

# THE MEADOWS SCHOOL

Student & Parent Handbook



## THE MEADOWS SCHOOL

## Mission & Core Values

#### MISSION STATEMENT

In its pursuit of excellence, The Meadows School inspires ambitious students to love and respect higher learning, to passionately serve their communities, and to lead meaningful lives as citizens of a global society.

#### WE LIVE OUR MISSION THROUGH OUR CORE VALUES

#### **SCHOLARSHIP**

We hold ourselves to the highest academic standards by placing the highest value on academic rigor. Every pupil is provided with the opportunity to realize their individual potential, and students accomplish what may at first have seemed impossible. Passionate and talented Faculty "Teach them to Reach" by promoting independent thinking, problem-solving, and continual growth.

#### **CHARACTER**

A great education carries with it an obligation to self, family, and community. From the Lower School's Good Citizens program to the Upper School's Honor Code, service to others, empathy, honesty, integrity, and good citizenship are at the core of The Meadows experience.

#### COMMUNITY

Successful education requires a three-way partnership between students, Faculty, and parents. Families are welcomed to campus as active participants in a school community forged around a common appreciation for the transformative power of a top-flight educational experience.

#### INCLUSION

Our strengths are all different, and our differences are our greatest strengths. Students and Faculty value the unique qualities of each individual as vital to the shared educational experience.

#### **DISCOVERY**

Education is a journey, not a destination. We provide students with the freedom to explore athletics, arts, speech and debate, and other extracurricular activities as central parts of their educational experience. At The Meadows, students develop a love of learning by having the chance to learn what they love.

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## **Board of Trustees**

The Board of Trustees of The Meadows School has been empowered, through the Articles of Incorporation filed with the State of Nevada, with the responsibility for the present and future operation of the School. Among its duties are the hiring and support of the Head of School, establishing and being responsible for the fiscal good health of the School, maintaining and promoting the growth of the physical plant through active participation in fundraising and planning, and establishing basic School policies.

#### **OFFICERS**

Chair - Mr. Matthew C. Chilton '92
Vice Chair - The Honorable Ms. Harmony Letizia '00
Treasurer - Mrs. Joanna M. Falb
Secretary - Mr. Matthew J. Levin
Chair, Committee on Trustees - Mrs. Nazanin A. Ford

#### **TRUSTEES**

Mr. Matthew B. Becker & Mrs. April L. Becker
Mr. Robert L. Boughner
Mr. Matthew C. Chilton '92 & Mrs. Jaime M. Chilton
Mr. John H. Falb & Mrs. Joanna M. Falb
Mr. Joshua S. Ford & Mrs. Nazanin A. Ford
Mr. Paul H. Janda & Mrs. Monica Janda
Dr. Shahab Khan & Dr. Sharlin Ahmed-Khan
Mr. Conor P. Flynn & The Honorable Ms. Harmony Letizia '00
Mr. Matthew J. Levin & Mrs. Ashley L. Levin
Mr. Justin M. Michaels '99 & Mrs. Stacie T. Michaels '98
Mr. Archibald C. Rufty, Jr. & Mrs. Diane B. Rufty
Mr. Bradley J. Sher
Ms. Sylvia Tiscareño

#### **FOUNDER & TRUSTEE EMERITUS**

Mayor Carolyn G. Goodman Trustee Emeritus bestowed July 1, 2006

#### FOUNDING HEADMISTRESS

Dr. LeOre Cobbley 1984-1994 Emeritus bestowed 1992

# Administration, Faculty & Staff

TMS personnel email addresses are available on **myMeadows** and on the School website. Click on "About Us" and then "Leadership" at the top of the page and then select "Faculty & Staff Directory."

www.themeadowsschool.org

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Purchasing Coordinator Senior Staff Accountant Belinda Sapida Business Office Assistant Director of Human Resources Rachel Cardinal  Advancement Office Director of Advancement Director of Advancement Director of Advancement Director of Advancement Director of Admissions & Enrollment Management Admissions & Enrollment Coordinator Director of Financial Aid & Assistant Director of Admissions Admissions & Enrollment Coordinator Laura Ommen Director of Marketing & Communications Laura Ommen Mindy Silverman Library Aide Dispersion of Marketing & Communications Library Aide Library Aide College Counseling Assistant Library Aide Director of Marketing & Communications Lower School Registrar & Assistant to the Director Registrar & Assistant to the Director Begistrar & Assistant to the Director Lower School Registrar & Administrative Assistant Deanette Kaanoi Receptionist Director School Registrar & Administrative Coordinator Shana Gismondi Faculty Aide Shana Gismondi Faculty Aide Shana Gismondi Faculty Aide Jaimee Scoggins Innovation Manager Devin Allen Manager of Auxiliary Programs Jeremy Wells Director of Technology Ron Sandlin Technology Coordinator Greg Hilderbrand Facilities Director of Facilities Britt Peterson		Larry Schneiderman
Senior Staff Accountant Belinda Sapida Business Office Assistant Director of Human Resources Rachel Cardinal  Advancement Office Director of Advancement Director of Advancement Director of Financial Aid & Assistant Director of Admissions & Enrollment Management Director of Financial Aid & Assistant Director of Admissions Rarla Amezcua Admissions & Enrollment Coordinator Laura Ommen Director of Marketing & Communications Laura Ommen Director of Admissions & Enrollment Walker Laura Ommen Laura Ommen Director Shool Registrar & Assistant to the Director Marketing Assistant Linda Hines Director of Fachilites Director of Fachilites Director of Fachilites Director of Facilities Direc		
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Facilities Director of Facilities		
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Custodial SupervisorArturo Milan		
	Custodial Supervisor	Arturo Milan

# General School Information

Please note that the information in this handbook reflects the School's files and policies as of August 2023 and may be updated during the School year.

Each student and each parent is to be familiar with, adhere to, and be responsible for its contents.



#### INTRODUCTION

The Meadows School Student & Parent Handbook serves as an initial and integral guide to life for students at the school. While it is not possible to anticipate and cover every situation, it is the purpose of this handbook to provide an overview of key aspects of The Meadows School educational experience. **Each student and each parent is to be familiar with, adhere to, and be responsible for its contents.** 

#### **ACCREDITATION/LICENSURE**

The Meadows School is a member of the National Association of Independent Schools (NAIS), is accredited by the Northwest Association of Independent Schools (NWAIS), and is licensed by the State of Nevada. The school also is accredited by the Northwest Association of Accredited Schools.

#### ADDRESS OR TELEPHONE NUMBER CHANGE

The school must have and maintain accurate and current addresses and telephone numbers at all times. In the event of an emergency, the school must be able to contact parents quickly. If, at anytime during the school year, there is a change in this data, parents are to reflect the change in their **myMeadows** account (i.e. the parent portal). **Addresses and telephone numbers displayed online are privileged information. All such data are confidential.** 

#### **CLOSED CAMPUS POLICY**

The Meadows School operates a "closed campus" during the school day and in doing so does not permit students to leave campus without administrative permission at anytime, for any reason. Seniors should refer to the "senior privilege" section for further guidelines. Violation of the "closed campus" policy may lead to suspension and/or expulsion from the school.

#### CONDUCT

To assist students in maintaining an academically rigorous and socially inclusive environment, The Meadows Conduct guidelines emphasize the values of character, integrity, respect, and community.

Each student is expected to show courtesy and respect towards fellow students, staff, and guests; to follow the directions of supervising adults on and off campus, both in person and online; and to be responsible for his/her own behavior at all times. Enrollment at The Meadows School creates, as a matter of spoken, written, and implicit policy, an obligation to act in a responsible, considerate, and honorable manner, both in person and online. Respect for the rights and feelings of other members of the school community is essential.

All students are expected to conduct themselves in a manner that demonstrates their responsibility to the ideals, traditions, values, and regulations of the school. Students must demonstrate an appreciation of moral and ethical values such as honor, personal and intellectual honesty, courtesy, and sense of fair play, all of which are common to civilized societies. This demonstration of responsibility must be observed both in person and online.

Behavior that is contrary to the good order and discipline of the school and its community, of a nature to bring discredit to the school, illegal, or generally regarded by society as unacceptable, will not be tolerated, either in person or online.

Finally, the school believes that a positive and constructive working relationship between the school and a student's parent(s) (or guardian) is essential to the fulfillment of the school's mission. Thus, the school reserves the right not to continue enrollment or not to re-enroll a student if the school concludes, at the sole discretion of the Head of School, that the actions of a parent (or guardian) make such a positive and constructive relationship impossible or otherwise seriously interfere with the school's accomplishment of its educational purposes.

#### **CONDUCT GUIDELINES**

School policies and procedures are designed to assist students in becoming responsible for their actions. The following general guidelines are provided to assist students in understanding their personal responsibilities, and any failure to adhere to these expectations are subject to administrative review and action, including suspension and expulsion.

Students found to be in violation of the Conduct Guidelines will be subjected to disciplinary actions, will not be eligible to run for or hold office in student government in Upper School or Middle School and may be denied induction to or be removed from honor societies for one or more years following the offense. This Handbook cannot reasonably address all foreseeable disciplinary situations, and therefore the administration reserves the right to make decisions on a case-by-case basis.

- 1. All principles of behavior and conduct that apply on the school campus extend to any online behavior and school-related activity, athletic activity, function, event, travel, and to the buses or vehicles run or hired by the school.
- 2. Conduct unbecoming of a student of The Meadows School at any time while enrolled at the school, whether inside or outside of school.
- 3. The policy of the Board of Trustees states that "The Meadows School promotes and maintains a drug/alcohol free environment and will tolerate nothing less." (See item #1 above.) Students found to be in violation of this policy, or who in any manner bring discredit to the school, will be subject to immediate suspension and/or expulsion.
- 4. Absolutely no possession, use or distribution of alcohol, tobacco, edible cannabis, illegal drugs or controlled substances, or drug paraphernalia is allowed on The Meadows School campus. This includes the use of electronic cigarettes and vape pens. Notwithstanding Nevada law, the use, possession, manufacturing, dissemination or being under the influence of medical or recreational marijuana is prohibited.
- 5. Possession or knowledge of weapons (or replicas) of any kind are strictly prohibited. Any student who brings a weapon on campus or to any school event will be subject to administrative action, up to and including suspension or expulsion.
- 6. Vandalism, destruction or defacing of personal or school property is prohibited. Students found to be in violation of this standard are liable for the full amount of the damage as well as administrative review and action.
- 7. No student is to engage in fighting (hostile physical contact in any form), any form of harassment (including sexual), or sexual acts of any kind. Violations may result in immediate suspension or expulsion.
- 8. Bullying, harassment, intimidation, and hazing of any kind is strictly prohibited including in conjunction with academics, extra-curricular activities, or athletics. Students observing such incidents have an obligation to report this abuse to the proper authorities, whether the behavior occurred online or in person.
- 9. Abusive language, profanity, or vulgarity in word (either verbally, physically or online), gesture, or form are not acceptable. Engaging in speech, communication or behavior in person, in writing or on social media that violates the dignity or value of one's self is not acceptable.
- 10. Sexting, or the sending of inappropriate texts/pictures/messages with explicit sexual language, pictures, or content is prohibited. All electronic devices that contain inappropriate subject matter will be confiscated by the school and parents will be notified.
- 11. Violations of federal, state or local laws is prohibited.
- 12. Gang membership, gang-like activity, and criminal activity is prohibited.
- 13. Verbal or physical abuse toward a Meadows School faculty, staff member, or administrator is prohibited. Physical assault, battery, or the threat of endangerment of another student, faculty, staff member, or administrator is prohibited.
- 14. Theft is prohibited.

- 15. Students whose conduct disrupts classroom learning will be subject to dismissal from class. Subsequent occurrences of such behavior may require a counseling referral, parent conference, suspension, or expulsion from the school.
- 16. Students are not to sell or solicit items on campus without the specific permission of the administration.
- 17. Students are not to bring any item to school that might be judged as dangerous (including pets), unless first obtaining specific permission and instructions from the administration.
- 18. Students are to be on time and prepared for each class; this includes having all necessary materials and assignments, including computers.
- 19. Students are not to enter or remain in a classroom without a faculty or staff member present.
- 20. Books and other personal property are to be kept locked in assigned places.
- 21. School telephones are to be used only with the expressed permission of a staff member.
- 22. The school cannot and will not be responsible for students' valuables.

## DIVERSITY, EQUITY, AND INCLUSION

The Meadows School embraces inclusion as one of its core values, and strives to give students exposure to the diversity of thought, perspectives, and backgrounds they will encounter for the rest of their lives. In order to educate our students to find success in an increasingly globalized world, we will continuously articulate the imperative of diversity and inclusivity at our school. This includes teaching and knowledge and skills relating to all the nuances of culture, seen and unseen, that comprise our student body, faculty, staff, and community. Rigorous learning environments require that all students experience a sense of belonging and identity acceptance within the community. We will continue to self reflect and grow so all members can thrive.

#### DIVORCED/MULTIPLE HOUSEHOLD FAMILY POLICY

The school is committed to making reasonable efforts to accommodate students with parents living in separate households. Communications regarding such issues as academic progress and behavior reports can be sent to multiple households or email addresses at the request of one or more parents. Custodial and non-custodial parents are given access to myMeadows parent portals. It is expected that divorced or separated parents work in good faith with the school and its employees in order to prioritize the health, well-being, and educational interests of their children. For its part, the school abides by divorce decrees and may request such documentation in order to best serve the needs of students.

