma of distinction (recognized by ECS) please see the following expectations. Please note below that the state of Colorado and our school board have adopted new requirements for the class of 2021 (Freshmen in 2017-18). These are listed below.

Standard diplomas are as follows:

4.0	English
3.0	Mathematics
3.0	Science
3.5	Social Studies (.5 must be Civics/Government and a .5 Economics)
1.5	Physical Education (SSCV)
1.0	Foreign Language
0.5	Health
1.0	Practical Skills (CTE, Arts, Internship, Community Service, Sr. Project)
0.0	Electives One of the electives must be Senior Project to graduate at VSSA.
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College prep diplomas are as follows:

4.0	English
4.0	Mathematics
4.0	Science
4.0	Social Studies (.5 must be Civics/Government and a .5 Economics)
1.5	Physical Education (SSCV)
2.0	Foreign Language
0.5	Health
1.0	Practical Skills (CTE, Arts, Culinary, Internship, Community Service, Sr. Project)
0.0	Electives One of the electives must be Senior Project to graduate at VSSA.
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Hallways

No bags are allowed to be stored in the hallways in order to keep the community space clear.

Lunch

Student-athletes in the Lower School are required to be in the cafeteria or at recess during the lunch period unless they have a written note and pass from a teacher.

9-10 Grade Upper School student-athletes must be within campus boundaries during lunch. These student-athletes and parents understand there will not always be supervision at these times should they choose to be outside of the cafeteria and or recess areas where designated faculty are stationed for duty. Juniors and seniors may leave campus for lunch. They are not allowed to bring 5th-10th grade students with them.

Off-Campus Access

Juniors and seniors are given Off-Campus Access during lunch hours. Juniors and Seniors may also leave campus

for study hall so long as they are not on the Academic Concerns list for any class, any week 2. Juniors and seniors who transport any 5th to 10th graders during school hours will lose their off campus privileges.

Parent Conferences and Student-Led Conference

Parent conferences are an opportunity for parents and teachers to share information with students about their progress, strengths and weaknesses. Parents and teachers are also encouraged to periodically meet throughout the year as needed. Parents and teachers are strongly encouraged to view themselves as teammates with common objectives; the education and growth of their child.

Phones

Cell Phones: When a faculty member is using cell phones for classroom learning student-athletes may have their cell phones out. All other times student-athlete cell phones need to be put away and turned off. Lunch and recess are technology-free for Lower School.

If a student is caught using a phone:

1st Time: The teacher will redirect the student to put it away.

2nd Time: The teacher may take the phone and be kept for the remainder of the day.

3rd Time: The teacher may take the phone and send it to the office for the remainder of the day and a meeting will be set up with the Principal to discuss the policy. The Principal will call home and a parent must come in to pick up the phone.

Office Phones: Students may use the office phone to make calls when necessary.

Physical Education

All student-athletes participating at SSCV in their discipline's full-time program will receive 1.0 credit of PE per year towards their required credits for graduation.

PowerSchool (PS)

PowerSchool is the database system that ECS uses to allow parents and student-athletes to access grades and attendance online. PowerSchool can be accessed from the Eagle County Schools website.

PTO

VSSA has an incredibly active PTO in which all parents, teachers, and staff are invited to participate. Our goals are:

1. To develop and maintain open communication between parents, teachers, student/athletes, school administration and coaches
2. To promote a cooperative effort in educating and providing athletic opportunities for the student/athletes
3. To provide support for each entity to create a positive environment among the VSSA community

Re-application to VSSA

Any VSSA student-athlete who is repeatedly on the *Academic Concerns List*, is unable to adhere to the SSCV athlete expectations or Codes of Conduct at VSSA or SSCV may be asked to reapply for the upcoming school year.

School Color and Mascot

School colors are royal blue, white, and black. The school mascot is Lloyd the Yeti.

Sexual Harassment

Sexual harassment is unacceptable whether between students and students or adults and students. Any behavior that is unwanted or that makes another person uncomfortable can constitute harassment. Student-athletes should immediately report this type of behavior to the Principal or Counselor.