#### **EMERGENCY PROCEDURES/DRILLS**

Upon notification of a possible emergency situation (natural or man-made disaster), staff will provide direction and guidance to the students and notify parents. Monthly fire and/or safety drills are conducted. The school maintains a FIRE ROAD through and around the campus by order of the Fire Department. This road is off limits to any unauthorized and non-Fire Department vehicles at all times, and no parking is permitted on any portion.

#### FINANCIAL AID

The school actively promotes an open admission policy for students of high academic promise and achievement. Tuition assistance is made available to assist admissible K-12 students of financial need. The formulae and recommendations of our financial aid system, *Clarity*, are utilized by The Meadows Financial Assistance Committee in determining appropriate levels of support for families seeking aid as funds are available. Continuing Meadows students receiving financial aid must maintain satisfactory status in academics, behavior, and attendance.

#### GIVING TO THE MEADOWS

The Meadows School is a nonprofit organization described in section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. This means all gifts received are deductible to the extent allowed by federal law.

As a nonprofit, the school solicits parents, alumni, trustees, faculty, staff, and friends with an expectation each will participate in giving. There are many ways to give (cash, appreciated stock, etc.) and many areas to support (annual fund, endowments, capital items, and scholarship).

For more information on giving, please contact the school's Advancement Office at 702-797-5901.

#### **GRIEVANCES**

The school has the following Grievance Policy as a guide for parents and guardians to solve possible grievance issues in the most effective manner. This policy serves as a guideline, but the Head of School has the final decision in all matters. The following procedure will be followed whenever a parent/guardian and/or student has a particular grievance:

- STEP 1: The parent/guardian is to set an appointment to meet with the faculty or staff member involved in the grievance. The department chair or division director may also be present.
- STEP 2: If the issue is not resolved, the parent/guardian may ask for a meeting with the department chair and/or division director.
- STEP 3: If the issue remains unresolved, the parent/guardian is requested to contact the Head of School's office to set an appointment. The parent/guardian and/or the Head of School may request the involved parties also be present.

No outside individuals, including attorneys, will be permitted to provide representation or participate in the investigation process.

#### HARASSMENT, INTIMIDATION, AND BULLYING

## Harassment, Intimidation, and Bullying (HIB) Defined

Harassment, intimidation, or bullying refer to any written, verbal or physical act (in person or online) based on a student's identity, such as race, ethnicity, religion, language use, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity and expression, socioeconomic class, learning style, disability, mental health condition, or by any other distinguishing characteristic. These interactions, taking place on or off-campus, at a school-sponsored function, on the school bus, or online, are ones that substantially disrupt or interfere with school functioning and the rights of other students to have identity safety. These behaviors or comments:

- Have the effect of physically or emotionally harming a student or damaging the student's property.
- Place a student in reasonable fear of physical or emotional harm to his person or damage to property.
- Have the effect of expressing prejudice against a particular group, especially on the basis of race, religion, or sexual orientation.
- · Create a hostile educational environment.

### **Examples of Harassment**

Harassment can take many forms, and may include verbal, written, visual, and physical conduct:

- Verbal, written, and visual harassment includes, but is not limited to:
- making disparaging statements, telling jokes, using epithets, slurs, stereotypes, insults, or labels, threats of physical harm or statements designed to intimidate, abuse, or humiliate another
- Physical harassment includes, but is not limited to: intimidating conduct, such as touching of a person or a person's property without their consent, assault, grabbing, stalking, or impeding a person's movement
- Examples of sexual harassment may include, but are not limited to:
  - unwelcome or intimidating verbal or written conduct, derogatory comments, sexual innuendos, slurs, offensive sex-oriented jokes, unwanted sexual advances, invitations, or comments
  - unwelcome or intimidating visual conduct, including notes, letters, emails, text messages, social media postings, or other displays of sexually suggestive objects, pictures, posters, cartoons, or drawings
  - unwelcome or intimidating physical conduct which may include hugging, patting, pinching, touching, or kissing.

#### Examples of Bullying

"Bullying" is defined as any deliberate and/or pervasive/repeated physical or verbal act or conduct, including communications made in writing or electronically directed towards one or more students that has or can be reasonably predicted to have the effect of one or more of the following:

- placing a student in reasonable fear of harm to that student's person or property
- causing a reasonable student to experience a substantially detrimental effect on one's physical or mental health
- causing a reasonable student to experience substantial interference with one's academic performance
- causing a reasonable student to experience substantial interference with one's ability to participate in or benefit from the services, activities, or privileges provided by the school

- Examples of bullying behavior include, but are not limited to:
  - verbal—taunting, malicious teasing, name-calling, threatening, or intimidating
  - physical—hitting, kicking, spitting, pushing, stalking, or attempting to make physical contact or inflict physical injury
  - psychological—spreading rumors, public humiliation, manipulating social relationships, or promoting social exclusion, extortion, or intimidation

"Cyberbullying" is defined as abusive behavior toward another student by use of technology to send or post text and/ or images that are intended to hurt, intimidate, or embarrass. Cyberbullying methods include, but are not limited to:

- sending hate emails or text messages or images
- posting hateful speech to a website
- forwarding private emails or texts without permission
- impersonating someone else by using that person's email address, social media platform, or cell phone number
- taking potentially embarrassing photos and posting the images on the internet or sending them electronically

The school has the right and discretion to discipline students for bullying and cyberbullying that occurs both on campus and off campus.

## Complaint Procedure

If a student or parent becomes aware of harassment, intimidation, or bullying of any kind, or feels a victim of harassment, intimidation, or bullying, this information must be communicated immediately to the Dean of Students, the division director, or the Director of Student Support Services, either verbally or in writing. Any such complaint must be specific and should include all relevant information so that the school may conduct a thorough investigation of the incident. While the school does not limit the time period for reporting, immediate reporting is important as the school may not be able to investigate as thoroughly or consider as wide a range of corrective actions the longer time has passed between the alleged misconduct and the report.

#### Interim Measures

The school may provide appropriate interim support and reasonable protective measures, if and as needed based on the particular applicable circumstances, to protect against further acts of harassment or acts of retaliation, to provide a safe educational environment, and/or to protect the integrity of an investigation. The school will, in its sole judgment and discretion, determine the necessity and scope of any interim measures.

## Investigation Process

The school will promptly investigate any allegations brought to the attention of the school through the aforementioned means. An investigation may involve interviews with the complainant, the alleged offender, and others. Any investigation may be conducted by designated school personnel, or in some cases, by an outside investigator at the school's sole discretion. Students and parents are required to cooperate in any investigation as needed including providing all requested information, like access to phones, text messages, social media messages, etc. Failure to cooperate in the investigation process may result in disciplinary action, up to and including suspension or expulsion from the school. Any individual who is interviewed during the course of an investigation is prohibited from discussing the substance of the interview, except as otherwise directed and as necessary in relation to any administrative or legal proceedings or as otherwise required by law. No outside individuals, including attorneys, will be permitted to provide representation or participate in the investigation process.

Falsely reporting bullying, harassment and/or intimidation, and/or the making of such reports that are not, in the school's opinion, made in good faith are also a violation of this policy. This would include reports made that are knowingly false and/or done for retaliatory purposes. Any student found to have provided false, deceptive, or untruthful information or to have made a report not in good faith may be subject to appropriate disciplinary action, which may include suspension or dismissal from the school.

## Confidentiality

Reports of harassment will be kept confidential, except as needed to conduct an investigation, to take interim measures, to take corrective action, to conduct ongoing monitoring, or as necessary in relation to any administrative or legal proceedings or as otherwise required by law.

#### Consequences

Division Directors will establish consequences for students found in violation of this policy will follow after a thorough investigation. The intent, nature and intensity of the incident, as well as the student's age, learning profile, and discipline history, will be considered in the determination of consequences, at the sole discretion of the school. Consequences include, but are not limited to, the following:

- 1. Parent conferences and support
- 2. Referral to school counselor
- 3. Schedule change
- 4. Stay-away or behavior contract
- 5. Referral/mandated outside counseling services
- 6. Detention(s)
- 7. Educational research or service learning project
- 8. Removal from honor societies, leadership positions, or other such recognitions or privileges
- 9. Removal from extracurriculars
- 10. Suspension
- 11. Expulsion
- 12. Legal Action

The school may mandate participation in any intervention services for the student to remain enrolled at the school, and may require access to records, including status updates from external providers.

## HONOR CODE (ALSO SEE HONOR CODE COMMITTEE)

All members of The Meadows School community are expected to be individuals of integrity, the key concepts of which are respect and responsibility, having honor, and being truthful, both in person and online. Members of the community should show respect for self, for others, and for property. This includes being respectful of the intellectual property of others. Each student must accept responsibility for his/her own actions, including his/her own learning.

The following are examples (but not a complete list) of violations of the Honor Code:

## Cheating: Cheating is defined as intellectual theft, examples of which include (but are not limited to):

- 1. Copying answers directly from another student's paper for a homework assignment or during examination.
- 2. Using unapproved or unauthorized notes or electronic information during an examination.
- 3. Turning in another person's assignments or work as one's own.
- 4. Using a copy of a test or answer key from either a current or previous examination given by a teacher.
- 5. Plagiarizing, which is defined as passing off as one's own work the ideas or work of another (including artificial intelligence) without proper attribution or credit.
- 6. Unauthorized collaborating with another student or students. Each member of the faculty will include expectations regarding appropriate collaboration and intellectual honesty as part of his/her general expectations.

Lying: Lying is defined as making an untrue statement with the intent to deceive.

Theft: Theft is defined as wrongfully taking the property or identity of others.

The administration reserves the sole right to review and determine appropriate disciplinary action for all offenses.

#### LIBRARY POLICIES

#### Hours

The Beginning & Lower School Library is open from 8:15 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., Monday-Friday. The Middle & Upper School Library is open from 7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday-Friday. Alternative hours will be posted or communicated when necessary.

#### Conduct and Devices

- There is no food or drink allowed for students in the libraries, except water in a closed container.
- · No cell phones are allowed in the libraries.
- The Beginning & Lower School Library lends devices (iPads, laptops, etc.) specific to each grade level during school hours for use in the library and classroom.
- The Middle & Upper School Library lends headphones, laptops, video cameras, chargers, etc. for use during library hours.
- The Middle & Upper School Library copier, printer, and desktop computers are for school purposes only and may only be used with the permission and assistance from the library staff or faculty.

#### Confidentiality

Names of students and their requests and reading histories are held in confidence and will not be discussed outside of a reasonable professional context. The libraries adhere to the Code of Ethics of the American Library Association.

#### Loss and Damages

If a print book and/or library owned device is lost or damaged, the school must be reimbursed for the value of the item before additional items may be checked out or used in the library.

#### Regarding Content

The mission, core values, and practices of The Meadows School inform the school's approach to library management and policies. It should be noted that, where policy might be deemed unclear, the school reverts to its mission and core values for guidance. Therefore, the Beginning & Lower School and Middle & Upper School libraries provide a welcoming environment for students, parents, faculty, and staff to:

- Pursue free and open inquiry into academic and personal interests;
- Engage with diverse ideas and information in a variety of formats;
- Work collaboratively to solve problems for the greater good;
- Develop knowledge and skills necessary for success in the 21st century;
- And cultivate a lifelong love of learning and reading.

Any questions, comments, or concerns from parents about library materials can and should be directed to the appropriate library staff. More complete policies regarding borrowing privileges and responsibilities, materials adoption and reconsideration can be found on the school's website.

#### LOST AND FOUND

Items that are found by students, faculty, or staff are to be turned in to the front offices at the respective buildings (Beginning, Lower, Middle, or Upper). Items not claimed by their owners are donated to charitable organizations at the end of each quarter.

#### LUNCH PROGRAM (OPTIONAL)

The school provides an on-campus lunch program wherein Lower School students have a daily choice of entrees to be delivered to the Lower School Common, and Upper and Middle School students have the opportunity to visit the Mustang Corral to purchase a lunch and/or snack. **The Corral is cashless.** Middle and Upper School students wishing to purchase lunch or snacks from the Corral must have an online account. In Beginning School, lunch is provided for full-day students. More information regarding participation is available from the Business Office at 702-797-5930 or on our website.

#### **MEDIA POLICY**

All media requests involving The Meadows School students, faculty, staff, or campus, including but not limited to newspaper, magazine, TV, or radio interviews, and photo ops or photo shoots, should be directed to the Meadows Director of Marketing & Communications in the Advancement Office at 702-797-5912, for vetting and scheduling as appropriate for the school's mission and branding. The Director of Marketing should also be present when possible any time media is hosted on campus, whether scheduled or impromptu, with the exception of routine media drop-ins at athletic events.

#### **HEALTH/MEDICATIONS**

It is the goal of The Meadows to keep students in class as much as possible, however, illness or injury may require early dismissal. When necessary, parental contact will be made to advise of the student illness or injury requiring possible medical attention or pick up from school as soon as reasonably possible. The student will only be released to the parent/guardian or office-registered designee(s). Emergency telephone numbers must always be kept accurate and current. It is recommended that the school have emergency numbers that are not the same as the parents. Universal precautions are observed in the care of student illnesses and injuries.

Parents are expected to keep sick children home and to notify the school if their child contracts a contagious disease. Prior to the student's return, the school may request a written release from a licensed healthcare provider (non-parental) after a contagious illness or after an absence of three or more days. When a student returns to school after an absence due to illness or injury, it is assumed they can participate in a full program, unless written notice of restriction is received from a licensed healthcare provider (non-parental). Refer to the Sick Students and Contagious Disease Policy in the myMeadows portal for more information.

Parents are required to complete a yearly Health History Form for each student. For Beginning School students, the Health History Form must be signed by a licensed healthcare provider (non-parental). Updated Health History Forms should be submitted any time there is a change to the student's health or medical history. Additional information for students with allergies, asthma, or diabetes can be found on the **myMeadows** portal. It is the responsibility of the parent to ensure current, unexpired emergency medication(s) are provided to the school when necessary to manage the student's condition.

All students must have appropriate immunization documentation on file prior to the first day of school. Refer to the Immunization Policy in the **myMeadows** portal for more information.

#### MyMEADOWS (PARENT & STUDENT PORTAL)

The school utilizes a web-based educational software program called **myMeadows** to communicate with students and parents through emailed progress reports and an online grade book and notification system. Parents and students are expected to log in to **myMeadows** on a regular basis to keep abreast of classroom developments, assignments, and grades. Calendars and links to other relevant publications and websites can be found here as well.

#### **PUBLICATIONS**

The school produces several publications for both student and parent information and use. These include but are not limited to the Lower School, Middle School, and Upper School yearbooks, the Upper School student-generated newspaper, and Scholar Lane magazine. During enrollment, parents/guardians may submit a media exception using the Photo/Video Usage form to request their child(ren) not appear in school-produced publications, the website, social media, or other mediums. This form does not apply to yearbooks, which include all enrolled students.

#### **RE-ENROLLMENT POLICY: ACADEMIC**

A student whose re-enrollment is in question will be denied re-enrollment for the subsequent year unless, at the conclusion of a probationary period, either the student has achieved satisfactory academic status, and the faculty believes that the student will benefit from and contribute to the school's program in the future, or, in the judgment of the Faculty Committee or administration, extenuating circumstances warrant the student remaining in the school pending further review.

The school also reserves the right to deny or rescind re-enrollment at any time to a student whose academic performance has become so significantly in question or below the satisfactory level in the judgment of the Faculty Committee or the administration that separation is warranted.

#### **RE-ENROLLMENT POLICY: BEHAVIORAL**

Continuing academic difficulty, as described above, is not the only grounds for denial or rescinding of re-enrollment privileges. The school reserves the right to deny or rescind re-enrollment at any time to any student whose attitude or behavior, in the judgment of the administration, indicate that the student's continued presence in the school would not be beneficial to the student or the school.

#### SCHOOL SPONSORED TRIPS/FIELD TRIPS

Students on disciplinary probation or disciplinary contract may not be permitted to attend school sponsored trips. To be eligible to attend, a student must:

- Be current on school work.
- Be current on financial obligations.
- Adhere to all rules and regulations regarding riding the bus or transportation, lodging and restaurants, as well as all directives given by the chaperones from the time the group departs until its return.
- Comply with the school's Conduct Guidelines at all times.
- Be present at the start of the school day, without illness.

Participation in field trips is a privilege and may be revoked at any time. Repeated disciplinary action during the school year may make a student ineligible for trips that are not academic in nature.

All student bags will be searched by a coach, advisor, faculty, or administrator prior to boarding the bus for all overnight trips. While on trips, chaperones are to know the whereabouts of all students at all times. Further, no students are to leave their assigned rooms after bed check.

#### **SECURITY**

The Meadows campus is under 24 hour surveillance and is monitored by security personnel. Doors to the exterior of buildings are controlled using a card-access system which allows them to be locked remotely. Furthermore, campus buildings are equipped with a campus-wide mass notification system, including a "push-to-talk" button in all classrooms which allows one-touch, immediate communication with administrative offices. All visitors are required to check in at the Guard Gate and at division offices (Beginning, Lower, Middle, or Upper). Any member of the school community noticing unknown persons on campus are to advise the nearest staff member immediately. All staff, students, and parents are provided security decals for their vehicles as part of the security policies of the school.

#### SPIRIT STORE

The Meadows online spirit store sells items such as Meadows sweatshirts, t-shirts, hats and other school-branded gear. All orders can be placed online at www.themeadowsschool.org/spirit. (See **Uniform Code** for guidelines for wearing spirit apparel.)

#### STUDENT ILLNESS

Parents are asked to keep their kids home when they are ill, including with a fever over 100 degrees (stay home until fever free for 24 hours without medication); vomiting (stay home for 24 hours); strep throat (must stay home until on antibiotics and fever free for 24 hours), and mono (must be fever free for 24 hours).

#### STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES

The Meadows School strives for excellence in education, including the support of both academic and social-emotional needs of its students. In order to best meet these needs, TMS established Student Support Services (SSS). This team consists of the Director of Student Support Services, the School Nurse, a Beginning/Lower School Academic Learning Specialist and Intervention Support Specialist, an Upper/Middle School Academic Coach, and three divisional School Counselors. The SSS collaborates regularly with administrators, faculty, students, and families to assist students in receiving what they need to achieve their highest potential. This includes three levels of support across the social-emotional and academic branches.

Universally, the SSS consults with faculty about pedagogical strategies to best encourage the needs of all learners and provides social emotional instruction to every student. The second level of support includes targeted strategy consultation with faculty and working with students individually and in small groups. The third level of support may include the recommendation for an outside evaluation to better understand a child's learning or behavior challenges.

If the occasion arises that a student's needs warrant outside educational testing and support, the Student Support Services personnel may refer students to outside care teams and develop Student Support Plans (SSPs) based on the recommendations of the external provider, at the expense of the parent or guardian. Students with prior educational or mental health diagnoses are encouraged to submit their formal evaluation paperwork for the development of an SSP as well. These SSPs are formal documents outlining accommodations recommended for their learning and success. Across all tiers, the SSS consults and collaborates with families on a range of educational topics, but the school does not modify the college preparatory curriculum.

#### **Tutoring**

Outside tutoring may prove to be beneficial for a student with undeveloped study skills or for one who is experiencing significant difficulties in a particular subject. When temporary academic difficulties arise, parents should discuss the situation with their student's advisor, faculty, or the Director of Student Support Services to ensure that the student is taking full advantage of all of the additional assistance available on campus first. Long-term tutoring should not be necessary and is not in the best interest of the student. Tutoring should not be considered as an option to remediate students who are not well prepared for class or who are failing to hand in homework.

Student Support Services acts as a resource hub and can connect families with internal and external providers to support student needs. SSS maintains lists of external providers ranging from psychologists to vision specialists and has established relationships with several external providers to facilitate services on campus should that best meet the needs of the student. These providers include tutors, occupational and physical therapists, and speech/language pathologists. For more information about supports and services, contact Dr. Kristin Withey at kwithey@themeadowsschool.org.

#### **TECHNOLOGY EDUCATION**

The Meadows School has put into place a Pre-Kindergarten through Grade 12 Technology Education Curriculum to help foster creativity, collaboration, research, critical thinking, problem solving, and digital citizenship. This curriculum is presented at age-appropriate levels, and is facilitated by the adoption and support of appropriate educational technologies, such as interactive whiteboards, campus-wide wifi, etc.

#### TECHNOLOGY RESPONSIBLE USE POLICY

## Statement of Responsible Use

The Meadows School uses and maintains its technology to promote educational excellence through networked information and participation in online communication services. The school's technology supports its mission; access to the technology is a privilege and is subject to the highest ethical standards. This policy is intended to be an addition to existing school rules and regulations and does not supersede or modify any other school policy, rule, or regulation. The Responsible Use Policy applies to all users of the school's networked information technology resources—whether accessed in school, from home, or elsewhere.

Networked information technology resources include, but are not limited to, all hardware, software, data, communication devices, mobile devices, printers, servers, Internet resources, online communication services, and local and wide area networks.

As a community, we rely on The Meadows School's stated Core Values to trust that, when users log onto their school-provided accounts or use any available technology, they are, in effect, promising not to abuse the system or other users of the system, nor the trust the school places in them. The Meadows School also makes a good faith effort to protect its students from exposure to Internet materials that are harmful or explicit and maintains content filtering and safety practices.

#### Network Usage

This policy does not attempt to articulate all required or proscribed behaviors by users of The Meadows networked information technology resources. Everyone must rely on his/her judgment of appropriate conduct, based on compliance with all federal, state, and other applicable laws; all generally applicable school rules and policies; all applicable contracts and licenses, and additional guidelines set forth below.

General Network Usage: Authorized and Appropriate Use: Students, faculty, staff, and guests must use only those information technology resources they are authorized to use and to use them only in the manner and to the extent authorized. Do not use The Meadows information technology in any way to disrupt its use by others. Students may not use others' computer accounts or passwords under any circumstances. Likewise a student may not allow a student to use his/her account password under any circumstances. Students may not impersonate another's identity on the school computer networks, electronic resources, or websites. Students may not make any changes to settings, programs, applications or files on school computers, laptops, or equipment without the consent of the supervising faculty member or IT personnel.

**Etiquette:** When using The Meadows School's information technology, users are expected to follow generally accepted network etiquette which includes, but is not limited to: be polite, use appropriate, non-abrasive language. Do not use the network resources to make defamatory remarks, sexual, gender-related, or racial slurs, or to use obscene or profane language.

Data Access and Security: Users shall not attempt to harm or destroy data in any way (including introducing viruses and other forms of vandalism), change network settings or any other applications, reconfigure or attempt to disrupt the network in any way.

Network Administration: Only licensed, school-related software shall be downloaded or installed.

#### Privacy, Security, and Safety

All users of The Meadows School's information technology resources must respect the privacy of other users and their accounts, regardless of whether those accounts are securely protected. Unauthorized disclosure, use, or dissemination of personal information regarding minors or other members of the school community is prohibited.

Internet IDs and passwords are provided for each user's personal use only. Passwords should not be revealed or shared with anyone. Other than the Network Administrator, as directed by school Administration, users are not permitted to attempt accessing technology resources using another person's account or password. Each account owner is responsible for all activity under their account.

Students, faculty, staff, and guests have no expectation of privacy when using Meadows information technology. Any and all activities performed on the school's network can be monitored, with or without a user's permission. Use of The Meadows School's networked information technology resources constitutes a waiver of any privilege or other confidentiality protection that might otherwise have applied.

By accessing, using, creating, transmitting, or otherwise storing any information or files on any of The Meadows School's networks, users consent to the school's disclosure, use, and/or dissemination of such information or files as it sees fit in its sole discretion.

#### Social Networking

Meadows students, faculty, and staff must adhere to school guidelines that prohibit posting to the Internet or via e-mail personal contact information, confidential information, private/non-public information, derogatory comments about other people or about the school, or inappropriate artwork, photographs, digital images, or unauthorized video of the school or of school personnel. When in question, the appropriateness of postings shall be determined by The Meadows School Administration. The Meadows School network is a private network. The use of this network to access and/or post to social media sites is prohibited during the school day. Any photos or videos taken while on The Meadows School campus or while in a Meadows uniform, including off campus, and posted to private social media accounts should be appropriate and follow the conduct guidelines outlined in this handbook.

No student should create, follow, or contribute to a private social media account that falsely represents itself as an official Meadows School account. All official social media accounts must be approved and supervised by the Director of Marketing & Communications. Use of The Meadows School logo and other signifying materials are not allowed without the express permission of the Director of Marketing & Communications.

Legal Compliance: All users of The Meadows networked information technology resources must comply with federal, state, and other applicable laws, in addition to all generally applicable school uses and policies. Users must not use information technology resources for any purpose that is illegal, unethical, dishonest, damaging to the reputation of the school or other members of the school community, or inconsistent with the mission and values of the school. Examples of such laws include, but are not limited to: laws of defamation, privacy, copyright, trademark, obscenity, and child pornography; the Electronic Communications Privacy Act and the Computer Fraud and Abuse Act, which prohibit "hacking," "cracking," and similar activities.

#### Filtering

Not all material accessible through the Internet is of educational value. The Meadows School will take reasonable precautions to filter out controversial and/or inappropriate materials; however, it is impossible to monitor all materials.

#### Scope

This policy applies to all users of school information technology resources, whether affiliated with the school or not and to all uses of those resources, whether on campus or from remote locations. Members of the school community who use resources not owned by the School must adhere to this policy when connected to school networks.

## Monitoring of Technology

The Meadows School authorized personnel may monitor the use of information technology resources to help ensure that users are secure and in conformity with this policy. This school reserves the right to examine, use and disclose any data found in order to further the health, safety, discipline or security of any student or other person or to protect property. The Meadows School may use any information in disciplinary actions and may furnish evidence of a crime to law enforcement.

#### Policy Enforcement Violations

The school considers any violation of this policy to be a significant offense and reserves the right to disconnect systems from The Meadows network and suspend violators' use of information technology resources. A Network Administrator may suspend or close a user's account and/or prohibit access at any time. Any user identified as a security risk may lose their account and/or access privileges.

Violators will be subject to the regular disciplinary processes and procedures of the school that apply to students, faculty, and staff; this process may result in the loss of computing privileges and other measures, up to and including, expulsion from the school, or loss of employment. Illegal acts involving school information technology resources may also subject violators to prosecution or other sanctions by local, state, or federal authorities.

**Enforcement:** Decisions regarding violations of this policy will be made by Division Directors and in consultation with the Director of Technology.

#### TELEPHONE/TELEPHONE MESSAGES

Students are not to use the phones without administrative/faculty permission. Emergency messages will be delivered directly to the student as soon as reasonably possible.