Student Printing

Students are not allowed to print to the staff printer in the teacher lounge due to confidentiality. All printing should be done outside of VSSA or all assignments can be emailed and/or uploaded to Schoology. The teacher has the discretion to specify the format of all assignments.

Study Hall

Upper School Student-athletes will be assigned a designated classroom while scheduled in a Study Hall. Study Halls are an opportunity to avoid extra homework by completing assignments. Study Halls will be run with an expectation of "library-like silence".

Student Recourse Communication Model

In the instance where a student-athlete does not understand or disagrees with an assignment, a grade, or a teacher's decision or policy, the following steps should be taken.

1. Student discusses the issue directly with the teacher.
2. Student initiates the concern with their advisor, and advisor either coaches the student that the issue is not worthy of complaint, or the advisor mediates a solution with the teacher.
3. Students who disagree with the teacher and advisor initiate the concern with the Principal.
4. Student's parent initiates a discussion with student-teacher or advisor
5. Student's parent initiates a discussion with the Principal. Decisions of the Principal are considered final but a parent may appeal a Principal's decision to the Assistant Superintendent of Student Services of Eagle County Schools.

Teacher Lounge

Students will not be permitted, under any circumstances, to enter the teacher's lounge in the back of the office. This is a FERPA violation as sensitive student documents are printed on the machine in that room.

Technology and Laptops

Chromebooks will be provided to all students are expected to have their Chromebook charged and ready to go each day. Students must abide by the Eagle County Schools Technology Policy.

The laptops should be visibly marked with the student's name. The student is responsible for their Chromebook and it is recommended that they keep their laptops with them throughout the day, as well keeping them in protective cases when not in use. Sharing of laptops is discouraged unless academically necessary.

VSSA is an academic environment; movies and video games are not to be watched on campus unless part of an academic assignment. I-pads may be on campus but kept in backpacks or lockers unless approved by the teacher for use.

Online Class

Classes that are required by VSSA but are in conflicting scheduled times will be reimbursed up to \$300. Any student choosing an online class must be approved by the principal.

Internet Use

Student-athletes are expected to use the Internet for educational purposes related to classroom activities. Users are expected to abide by the ECS Technology Agreement. These include, but are not limited to avoiding web pages or email that contains abusive, bullying, obscene, vulgar, defamatory, confidential, or threatening information.

Think Tank

The Think Tank is what VSSA has dubbed the library. The Think Tank is used for students who have a free period as well as a place to engage in continuous learning. Students who are unable to use their time productively in

the Think Tank will be scheduled into a classroom instead.

Website

VSSA utilizes 2 websites:

Our main page can be found at <http://www.eagleschools.net/schools/vail-ski-and-snowboard-academy>
Information on VSSA can also be found at the SSCV website (<http://www.skiclubvail.org/academics>). It is home to staff biographies, student forms, VSSA history, college counseling information and more.

Withdraw/Fail

Student-athletes can withdraw from a course with the College Counselor. Please refer to the calendar for drop dates. After those dates any changes need to be teacher-initiated, otherwise a W/F (withdraw/fail) will be placed on the permanent transcript. Exceptions are made only with the Head of School.

Yeti Times Newsletter

A regular e-mail newsletter outlining events, issues, and upcoming calendar activities is available by sending an email request to the Office Manager. Please email pictures from competitions, news about athletic and academic events, and information that would be helpful for our school community to know. In addition to being an information resource, we want it to be a place to celebrate and highlight our wonderful student-athletes. Head of School (HOS) updates will also be regularly sent throughout the year.



Acknowledgement of VSSA Handbook

Please turn into your Advisor

Student-Athlete Name: _____ **Date:** _____

- _____ Academic Suspension Policy
- _____ Academic Dishonesty
- _____ Attendance & Absences
- _____ Campus Boundaries
- _____ Cell Phones
- _____ Code of Conduct
- _____ Compassionate Community Pledge
- _____ Dress Code
- _____ Late Assignments
- _____ Power School

- Re-application to VSSA
- Student Recourse Communication Model
- Technology Pledge