#### **TELEPHONE SERVICE**

The school's divisional telephones are actively answered between the hours of 7:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday (except for specified holidays); thereafter voicemail access is available at 702-254-1610.

#### TUITION/FEES

The Meadows School has always prided itself in being deliberately different, offering an alternative education in an intentionally small and personalized environment, an environment in which outstanding, highly-qualified, professional faculty offer quality academic and extracurricular opportunities for the superior achievement of its students.

#### Tuition and Fees\*

Statements for tuition and fees are mailed in June for the upcoming academic year with instructions regarding different payment options. These options are: One-payment plan (payment in full) (**Tuition Refund Insurance is strongly recommended for persons paying the tuition in full)**, Two-payment plan (**Tuition Refund insurance is required**.)

Parents choosing the two-payment plan will receive a reminder statement in early January for the upcoming second payment due February 1.

Parents choosing the ten-payment plan will pay in ten equal installments using electronic withdrawal beginning in July and ending in April the following year.

In the case of a student withdrawing from the school during the course of the year, regardless of the reason for withdrawal and whether voluntary or not, no tuition refund will be made other than the refund provided through the Tuition Refund Plan. **Tuition Refund insurance is strongly recommended for persons paying the tuition in full.** 

\*Late fees and returned check fees will be assessed.

#### **Tuition Deposits**

For each student invited to enroll in the following academic year, a tuition deposit is due. This deposit reserves a child's space and is non-refundable. Spaces not reserved with a deposit by the deadline will be offered to students awaiting placement.

#### Fee/Tuition Delinquency

Statements (other than those described) are not mailed unless accounts are delinquent. Failure to remit payment as described under one of the payment plans will result in administrative action and fee assessment. Severe delinquency may result in removal of the student from class and/or further administration action.

All tuition and fees must be paid in full prior to the release of student grades or records. All billing/financial questions should be directed to the Business Office at 702-797-5929.

#### WITHDRAWAL OR TRANSFER AND STUDENT RECORDS

Students planning to withdraw or transfer should bring written notification of such intent to the Registrar's office as soon as possible. The student will receive instructions with regard to the return of library books and school property. When a student withdraws or transfers, records must be transferred directly from The Meadows School to the new school. **No grades or transcripts will be transmitted until all fees and fines have been paid.** 

## ALL SCHOOL REQUIRED UNIFORM CODE AND REGULATIONS

All branded uniform items must be from DENNIS Uniform or the Spirit Store. They may not be altered in style and should be free of holes, rips, and tears.

## DRESS UNIFORM for LOWER, MIDDLE, AND UPPER SCHOOL

Worn every Monday unless otherwise informed by the school or division

- 1. Plaid pleated skirt (6-12 only), plaid jumper (K-5 only), or tan (khaki) or navy pants worn at the waist with a belt (brown or black leather, optional for K-5, required 6-12)
- 2. Oxford button-down (short or long-sleeve), white or light blue, with the Meadows M logo (shirttails tucked in and buttons buttoned); White middy blouse under jumpers (K-5 only)
- 3. Meadows necktie (navy striped or solid navy), worn in standard way
- 4. Navy single-breasted blazer/jacket (optional 6-8, required 9-12); solid colored or Meadows branded cardigan or sweater in navy; sweatshirts, fleece, or letterman jackets are <u>not</u> permitted with dress uniform
- 5. Single-colored dress shoes in brown, black, beige, gray, or navy

#### DAILY UNIFORM for ALL DIVISIONS

## Skirts/skorts/jumpers: no more than 4" above the knee

- 1. Plaid pleated skirt (6-12 only)
- 2. Plaid jumper (K-5 only) or plain navy or tan (khaki) jumper (PreK only)
- 3. Tan (khaki) or navy skort or skirt with solid-colored shorts, leggings, or tights underneath skirt (PreK-5)

## Pants/shorts: worn at the waist; no more than 4" above the knee; elastic waist preferred in PreK

- 1. Tan (khaki) or navy flat front or pleated pants
- 2. Tan (khaki) or navy flat front or pleated shorts

#### Shirts: short or long-sleeve, tucked in; must be worn even under sweatshirts

- 1. Regulation polo shirt in navy, white, or light gray with the Meadows M logo (logo optional for PreK-5, required 6-12)
- 2. Oxford button-down, white or light blue, with the Meadows M logo (K-12)
- 3. Visible undershirts in solid white, navy, or gray only
- 4. White middy blouse under jumpers (K-5 only)
- 5. Beginning School or plain navy, white, or gray t-shirt with no visible brand logos of any kind (PreK only)

#### Outerwear/sweaters:

- 1. Jackets in any style or color may be worn but must be taken off inside if not in Meadows colors
- 2. The Meadows School letterman jacket (9-12 only; not permitted on dress uniform days)
- 3. Solid-colored or Meadows branded cardigan, sweater, or sweatshirt in navy, white, or gray

#### Footwear/socks:

- 4. Closed-toed shoes with a primary background color of white, black, brown, gray, or navy. Laces must be tied. No lights, wheels, or shoe ornaments. No boots, moccasins, or slippers. Heels no higher than 1".
- 5. Socks in white, navy, gray, or black; must cover ankles (PreK only); knee highs should not exceed knee caps
- 6. Full-length tights or leggings under skirts/skorts/jumpers in solid navy, white, gray, or black; leggings may be worn without a skirt/skort (PreK only)

#### Hair:

- 1. School-appropriate, well-groomed, natural color
- 2. Ribbons and/or hair ornaments must be in school colors
- 3. No hats to be worn in buildings
- 4. School-appropriate, neatly trimmed facial hair is permitted

#### Jewelry:

- 1. Earrings should be non-distracting and modest in size; No facial piercings including nose (except for religious or cultural reasons), eyebrow, lip, or tongue
- 2. No necklaces worn outside shirts (K-12 only, necklaces should not be worn in PreK for safety)

#### Backpacks:

- 1. Any color or design, but must be school appropriate in size and style
- 2. Wheeled backpacks are permitted, excluding ZUCAs

#### PHYSICAL FITNESS UNIFORM for UPPER SCHOOL

#### Pants/shorts: worn at the waist

- 1. Regulation navy gym shorts with the Meadows M athletic logo (no daily uniform shorts/skirts)
- 2. Regulation navy sweatpants with the Meadows M athletic logo (no leggings, jeans, or daily uniform pants)

#### Shirt: short-sleeve; must be worn even under sweatshirts

1. Regulation light gray t-shirt with the Meadows M athletic logo (no daily uniform polos or oxfords)

#### SPIRIT DRESS for ALL DIVISIONS

Worn every Friday unless otherwise informed by the school or division; daily uniform permitted as alternative Shirts:

- 1. School-appropriate solid shirt or sweatshirt in navy, gray, or white (no visible brand logos)
- 2. Meadows branded shirt or sweatshirt in navy, gray, or white

#### **Bottoms:**

- 1. School-appropriate jeans (no holes, rips, tears, or adornments) in blue, white, gray, or black
- 2. Uniform bottoms including skirts/skorts, pants, or shorts
- 3. Leggings or jeggings in solid navy, white, gray, or black (PreK-5 only)

#### Shoes:

1. Closed-toed shoes with a primary background color of white, black, brown, gray, or navy; no boots, moccasins, slippers, flip-flops, or sandals

#### **NOTES**

- 1. Please label all clothing, particularly outerwear, with the student's name, especially for PreK-5.
- 2. Students new to TMS receive a spirit shirt before the start of the school year. All students receive a complimentary spirit shirt during the first semester. Additional spirit shirts can be purchased on the online Spirit Store at www.themeadowsschool.org/spirit
- 3. Themed dress days should follow the same regulations for bottoms and shoes as spirit dress days.
- 4. All clothing worn on or off campus to school-sanctioned events shall be school appropriate, as determined by the administration. The administration reserves the right to send students home or require them to change into appropriate attire should the determination of "school-appropriateness" be challenged.
- 5. TMS school code for shopping on DENNIS Uniform: J24A.

# Beginning School

DIRECT LINE 702-254-5220

FAX NUMBER 702-254-4441

GENERAL NUMBER 702-254-1610

#### ARRIVAL AND DISMISSAL PROCEDURES

#### Arrival

School begins at 8:15 a.m. Because faculty are either engaged in preparation for the day or arrival procedures, students should not arrive before 7:45 a.m. unless they are signed up for early drop-off (see below).

For security and safety reasons, only two forms of student drop off and pick up are acceptable:

Walking in with the student: parents who choose to walk their child into school should park in available visitor spaces or on Scholar Lane and bring the child into the Beginning School.

- 1. Parents are to bring the child to the front desk and sign the child in on the chart with parent signature, noting the time.
- 2. Parents are not to leave the child unattended until a school representative acknowledges the child.

#### Car line (See Car Line Appendices for map.)

**Drive up and drop off - preferred procedure (see Car Line Appendices for map)**: Each family will be given a car line number which is to be placed, clearly visible, in the front windshield of the vehicle they are driving.

- 1. Use the driveway immediately to the EAST of Beginning School pulling right up to the back entrance for drop off.
- 2. Remain in the vehicle until a school representative ("Greeter") opens the door to accept the child and unbuckles his/her car seat (or in the case of an older child, seat belt).
- 3. Every student must be signed in—thus do not "drop off" a child or leave him/her unattended.
- 4. Children should never be allowed to walk from the car into the building without an adult.

Beginning School students are not to be dropped off early at other divisions to wait until the Beginning School opens as it is not the responsibility of Lower, Middle, or Upper School faculty or staff to look after preschool aged students.

#### **Dismissal**

Doors are unlocked for pickup at 3:05 p.m. Students should be picked up by 3:35 p.m. unless signed up for a MAPS class or Extended Day (see below). Students not picked up from the Beginning School by 3:45 p.m. will be sent to Extended Day for pick-up. For the child's safety, he or she will NOT be released to anyone other than those individuals designated in **myMeadows** as Emergency Contact/Pickup unless the school is notified by a parent or legal guardian. It is imperative that this information be kept active and accurate.

- 1. Walk-in pickup: students may be signed out with the receptionist in the front office to parent(s) or parent-authorized individuals only. Students and parent(s) should exit the building promptly upon pick-up.
- 2. Car line drive-up pickup: students will be placed in vehicles with proper number identification ONLY and ONLY from the EAST side of Beginning School.
  - A. Please move cautiously and slowly through the driveway and the parking lot.
  - B. Please proceed to a visitors parking space to securely fasten your child in his/her seat.

PLEASE NOTE: students will not be released to the care of their lower or middle school siblings. Upper School students may pick up their Beginning School siblings with the written permission of a parent or guardian on file.

#### **Extended Day**

Early drop-off starting at 7:35 a.m. and extended day until 4:30 p.m. are available for an additional fee. Please contact the Beginning School office for information or see Extended Day in the handbook or visit www.themeadowsschool.org/maps.

#### **ATTENDANCE**

It is necessary for children to develop a routine and to know that their parents value its importance. Therefore, regular attendance is an essential part of being successful in preschool. Acceptable reasons for absence include illness, death in the family, and certain religious observances. Please call the school if your child is ill and will miss more than one day. Do not send a student to school until 24 hours after a fever or vomiting.

As part of the routine, being on time to school is expected. It is helpful for students to arrive five or ten minutes early to unpack and line up with their classes. **Instruction begins promptly at 8:15 a.m.** Students who arrive after this time will be marked tardy.

Please plan vacations, travel, and appointments in such a way as to have minimal impact on school attendance. Appointments should be scheduled before or after school hours or during school holidays when possible. Excessive absences, tardies, or early dismissals will result in administrative review/action up to and including withdrawal and non-renewal of contract.

#### **BIRTHDAYS**

Time may not be taken from the school day to celebrate individual birthdays. If arrangements are made with faculty in advance, a treat for snack time may be sent in for the whole class in accordance with classroom policy. If a child wishes to hand out invitations to birthday parties, etc., in the classroom, **ALL** students must be invited. If a child invites a small subset of his or her class, parents must handle invitations outside of school. The staff cannot provide contact information for other families that has not been shared in the **myMeadows** directory. Birthday gifts should not be delivered at school.

#### CONDUCT/DISCIPLINE

Positive expectations and reinforcement are the basis of Beginning School's system of behavior management. Positive social interaction and good interpersonal skills are important goals of the program. Children are encouraged to be kind to and considerate of one another. Appropriate behavior in the classroom as well as on the playground is expected. Good manners are taught to be used with other children and faculty which leads toward respect for others.

During these formative preschool years, faculty work diligently to help children resolve social and behavioral differences constructively by encouraging the use and development of oral skills required to interact in a positive manner. Young students having issues may need only brief interludes to reflect upon their actions in order to adjust their behavior accordingly. Physical punishment of any kind is unacceptable and prohibited. The school reserves the right to take all appropriate disciplinary actions, including rescinding enrollment and re-enrollment status, should a child's behavior fail to conform with the school's Conduct Guidelines.

#### **CONFERENCES/ASSESSMENT**

Students will be assessed on a regular basis, and regular Parent Conferences will be scheduled once each semester or more often as deemed necessary by parents and/or faculty. Report cards are issued at the end of each quarter.

#### **ENROLLMENT STATUS**

The Beginning School offers ongoing enrollment and re-enrollment in accordance with the school's general academic and behavioral re-enrollment policies. Additionally, because Beginning School students are not tested prior to admission, other circumstances sometimes arise that affect a student's enrollment status. Occasionally, a young child lacks the self-control and emotional maturity to succeed in a highly structured school environment. The school reserves the right to rescind enrollment or re-enrollment at any time that the Beginning School program is deemed by administration to be developmentally inappropriate for the student and/or detrimental to the student or the school. **Potty Training:** Beginning School staff members are unable to assist with toileting. While occasional potty accidents are expected from time to time in preschool, a student unable to manage toileting independently may be asked to withdraw from school until fully potty-trained. Students may not wear diapers or pull-ups to school, but they may keep a change of clothing in their backpack for emergencies. Parents may be called to come to school to assist a child with selfcare and/or to change a child's clothing following a toileting accident.

#### **EXTENDED DAY**

Extended day options are offered to parents who need to drop-off or pick-up their student(s) early or late from school. Early drop-off begins at 7:35 a.m. and extended day goes until 4:30 p.m. These programs require additional fees. For more information or to register, go online to the Meadows school website or visit www.themeadowsschool.org/maps. Registration is done prior to the start of each trimester with the exception of drop-ins, which are accepted throughout the school year.

#### **HEALTH FORM/IMMUNIZATIONS**

Parents are required to complete a yearly Health History Form for each student. For Beginning School students, the Health History Form must be signed by a licensed healthcare provider (non-parental). Updated Health History Forms should be submitted any time there is a change to the student's health or medical history.

All Beginning School students must have appropriate immunization documentation on file prior to the first day of school. In accordance with Nevada requirements, students must receive all required vaccinations at the youngest recommended age, according to the recommendations from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Refer to the Immunization Policy in the **myMeadows** portal for more information.

#### **HOLIDAYS**

Classroom activities may be scheduled in observance of the following special days: Halloween, Thanksgiving, winter recess (Christmas, Hanukkah, and Kwanzaa), Valentine's Day, spring recess, and end-of-year.

Room Parents work with faculty in planning treats and/or activities. Since these activities are learning opportunities, the school standards of behavior are expected at all times. Amounts and types of foods are expected to be in keeping with standards of good nutrition. Students may not exchange gifts at school.

#### **HOURS**

The Beginning School academic program is on a full day schedule five days per week. Lunch and snacks are provided, but a lunch may be sent if desired.

Full day: 8:15 a.m. to 3:05 p.m.

Students should arrive and be picked up promptly. For information on early drop-off and extended day, please see Extended Day in the handbook or visit www.themeadowsschool.org/maps.

#### KINDERGARTEN ADMISSION

All Beginning School students interested in possible enrollment in kindergarten will be assessed for matriculation to the Lower School as part of our daily observation and assessment. Students must be five years old before August 1 to begin kindergarten in the Lower School in the fall. **Placement in The Meadows School kindergarten or any other grade is not implied or guaranteed through enrollment in Beginning School**.

#### LUNCH

Lunch is served only to full day students and is included in the tuition cost. Food is prepared in the Mustang Corral and delivered to the Beginning School. Lunch times begin at 11:20 a.m. Lunches are on a fixed menu, which is available online for parents to view. Entrees may not be substituted and are accompanied by fruits and vegetables. Students are allowed to bring a lunch from home that can be stored unrefrigerated in a lunchbox, if desired. Food items may not be shared and may not contain nuts or nut products (no peanut butter or hazelnut spreads are permitted.)

#### **NUTRITION BREAK**

Snacks are provided mid-morning and mid-afternoon for the students. Snacks are in keeping with standards of good nutrition, and any food allergies should be noted on forms. Beginning School has been designated a nut-free zone. If a child requires their own food due to food allergies or for any religious reasons, parents are welcome to provide their own snack for their child. Any medications and/or EpiPens are to be given to faculty and **must** be accompanied by a prescription with instructions from a physician.

#### **ROOM PARENTS**

Room Parents, working with TMSPA, serve as the classroom liaison between the faculty and the parents. Duties may include new parent welcoming; oversight of field trips; organizing volunteers for events with faculty oversight; and updates to parents. There are one to two Room Parents per classroom who are selected from a candidate pool of volunteers at the start of the school year by a team of administrators and TMSPA President in consultation with faculty.

#### TELEPHONE SERVICE

The telephone in the Beginning School is actively answered between the hours of 7:45 a.m. and 3:45 p.m., Monday through Friday (except for specified holidays), at 702-254-5220.

#### UNIFORM REQUIREMENTS

The students of The Meadows School are required to wear a uniform during regular class hours and at school-related performances or field trips. The purpose of the uniform is to foster school pride and to eliminate concerns about socioeconomic distinctions in the school.

Students and parents are to refer to the All-School Dress Code in the general section of this handbook to determine appropriate items for daily wear or special occasions.

Parents will be notified if a student is not in proper uniform attire.

All uniforms, sweaters, jackets, sweatshirts, and lunch boxes must be clearly labeled with the child's name, not initials. Lost items cannot be returned without proper identification.

# Lower School (K-5)

DIRECT LINE 702-797-5880

FAX NUMBER 702-254-2452

GENERAL NUMBER 702-254-1610

Each student and each parent is to be familiar with, adhere to, and be responsible for the contents of this Handbook.

#### **ACADEMIC STATUS**

A student's academic status is computed quarterly using the marking period grades in all core subject areas. Core subject areas are: English, reading, mathematics, social studies, and Spanish.

**SATISFACTORY ACADEMIC STATUS:** To attain this level, a student must:

- 1) Maintain a C- average or higher, and
- 2) Have no failing grades.

ACADEMIC WARNING: When a student is placed on Academic Warning, the student's parents are notified in writing. A student is placed in this status when he/she has:

- 1) Received two or more "D" grades, or
- 2) Received one failing grade.

Faculty of a student on Academic Warning will continue to assist the student in working to improve this situation. The Academic Learning Specialist will also become involved if not previously involved to support the student's learning. Academic Warning may lead to Academic Probation. This occurs when a student received an Academic Warning for more than one marking period.

**ACADEMIC PROBATION:** When a student is placed on Academic Probation, the student's parents are notified in writing. They will also conference with faculty and the Academic Coach to help improve the situation. Students who are placed on Academic Probation will be reviewed by the Academic Committee to determine future enrollment status.

#### ARRIVAL AND DISMISSAL PROCEDURES

Students are dropped off in front of Lower School and enter through the east side front door. Students may be dropped off no earlier than 7:35 a.m. unless signed up for early drop-off (see Extended Day section). Parents may park and walk students to classrooms only during the first week of school. Lower School students are not to be dropped off early at other divisions to wait until Lower School opens, as it is not the responsibility of Middle and Upper School faculty or staff to look after Lower School students.

Students begin dismissal to car line at 3:05 p.m. and it ends at 3:30 p.m. Extended day and late pick-up options are available (see Extended Day section). Students not picked up by 3:30 p.m. will be sent to extended day automatically. Arrangements for dismissal changes need to be made with the front office prior to 2:30 p.m.

Note: Middle and Upper School students may pick up their Lower School siblings with the written permission of a parent or guardian on file. These students should meet their siblings at the Lower School side door exit OR Lower School siblings may walk up to meet their Middle or Upper School sibling with written permission. It is the parent's responsibility to arrange a meeting spot. In no circumstances should a Lower School sibling be sent to meet an older sibling who has an after school commitment such as sports or clubs.

Parents may pick up their children at the side gate with prior permission from the front office.

#### **ATTENDANCE**

Being a successful student requires that a child come to school daily, on time, and well-prepared. This can only be accomplished through regular attendance. Acceptable reasons for absence include illness, death in the family, and certain religious observances. Families must plan vacations, travel, and appointments so they have minimal impact on school attendance. Appointments should be scheduled before or after school hours or during holidays. Excessive absences, tardiness, or early dismissals will result in administrative review/action up to and including un-enrollment and non-renewal of contract.

Please do not ask to remove your child from class time, since this not only sacrifices the educational development of the child, but also disrupts the routine and instruction for the rest of the class. Lower School students will not be released to attend events in other divisions. DO NOT plan to pick up students in the office after 2:30 p.m. due to car line.

**Instruction begins promptly at 8:10 a.m.** Students who enter the classroom after 8:10 a.m. will be marked tardy. A student who arrives late must report to the Reception Desk and secure a permit to attend class.

Please call or email the school if your child is ill and will miss more than one day. Do not send a student to school until 24 hours after fever or vomiting. It is the responsibility of the student to make up work missed due to illness. (See "Make-Up Work.")

#### **BIRTHDAYS**

If arrangements are made with faculty in advance, a treat may be given to the whole class in accordance with classroom policy. The office cannot accept deliveries of gifts, balloons, flowers, etc. to the school for a child's birthday or other special occasion. If a child wishes to hand out invitations to birthday parties, etc., in the classroom, **ALL** classmates must be invited. If the party is boys only or girls only, it is permissible to hand out invitations to boys only or girls only. Invitations must be handled personally by the parents outside the school if this is not the case. The school cannot provide private addresses or contact information to parents for this purpose.

#### CAR LINE (SEE CAR LINE APPENDICES FOR MAP)

Parents who pick up their children or carpool with others should obtain a car line number from the front office. Students will dismiss under one number.

All parents who drop-off/pick-up must remain in their cars in the car line. Pull forward when directed and then move as far forward as possible to allow the maximum number of vehicles to load. Car line numbers must be right side up and clearly visible until the car is through the exit gate. All children riding in car line should know their number.

The safety of the children is of utmost importance!

- Do not speed.
- Do not use cellphones or other electronic devices while in car line.
- Do not pass other vehicles unless directed to do so.
- Do not pass a school bus should one be present for field trips or other off campus activities.
- Do not move the car until all doors are closed.
- Do not allow passenger children or pets out of vehicles while waiting in line.
- Do not allow children to access the car's trunk while stopped in the car line.
- If a child has been delayed, pull into the parent parking zone to wait.

Lower School strives to dismiss children quickly and safely and appreciates your patience and courtesy.

#### CONDUCT

The school believes that for social and intellectual self-discipline and self-management to develop, students must learn attitudes of orderliness in and out of the classrooms, dedication to school work, and respect for themselves and others. Students are expected to aid their teacher's efforts in the classroom and to respect the property of others.

The school may discipline at its sole discretion, including suspend or expel a student, whose conduct reflects unfavorably upon himself or herself or the school or violates the school's Conduct Guidelines. A student may not receive credit for work missed due to suspension.

The Meadows School hopes to create such a spirit of cooperation between the faculty and the students that discipline shall be self-imposed. Each student is expected to show courtesy and respect towards fellow students, faculty, staff, and others, to follow the directions of supervising adults on and off campus as well as online, and to be responsible for his/her own behavior and conduct at all times.

All principles of behavior that apply on the school campus extend to any school-related activity on or off campus, trips, sporting events, and to the buses and vehicles run by the school. (See "Conduct Guidelines.")

#### **CONFERENCES**

Parent-Teacher Conferences are required twice yearly. Parents wishing additional meetings at any time throughout the year may contact faculty for an appointment. Conferences are arranged online approximately two weeks before the conference dates and parents are emailed with sign up instructions. Specialists are also included in online scheduling, but please note that these conferences are optional. They also may be scheduled as needed throughout the year by contacting the appropriate specialist directly. The Academic Learning Specialist and School Counselor may also be contacted to join a conference.

#### **DISCIPLINARY PROCEDURES**

Discipline is handled first by the classroom teacher and/or specialist and is developmentally appropriate for each grade. Faculty will work with children to correct a behavior or solve a problem and will contact parents when they feel it is necessary via **myMeadows**.

It is the hope that students learn from their mistakes; however, repeat offenses or behavior that puts others in harm's way will be evaluated by the Director and may result, at the sole discretion of the school, in further disciplinary action, including up to a suspension or expulsion. A student's disciplinary history may come into play. The school may require a parent to pick up a student pending an investigation into a serious incident or if a suspension is necessary.

#### **HOLIDAYS**

Room Parents work with faculty in planning holiday treats and/or activities. Since these parties are learning opportunities, the school standards of behavior are expected at all times. Special day observances should be kept simple and at minimal expense. Amounts and types of foods should be in keeping with goals of good nutrition and be nut free. Students may not exchange gifts at school.

#### **HOMEWORK POLICY**

Homework assignments are made by faculty to extend in-class instruction, provide opportunities for students to work on an independent basis, to teach productive work habits, to foster responsibility, and to produce individual and creative assignments. Lower School assignments are typically given Monday through Thursday. Basic homework should also include independent reading and math fact practice. Children should never be allowed to work an unreasonable amount of time. If this becomes an issue, please contact your child's teacher.

#### INFORMATION FOR PARENTS

Information from the Lower School is sent to parents electronically and via backpack. Parents should check **myMeadows**, email, and children's backpacks daily for notification regarding calendar dates, activity sign-ups, special dress days, etc. Notices or fliers NOT generated by the school must be submitted to the Lower School director's office for approval prior to distribution.

#### KINDERGARTEN ELIGIBILITY

Students must be five years old before August 1 to begin kindergarten in the Lower School in the fall.

#### LUNCH

Students in Lower School eat lunch in the Common. Younger students are served and assisted by fourth and fifth grade students. Students may bring their own lunches in the morning, or lunches are available for purchase. Please see "Lunch Program" located in the General School Information section for more information regarding the purchasing of student lunches. Please do not deliver lunch for your child on a regular basis. Deliveries for students from restaurants will not be accepted.

#### MAKE-UP WORK

If a student is too ill to attend school, he/she is probably too ill to do school work. However, if the student's absenteeism results in the need for make-up work or homework, please call the Office as early in the day as possible so that the Faculty will have time during a free period to assemble the take-home work. Please let the Office know what time the work will be picked up and the name of the person responsible for the pick-up. Work may also be sent home with siblings. Individual faculty members will work with children to facilitate completion of assignments missed due to excused absences. For work that involves more than one school day, faculty may need 24 hours or more to gather work.

#### MEADOWS AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAMS (MAPS)

Meadows After-school Program S (MAPS) are organized by trimester and include arts, athletics, and academic enrichment courses. These courses and programs require additional fees which vary by activity. MAPS registration is done online at www.themeadowsschool.org/maps prior to the start of each trimester. Class sizes are limited. Registrations are processed in the order in which they are received; however, there are waitlists available.

#### Extended day

Extended day options are offered to parents who need to drop-off or pick-up their student(s) early or late from school. Early drop-off begins at 7:00 a.m., extended day goes until 4:30 p.m., and late pick-up until 6:00 p.m. These programs require additional fees. For more information or to register for extended day, go online to the Meadows school website or visit www.themeadowsschool.org/maps. Registration is done prior to the start of each trimesters with the exception of drop-ins, which are accepted throughout the school year.

#### MIDDLE SCHOOL ADMISSION

Placement in The Meadows School sixth grade or any other grade is not implied or guaranteed through enrollment in Lower School.

#### PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Physical education is required for all Lower School students. If a physician has advised against participation in physical education classes, a written excuse from the physician must be presented to the physical education faculty. All such excuses from various types of physical activity should include specific information regarding the limitations requested and the time-frame of duration. (Lower School students do not change clothes for P.E.)

#### **REPORT CARDS**

Grade reports are issued on a quarterly basis. These reports reflect grades and effort level for the grading period. Parents should access report cards through **myMeadows** and review and discuss them with their children.

LETTER GRADE	NUMERICAL EQUIVALENT	letter Grade	NUMERICAL EQUIVALENT
A+ A	100 93-99	C C-	73-76 70-72
A-	90-92	D+	67-69
B+	87-89	D	63-66
В	83-86	D-	60-62
B-	80-82	F	BELOW 60
C+	77-79		

E – Excellent performanceS – Satisfactory performanceN – Needs improvement

#### **ROOM PARENTS**

Room Parents, working with TMSPA, serve as the classroom liaison between the faculty and the parents. Duties may include new parent welcoming; oversight of field trips; organizing volunteers for events with faculty oversight; and updates to parents. There are one to two Room Parents per classroom who are selected from a candidate pool of volunteers at the start of the school year by a team of administrators and TMSPA President in consultation with faculty.

#### SCHOOL DAY

The doors of the Lower School are open to students at 7:35 a.m. For security reasons students are not to come to school earlier unless they have an appointment with a faculty member or have been signed up for early drop-off. Students must stay in their vehicles until faculty or staff arrives to begin the car line. Students are expected to be in classrooms by 8:10 a.m.

Lower School is dismissed at 3:05 p.m. All students must be picked up by 3:30 p.m. unless signed up for extended day or late pick-up. All students who are not picked up by 3:30 p.m. will automatically be sent to extended day and charged accordingly per minute. On days when school is dismissed for half-day sessions, students are to be picked up promptly. Under no circumstances are students to roam the halls or return, unescorted, to the classroom.

#### **SMART DEVICES**

Cell phones, smartphones, and smartwatches are permitted on campus for Lower School students to communicate with parents after school hours. They should be kept on silent mode and in backpacks at all times during the school day. Students are not permitted to text or talk on their phones during class or in the halls. Parents wishing to contact students should do so by calling the front desk. Messages will be delivered as soon as reasonably possible. All cell phone use falls under the "Technology Responsible Use Policy" as described herein. Failure to use cell phone or smartphone technology appropriately will result in a loss of the privilege and/or disciplinary action. **The school is not responsible for any lost or damaged devices.** 

#### **TELEPHONE SERVICE**

The telephone in the Lower School is actively answered between the hours of 7:30 a.m. and 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday (except for specified holidays), at 702-797-5880.

#### UNIFORM REQUIREMENTS

The students of The Meadows School are required to wear a uniform during regular class hours and at school-related performances or field trips. The purpose of the uniform is to foster school pride and to eliminate concerns about socioeconomic distinctions in the school.

Students and parents are to refer to the All-School Dress Code in the general section of this handbook to determine appropriate items for daily wear or special occasions.

Parents will be notified, generally via **myMeadows**, if a student is not in proper uniform attire. Uniform violations are recorded in the student's Lower School record. Repeated uniform violations may result in a warning or behavioral probation.

All uniforms, sweaters, jackets, sweatshirts, and lunch boxes must be clearly labeled with the child's name, not initials. Lost items cannot be returned without proper identification.

# Middle & Upper School (6-12)

#### MIDDLE SCHOOL

**DIRECT LINE - 702-797-5933** FAX NUMBER - 702-256-1762

#### **UPPER SCHOOL**

**DIRECT LINE - 702-797-5835**FAX NUMBER - 702-254-3852

GENERAL NUMBER 702-254-1610

Each student and each parent is to be familiar with, adhere to, and be responsible for the contents of this Handbook.

#### ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS (UPPER SCHOOL)

Students must meet the requirements shown below in order to maintain **Satisfactory** academic status. Core academic subjects are: English, world languages, history/social science, mathematics, and science.

Grades nine through eleven require five core academic subjects and offer two elective opportunities from which students must select at least one. The minimum course load is six.

Grade twelve requires three core academic subjects and offers four elective opportunities. **Students must select at least two academic electives and may select up to two other electives.** The minimum course load is six.

#### ACADEMIC STATUS (GENERAL)

A student's academic status is computed using the <u>unweighted</u> grades from all core academic subjects. This status is determined by the Registrar for each division and is communicated to the Advisor. Students who meet the criteria for "Honors" or "High Honors" are included on the appropriate Honor Roll. "Honors" or "High Honors" status should not be confused with the standards for the National Junior Honor Society, National Honor Society, or any other Honor Society. Please note that GPAs are not rounded for Honor Societies or Honor Roll consideration.

**HIGH HONOR ROLL:** To attain this level, a student must:

- 1. Maintain a 3.5 GPA or higher.
- 2. Have no grade lower than a B-.

HONOR ROLL: To attain this level, a student must:

- 1. Maintain a 3.0 GPA or higher.
- 2. Have no grade lower than a C-.

**SATISFACTORY ACADEMIC STATUS:** To attain this level, a student must:

- 1. Maintain a 2.0 GPA or higher.
- 2. Have no more than one grade below C-.
- 3. Have no failing grades.

ACADEMIC WARNING (UNSATISFACTORY STATUS): A student is placed in this status when he/she has:

- 1. Received a cumulative marking period average below 2.0; or
- 2. Received two or more grades below C-; or
- 3. Received one failing grade.

Parents will be notified in writing of **Academic Warning (Unsatisfactory)** status at the end of each quarter of the year. If the student does not return to **Satisfactory** standing by the end of the following quarter, he or she will be placed on **Academic Probation.** (See Academic Probation.)

#### ACADEMIC STATUS (FOR GRADUATION)

A student's academic status for graduation is computed using <u>unweighted</u> grades from all core subjects from every semester in the Upper School. This status is determined by the Upper School Registrar and communicated to the Upper School Director.

**HIGH HONORS:** To graduate with High Honors a student must:

1. Have a Cumulative Unweighted GPA of 3.5 or higher.

**HONORS:** To graduate with Honors a student must:

1. Have a Cumulative Unweighted GPA of 3.0 or higher.

#### **ACADEMIC/CONDUCT POLICIES**

#### Academic Probation

When a student is placed on **Academic Probation**, the student's parents are notified in writing of the status, a mandatory parent conference is conducted, and a plan of action is developed and implemented to correct the situation. A student who is placed on **Academic Probation** is subject to review by the Faculty Committee at the end of the period/quarter to determine whether it is in the best interest of the student to continue at the school. The recommendation of the Faculty Committee is forwarded to the Director for review and action. A student who remains on **Academic Probation** beyond one quarter may be asked to withdraw.

The Meadows School administration reserves the right to address academic deficiencies with action by the Director and the Head of School at anytime and for any reason.

#### Disciplinary Procedures

#### Citation/Detention System

Students found to be in violation of the Conduct Guidelines will be disciplined by means of multiple measures, including written citations, detentions, or ultimately, by suspension or expulsion, at the sole discretion of the school. A School Counselor may also be brought in to assist students in learning the skills needed so that they do not repeat an infraction. More serious infractions will be handled by the Division Director or Dean of Students. Examples of serious infractions include, but are not limited to, fighting, use of inappropriate language, disrupting the learning environment, or harassment and may result in detention, suspension or expulsion.

#### Middle School

Students will receive citations for minor infractions, five of which result in a lunch detention. Families will be informed via **myMeadows**. Violations are incurred for major infractions, and families will be notified upon reporting. Students who receive repeated detentions for either citations or violations over the course of a semester will be required to have parent conferences and establish a behavior plan.

#### **Upper School**

Minor infractions, including but not limited to, tardiness or uniform violations will result in a student being given a citation. Citation records are kept through the course of the academic year, and parents are notified regarding each citation. For every three uniform citations and five citations for tardiness in a semester, a student will be assigned a detention, to be held from 7:00 to 7:45 a.m. on Fridays. Parents will be notified via **myMeadows** of each detention. **Transportation for students serving detention is the responsibility of the parent.** The first infraction after a student's second detention will result in written notification sent to the student's parents and a mandatory parent conference

Any further infraction will result in administrative action up to and including suspension or expulsion from school, at the sole discretion of the school.

#### Disclosure Policy (Upper School)

Per the school's disclosure policy regarding disciplinary records, we will notify colleges/schools of infractions resulting in suspension or dismissal from the school if this information is requested. We do not report disciplinary actions that occurred at previous schools attended. Nor do we report academic probation to the college because those are internal measures students use to improve academic performance, and this performance is reflected ultimately on the students' transcripts. If a student's disciplinary standing changes substantially at any time after the college admission process has begun, we will notify the colleges. We counsel students to provide colleges with further information, any extenuating circumstances, and the effects of the action upon them. If a student withdraws from the school to avoid disciplinary action, we reserve the right to report the infractions to the colleges.

#### Honor Code Committee (Also See Honor Code)

A committee comprised of faculty members (Middle School) or students and faculty members (Upper School) will oversee all honor code cases deemed appropriate by the administration. Cases brought to the Committee may come from students, faculty, or staff. It is the policy of the Committee to handle cases in a timely manner. Parents of the student with a potential violation will be notified in advance of any convened hearing. All parties involved will make statements regarding the alleged offense. The evidentiary standard for the Committee is "preponderance of the evidence." The Committee will hear the case, review the evidence regarding the alleged offense, make a determination of responsibility, and recommend an appropriate penalty to the Division Director (Middle School) or Dean of Students and Division Director (Upper School). The deliberations of the Committee are confidential.

#### **Penalties**

Penalties for Honor Code violations include, but are not limited to, "F" grades on the questionable work, detention(s), suspension from school, or expulsion. If a student is found to have violated the Honor Code or incurred an infraction of a major school rule/policy, the recommendation of the Honor Code Committee and the decision of the Division Director (Middle School) or Dean of Students and Division Director (Upper School) may be entered into the student's permanent file. If expulsion is recommended, the penalty recommendation must be sent to the Director and the Head of School. All expulsions are documented on the student's official record. **Students found in violation of the Honor Code may not be eligible to run for or hold office in Upper School student council for one calendar year from the date of the offense. Further, students found guilty of such violations may be removed from all Honor Societies and/or be prevented from being inducted into any Honor Societies for a minimum of one year.** 

#### ADD/DROP POLICY (UPPER SCHOOL)

All students have two weeks at the beginning of the first semester and one week at the beginning of the second semester to add a new course. All students have three weeks at the beginning of the first semester and two weeks at the beginning of the second semester to drop a current course. Students may not drop a course after the three-week drop period except by approval of the Upper School Director.

When a course is dropped after the deadline, the transcript will reflect this by reading either "withdraw/pass" or "withdraw/fail."

#### ADVANCED PLACEMENT/TOPICS (UPPER SCHOOL)

In general, entrance into Advanced courses requires that a student receive a B+ or better in the preceding course (e.g. B+ in World History in order to take Advanced Placement U.S. History).

All students who take an Advanced Placement class are required to take the Advanced Placement Exam at the completion of the course.

#### **ADVISORS & ADVISORY PROGRAMS**

Faculty members are assigned as Advisors to students at the beginning of the school year. Advisors communicate with individual faculty to assist students in monitoring their academic progress. They also monitor the general well-being of the students. Advisors receive copies of formal progress reports, which are reviewed and coordinated by the administration.

Any parent with a concern regarding his/her child and/or the school should call or email the student's Advisor. If the issue cannot be resolved by telephone or email, a conference should then be arranged. Major issues requiring immediate attention should be directed to the administration.

#### Upper School Advisory

The purpose of the Upper School Advisory program is to not only provide mentorship and support to our students, but to help them continue to develop their social/emotional skills. Moreover, it is designed to enrich their lives by connecting them to the community beyond our walls to create compassionate and curious young men and women who truly make a difference. Each year is centered around one of the four pillars of The Meadows School's Mission Statement: community service, global citizenship, higher academic pursuits, and the love of learning. Students spend a year exploring each theme in-depth through a variety of lessons and activities during weekly meetings, which lead to a culminating project developed by each Advisory class. In addition, in the Sophomore and Junior years, students get the unique opportunity to participate in school-sponsored travel related to that year's focus. The Upper School expects all students to participate fully in advisory, as it enhances their academic and social skills, as well as fosters character, discovery, inclusion, and community.

#### **ASSEMBLIES**

Regular assemblies are conducted to promote academic collegiality, to stimulate and maintain a sense of community, to inform students about important events, to provide for guest speakers or performers, to provide a forum for Student Government, and for other purposes. Attendance at assemblies is mandatory, and **full Dress Uniform** compliance is required at all regular, weekly assemblies.

#### ATHLETICS AND SPECIAL EVENTS

Students involved in after-school athletics are to take their books and coats with them to practice and/or games. The custodians lock the buildings at 4:00 p.m. Students are to enter the locker room area through the specific door designated by the coach in charge of the sport. **Students and athletes practicing, working out, observing, or playing in various games after regular school hours are expected to be picked up or to leave campus within 15 minutes following the end of the practice or game.** For Upper School, if a student-athlete drives, they should leave school grounds within 15 minutes of the end of the practice or game and not linger on school grounds. Students should conduct themselves in a school-appropriate manner until they leave or are picked up by a parent/guardian.

Each coach or sponsor distributes written guidelines and procedures to be followed in the participation of his/her activity. It is the responsibility of each student to understand and adhere to these guidelines, as well as the Conduct Guidelines. See the Athletic Handbook for more information.

#### **ATTENDANCE**

Attendance at school is essential to a student's growth and success, academically and otherwise. It is important for a student to be in class. Medical and dental appointments should be made after school, except when absolutely necessary. If scheduled during the school day, please notify the division administrative assistant before school begins. Students must sign out in their division office before leaving campus and sign in upon their return. Parents are discouraged from removing a student from class except for reasons of health or family emergency. Extended absences should be discussed in advance with the division director. Faculty are not expected to plan work in advance for unexcused absences, nor will they tutor students after an unexcused absence. Excessive absences, tardiness, or early dismissals will result in administrative review/action up to and including un-enrollment and non-renewal of contract.

#### Absences

Excused absences are granted by the Division Director for (and, in some cases, documentation must be provided):

- 1. DMV/legal appointments/obligations
- 2. Death in the family
- 3. Emergency medical and dental appointments (with appropriate doctor's note)
- 4. Observance of religious holidays

All school-sanctioned events (ie. debate trips, athletic competitions) are excused.

**Upper School:** After **THREE** absences from any class in a semester, parents will be warned by the school. After **FIVE** absences in a semester, the parents will be required to meet with the Division Director and/or other administrator. At **SEVEN** absences in a semester, the student will receive an "F" for the semester and be removed from the class. It should be understood that students failing classes due to excessive absences are unlikely to be offered admission to The Meadows School in successive years.

Middle School: After FIVE absences from any class in a semester, parents will be warned by the school. After TEN absences in a semester, the parents will be required to meet with the Division Director and/or other administrator. At FOURTEEN absences in a semester, the student will receive an "F" for the semester and be removed from the class. It should be understood that students failing classes due to excessive absences are unlikely to be offered admission to The Meadows School in successive years.

All of the above conditions are at the discretion of the Division Director.

**Pre- and Post-Vacation/Holiday Absences:** There is an obvious difficulty in maintaining the continuity of the academic program when parents take extended vacations before or after planned school vacations. Please be conscientious about scheduling family travel, and understand that these absences will not be considered excused.

Early Notice of Absence (Middle School): In the event that an absence is known in advance (i.e., doctor's appointment, wedding, outside sports event, etc.), parents should notify the office, and the student should communicate the date of absence to his/her teacher and retrieve any work he/she will need to turn in upon returning to school. Students should also communicate with their teacher, in advance of their absence, with respect to when they can make up any test or quiz they may be missing.

Early Notice of Absence Form (Upper School): In the event that an absence is known in advance (i.e., doctor's appointment, college visit, etc.), students should obtain an Early Notice of Absence Form from the Dean of Students. The student is to take the form to each faculty member for signature in order to communicate the date of the absence and retrieve any work he/she will need to turn in upon his/her return to school. The student should also communicate with faculty, in advance of the absence, with respect to when he/she can make up any test or quiz he/she may be missing. Early Notice of Absence Forms may only be obtained from the Office of the Dean of Students after notification (preferably a phone call) is received from the parent.

Parent/Guardian Sign Out (Upper School): In the event that a student needs to leave school before the regular school day is over and prior notice has not been given (i.e., sudden illness, family emergency, etc.), the student will be allowed to leave campus at such time as a parent/guardian has signed him or her out at the reception desk. No student, including any senior, may leave campus until a parent/guardian has either signed him or her out at the reception desk, or in rare cases, provided an Upper School administrator and/or the front desk receptionist, in writing, permission to do so which can be done by sending an email to USAttendance@themeadowsschool.org. (Once again, parent permission does not automatically excuse an absence; all absences are excused at the discretion of the Division Director.) One exception is that a parent of a senior need only provide permission once at the beginning of the year for a senior to sign in late or sign out early from study hall as a senior privilege, as long as the privilege is being granted by the administration.

**Tardy Student Sign In:** All students who arrive late to school, whether excused or not, will not be admitted to class without first signing in at the front desk. Students who are tardy to school or to any class five times will receive a detention.

#### AUTOMOBILES/PARKING (UPPER SCHOOL)

Students must complete the Parking Permission Request Form annually in order to drive to and from school. This form includes license plate number, make and model of vehicle, and a parental signature. All staff, students, and parents are required to register their vehicle with the school and to display a security decal to drive and park on campus. **Students** are required to submit and maintain current, valid driver's licenses to the Business Office for recordation. Student vehicles must have up-to-date decals displayed in order to park in the school parking lot.

Students with vehicles are to park in their assigned spaces in the <u>student sections of the parking lots only</u>. Under no circumstances are students to park in spaces reserved for faculty or guests or in other designated areas. **Students are to operate their vehicles in compliance with all school rules and city and state laws. Students are to observe the speed and traffic flow diagram while driving on campus (see Car Line Information map).** Students found to be in violation of any of these standards are subject to loss of on-campus driving/parking privileges. **Under no circumstances are any privately-owned vehicles to enter or use internal campus roads or walkways.** Parking lots are not places for socializing. Parking concern notices will be communicated through **myMeadows**.

#### AWARDS/RECOGNITIONS/ENDOWED PRIZES

Awards are given to students reflecting outstanding accomplishments in academic, art, extracurricular, and athletic areas. Awards are given by grade level at the Arts and Academic Awards Ceremony to the outstanding Middle School and Upper School students in all subject areas.

Students of the Year are selected at each grade level by a faculty committee that considers grades, test scores, conduct, and contributions to the school in its selection process.

#### **COLLEGE COUNSELING**

College Counseling at The Meadows School is based on creating a partnership between the college counselors, students, and parents beginning in eighth grade and continuing throughout high school to explore, prepare, and accomplish students' post-secondary dreams and aspirations.

Students are assigned a college counselor at the beginning of their freshman year and together they work closely throughout their high school journey. The college counselors offer grade-appropriate programs for parents and students as well as college counseling related activities and lessons in Advisory.

Starting in eighth grade, the college counselors educate students and families about college planning, goal setting, time management, and self-discovery. As freshmen and sophomores, students are laying a foundation for their high school experience, adjusting to the academic rigor, and immersing themselves in meaningful activities outside the classroom. Programming for freshmen and sophomores focuses on helping students develop a rigorously appropriate four-year academic plan, engaging with extracurricular opportunities, developing relationships, and maximizing their high school years.

During junior year and continuing through senior year, students explore college options, learn about the college application process, and work on college application components. Individual meetings and advisory lessons cover a variety of topics including: the college list and college research, career possibilities, resumes, social/emotional well-being and stress management, faculty recommendations, standardized testing, interviewing, essay writing, and scholarships and financial aid.

While seniors are required to meet individually with their college counselor each semester, students and/or their parents can make additional appointments for assistance as needed. Students are encouraged to take advantage of every opportunity to challenge themselves both inside and outside the classroom, pursue extracurricular activities they are passionate about, engage with self-discovery and career exploration, and play an active role in fulfilling their academic, personal, and professional goals.

#### **COMMUNITY SERVICE**

The school Community Service Program is designed to give students an opportunity to acquire a greater sense of self and community.

Students in Grades 9-12 must complete a 144 hour active service requirement prior to graduation. Eighty percent of these hours, 115 total, must be completed off-campus with certain exceptions. Generally, students complete 16 hours during their freshman, sophomore, and junior years. However, many students elect to volunteer with organizations, hospitals, etc. in the summer as it provides students with opportunities to involve themselves in a field or position that may relate to their undergraduate studies or professional objective.

#### **CONFERENCES**

Middle and Upper School conferences may be arranged as the need arises. It is the purpose of a conference to review current levels of progress and to plan for future success.

#### **ELIGIBILITY (UPPER SCHOOL)**

The Meadows School encourages all Upper School students to participate in both competitive and non-competitive extracurricular activities. In order to do so, each student must maintain satisfactory grades in all subjects.

An **eligible student** is one who may participate in school-sanctioned, extracurricular activities. An **ineligible student** may not participate in these activities. After two consecutive weeks of ineligibility on an athletic team, the student will be dropped from the roster and receive no physical education credit.

Each faculty member is responsible for determining the grade of the student in his/her class and reporting that grade to the Division Director.

School-sanctioned activities typically include athletic events, field trips, Student Government activities, theatre performances, interscholastic academic competitions, and other events designated by the administration of the school. Activities that are a component of an academic or an elective course which occur outside of the school day are **not** considered extracurricular. For example, mandatory attendance at an art show or performance in a concert which is a graded part of a student's academic record is **not considered** extracurricular.

- 1. Initial Eligibility: Students who have maintained a minimum unweighted 2.0 GPA in academic subjects for the previous semester are eligible to participate in extracurricular activities during the first three weeks of each extracurricular activity season, which may vary by activity from a limited number of weeks, as in a sports season, to the entire year for speech and debate and other extracurricular activities.
  - Students failing to meet this standard will remain ineligible until they post quarterly grades with an unweighted GPA of 2.0 or higher in academic subjects, at which time they will become eligible and subject to the In-Season Eligibility policy below. Students who enroll during the semester, and who meet the 2.0 GPA standard based upon the records from their previous school, are eligible during the first three weeks of attendance, after which they will be subject to the In-Season Eligibility policy below.
- 2. In-Season Eligibility: At the end of the first three weeks of an activity season and in any week thereafter in that season, a student will become ineligible if he or she has a semester grade to date of "F" in any class, or two or more semester grades to date in the "D" (60%-69%) range. Student grades are monitored via myMeadows, and ineligibility is determined and a list of ineligible students will be published and distributed at the end of the school day on Mondays. The ineligibility period shall begin on Tuesday and continue up to the following Monday. There will be a three week grace period at the beginning of each quarter allowing for accurate assessment of students progress before in-season eligibility rules apply.
  - With respect to both Initial Eligibility and In-Season Eligibility, no student shall be prohibited from participating in an activity that is part of the curriculum of a class for which they are registered, unless it is determined by the administration that continued participation will be detrimental to a student's academic success.
- 3. Automatic Ineligibility: Any student who has been placed on Academic Probation is automatically ineligible as long as he or she remains in that status. (See Academic Status.)

#### FINAL EXAMS

Middle School: During the last week of the first and second semesters in Middle School, students are required to take a comprehensive Final Exam covering the semester's study that will be given in connection with each academic course according to a schedule approved by the Middle School Director for such purposes. Students will attend School for half a day on these days.

**Upper School**: During the last week of the first and second semesters in Upper School, students are required to take a comprehensive Mid-term or Final Exam covering the semester's study and lasting approximately two hours that will be given in connection with most academic courses according to a schedule approved by the Upper School Director for such purpose. For Advanced Placement courses, the semester exam shall count as twenty-five percent of the overall grade. Seniors are not expected to sit for second semester exams. The only excused absences permitted during the Mid-Term or Final Exam days are for illness (with a physician's note), death in the family or court appearance.

Upon approval from the school, a student may take a make-up Mid-term or Final Exam. Make-up Mid-term or Final Exams may only be given after the scheduled date of the Exam and faculty are required to administer an equitable alternative exam.

Students shall wear daily uniforms to school during final exam weeks.

#### GPA (UPPER SCHOOL) WEIGHTING SYSTEM

All Honors classes receive an extra .02 GPA weighting per semester for each class which is factored into the overall GPA. All Advanced Placement and Advanced Topics courses receive an extra .03 GPA weighting per semester.

#### **GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS**

Graduation requirements from The Meadows School Upper School are: four years of English, four years of social science (including government and economics), four years of mathematics, three progressive and consecutive years of a single world language, three years of science (a year each of biology, chemistry, and physics), one year of visual or performing arts, one credit of health (one semester usually completed in Middle School), and community service (see page 47). A total of 23 credits are required for graduation. Two years of physical education or the equivalent of four athletic seasons are required for graduation but are not included in the 23 credits required for graduation.

#### HOMEWORK POLICY

Middle School: The students of The Meadows School must expect to complete homework in order to master the material presented in class. The purpose of the homework is to reinforce the day's lessons and to prepare students to participate meaningfully in the next day's class.

**Upper School:** Upper School students may expect approximately 20-30 minutes of homework per subject per night (often not including reading). Faculty provide guides and timelines for long-term projects to assist students in planning for successful completion of the project. **If students are absent, in general, they will have one day for every day they were absent to complete their homework, but must communicate with their teacher prior to their return to school.** Unless otherwise approved by the faculty or school in writing, once these days have passed the student will not be able to complete the homework assignment and be given zero credit.

Parents are asked to provide a quiet, well-lighted environment for study, to encourage the development of regular and consistent patterns of study habits, and to maintain an active interest in the academic progress of their child.

#### **IMMUNIZATIONS**

Students enrolling in the seventh grade must receive one dose of the Tetanus, Diptheria, and Pertussis (Tdap) vaccine and their first dose of the quadrivalent meningococcal conjugate vaccine (MCV4). These vaccines must be received on or after the student's tenth birthday, but no later than the first day of seventh grade. Refer to the Immunization Policy in the **myMeadows** portal for more information.

Students enrolling in the twelfth grade must receive their second dose of the quadrivalent meningococcal conjugate vaccine (MCV). This vaccine must be received on or after the student's sixteenth birthday, but no later than the first day of twelfth grade. Refer to the Immunization Policy in the **myMeadows** portal for more information.

#### **INCOMPLETE COURSES**

When illness or other unforeseen occurrences preclude the completion of the assignments or testing necessary to receive a grade for a course, an incomplete (INC) will be reflected on the report card. It is the responsibility of the student to work out a satisfactory plan with the teacher to complete the work in order to receive a grade for the marking period. This should be accomplished within two weeks, after which the incomplete grade will become an "F," unless there are extenuating circumstances approved by the Director.

#### LOCKERS AND LOCKER VISITS

Each student is provided with a locker to be used solely for storage of outer garments, personal property, and school materials. The locker is the property of the school and is loaned to the student for use during the school year. As such, all lockers are subject to inspection by school officials at anytime. Lockers must be left in the general condition in which they were issued. Students who damage their lockers will be held financially responsible for the damage and the locker(s). Personal property left in the locker bays and community areas during class time without permission run the risk of being confiscated and is subject to disciplinary action.

The school is not responsible for items lost or stolen from lockers. Lockers and lock combinations are provided to assist students in securing property in lockers. Lockers are to remain locked at all times when not in use.

#### LUNCH

Sixth, seventh, and eighth grade students will eat their lunches in the Middle School Common, the outdoor courtyard, or other areas designated by the administration. Microwave ovens are provided for student use. Students in Upper School may eat their lunches in the Upper School Common, outside within view of the Upper School, or in classrooms under faculty supervision. Students in Middle and Upper School are not permitted to eat lunch inside the Center for the Arts or Athletic Complex.

Please see "Lunch Program" located in the General School Information section for more information regarding the purchasing of student lunches or the school website.

#### **MEDICATIONS**

With the exception of controlled substances, students in Middle and Upper School may possess prescription and/ or over-the-counter medication on campus and may self-medicate with parent permission. A completed Medication Self-Administration Authorization Form must be on file with the Nurse's Office. Refer to the Medication Administration Policy in the **myMeadows** portal for more information. **Students may not share medication with other students.** 

#### PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Physical education is required for all Middle School students. Upper School students have a two-year physical education requirement that must be satisfied prior to graduation.

Upper School students may meet the physical education requirement by participating in four athletic seasons during their school tenure. Students may earn a maximum of one physical education credit per school year.

#### **PROGRESS REPORTS**

Middle and Upper School Progress Reports are used to communicate important information about individual student performance in a specific class. Generally, diagnostic and prescriptive in nature, these reports help students and parents monitor academic growth. Additional reports are generated as needed or by special arrangement with faculty or the advisor of a student.

#### REPORT CARDS

Grade reports are issued on a quarterly basis. These reports reflect grades for the grading period. Middle and Upper School students accumulate grades from each quarter, along with semester examinations, to comprise a semester grade for the course. Report cards are made available at the end of each academic term online via **myMeadows**.

#### **Grading System**

LETTER GRADE	NUMERICAL FOLUVALENT	QUALITY POINTS
	EQUIVALENT	
Α	93-100	4.0
A-	90-92	3.7
B+	87-89	3.3
В	83-86	3.0
B-	80-82	2.7
C+	77-79	2.3
С	73-76	2.0
C-	70-72	1.7
D+	67-69	1.3
D	63-66	1.0
D-	60-62	0.7
F	BELOW 60	0.0

#### SCHOOL DAY

The doors of Middle and Upper School are open to students at 7:00 a.m. Students are not to come to school earlier unless they have an appointment with faculty or an Early Bird class. Middle School students are expected to be in class promptly at 8:00 a.m. Upper School students are expected to be in class promptly at 7:50 a.m. Upon dismissal of school at noon or at the end of a normal school day, students should be participating in after-school activities, meeting faculty for extra help, or preparing to leave school. Custodians begin cleaning the buildings at 4:00 p.m., so students should refrain from roaming hallways or being in the locker areas or Common of their respective division. Students are not to remain in classrooms or in buildings unattended.

Middle School students are dismissed at 3:15 p.m. Upper School students are dismissed at 3:00 p.m. On days when school is dismissed for half-day sessions prior to holidays, students are to be picked up promptly at noon.

Students who are participating in special athletic or other extracurricular activities after school are to report to the areas where these events will be conducted. Students remaining on campus to wait for an activity to begin are responsible for their own behavior and are subject to the Code of Conduct Guidelines laid out herein.

#### Car Line (See Car Line Appendices for map.)

Parents who drop-off/pick-up their children must follow the car line route provided by the school. All parents must remain in their cars in the car line. Pull forward when directed and then move as far forward as possible to allow the maximum number of vehicles to unload/load. The safety of the children is of utmost importance!

- Do not speed.
- Do not use cellphones or other electronic devices while in car line.
- Do not pass other vehicles unless directed to do so.
- Do not pass a school bus should one be present for field trips or other off campus activities.
- Do not move the car until all doors are closed.
- Do not allow passenger children or pets out of vehicles while waiting in line.

#### SENIOR INTERNSHIPS

Typically, during the spring semester, seniors have the opportunity to participate in an internship week facilitated by the Upper School Administration with the support of the Advancement Office.

#### **SENIOR PRIVILEGE**

By tradition, seniors have the privilege to arrive after 7:50 a.m. but prior to their first assigned class period, to leave after their last assigned class of the day, to use the Senior Lounge during study halls, and to enjoy such other privileges as they may be granted.

Recognizing the meaning of privilege, the administration may require seniors to earn these privileges at the beginning of their senior year and may revoke these privileges, either individually or collectively, if they are abused.

Despite their privileges, seniors must attend all assemblies and scheduled classes or school meetings, seniors must sign in if they arrive after 7:50 a.m. and out if they leave before 3:00 p.m. and may not return, and seniors must observe the "closed-campus" rule and remain on campus until the end of their day.

#### **SMART DEVICES**

In the Middle School, cell phones, smartphones, and smartwatches should be kept on silent mode and in lockers at all times. These devices are only permitted in the Upper School for academic purposes during class with teacher approval. Students are not permitted to use devices in the halls or other common areas. Headphones, earbuds, and air pods are only allowed in study hall with the permission of the Study Hall Monitor or in classes with the permission of the instructor. If used otherwise, or in the halls or common areas, they will be confiscated and turned over to an administrator. So as not to interrupt classes, parents wishing to contact students should do so by calling the front desk. Messages will be delivered as soon as reasonably possible. All cell phone use falls under the "Acceptable Use Policy" as described herein. Failure to use smart device technology appropriately will result in a loss of the privilege and/or disciplinary action. **The school is not responsible for any lost or damaged devices.** 

#### STUDY HALL OR FLEX PERIOD

MIDDLE SCHOOL: Sixth grade students are assigned a curricular study hall during the school day, and seventh and eighth graders are allowed to take a study hall as one of their two electives. Curricular study halls are designed for quiet individual study only. Students are required to report to study hall on time with sufficient materials in hand to keep them busy for the entire class period. Students who persist in disrupting study halls in any way will be subject to discipline action, up to and including suspension and expulsion.

**UPPER SCHOOL:** Students in Upper School taking a GOA course may sign up for one study hall per semester. Otherwise, only students in exceptional circumstances will be allowed to take a study hall as an elective. Study halls are designed for individual quiet study only. All students are required to report to study hall on time with sufficient materials in hand to keep them busy for the entire class period.

Each Upper School student has a Flex period built into their schedule. Freshmen and any students of concern will spend their Flex period in the library using the time as a study hall. Students requiring support from the Academic Coach may be assigned to his Flex period in the Library. Otherwise, Flex period is free time that students may use to study, work collaboratively with peers, get a snack from The Corral, work or relax in the Common or outside in areas visible from the Upper School, or work out in the Fitness Center with our Human Performance Coordinator. Students are expected to behave according to our rules of conduct at all times, even when not under the immediate supervision of an adult. Students may not be in any other buildings (i.e. the CFA, field house, or either gym) or utilize other spaces (i.e. the field or the track) without adult supervision. Seniors may exercise the senior privilege (with parental consent) to check in late if their Flex is first period or check out early if their Flex period concludes the school day (but student-athletes, for example, may not leave campus and return to practice after school).

Students who persist in disrupting study halls or flex periods in any way will be subject to disciplinary action, up to and including suspension or expulsion.

#### **TELEPHONE SERVICE**

The telephone in the Middle School and Upper School is actively answered between the hours of 7:30 a.m. and 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday (except for specified holidays), at 702-797-5933 (Middle School) and 702-797-5835 (Upper School).

#### **TESTING**

The school participates in a variety of testing programs to assist students and parents in assessing and in monitoring student academic progress. Some are offered with an additional charge to the students (see asterisk [\*] in following). The Educational Records Bureau (ERB) examination is given to all students in grades six through eight annually each fall. Results of this examination are mailed midsummer.

Upper School students participate in the testing programs of the Educational Testing Service (ETS). Freshmen, sophomores, and juniors are required to take the Preliminary Scholastic Assessment Test/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test (PSAT/NMSQT) in the fall of each year at The Meadows. This test is designed to prepare students for the Scholastic Assessment Test (SAT) and to identify students for participation in the prestigious National Merit Scholarship program. Juniors who score above the minimum index for Nevada in the test battery are eligible for scholarship consideration.

Scholastic Assessment Tests (SAT - Reasoning Test) [\*additional charge] are given several times each year at various sites and at The Meadows. Selective colleges and universities use the results of these tests in their admission processes.

The American College Test (ACT) [\*additional charge] is an achievement examination offered several times a year at various sites. Like the SAT, the ACT is used in the selection process by college admissions offices.

Up to twenty-eight (28) Advanced Placement (AP) courses and AP testing are offered by the school. Parents are financially responsible for the cost of these AP tests. Scores on these examinations of three, four, or five may give students advanced standing in subjects at college, thereby eliminating the need to repeat material already mastered in Upper School.

Students who may qualify for accommodations on these external tests should contact the Director of Student Support Services to ensure proper application procedures have been followed.

#### TUTORING (UPPER SCHOOL)

The Upper School has an after school study and tutoring program run by the Tutoring Center, Writing Center, and Academic Coaches. The program will be offered Mondays through Thursdays from 3:00-4:00 p.m. in the Library/Learning Common and is open to any Upper School student who may wish to attend.

#### UNIFORM REQUIREMENTS

The students of The Meadows School are required to wear a uniform during regular class hours and at school-related performances or field trips. The purpose of the uniform is to foster school pride and to eliminate concerns about socioeconomic distinctions in the school.

Students and parents are to refer to the All-School Dress Code in the general section of this handbook to determine appropriate items for daily wear or special occasions.

Parents will be notified if a student is not in proper uniform attire. Uniform checks will be conducted on a daily basis in the Middle and Upper Schools, and violations will be documented with written citations. Violations will be communicated through **myMeadows**.

In the Upper School, students will be assigned a detention at every third citation.

In the Middle School, students will be assigned a detention after receiving five citations, which may include dress code violations. After the first detention, non-compliance could result in a student being sent home.

All uniforms, sweaters, jackets, sweatshirts, and lunch boxes must be clearly labeled with the child's name, not initials. Lost items cannot be returned without proper identification.

#### UPPER SCHOOL ADMISSION (MIDDLE SCHOOL)

Placement in The Meadows School ninth grade or any other grade is not implied or guaranteed through enrollment in Middle School.

#### **VALEDICTORIAN**

The Valedictorian award is given to the senior who has attained the highest **weighted** grade point average in his or her Upper School years. Eligibility is based upon a student having completed seven consecutive semesters in Upper School and without having incurred a suspension as part of their permanent record during these seven semesters.

#### **VISITORS**

Former students and relatives of students are welcome as **visitors** on campus **during non-instructional times.** To arrange for visitors, students are asked to provide a written notification to the office and to have the visitor sign in at the office. The visitor will receive a **visitor's badge**, which is to be worn while on campus.



# Appendix: COVID-19 Response Policies

#### **REFER TO MYMEADOWS**

In conjunction with the Centers for Disease Control & Prevention (CDC) and the Southern Nevada Health District (SNHD), The Meadows School has adopted procedures to help prevent the spread of COVID-19 on campus. As the COVID-19 pandemic is constantly evolving, the most current procedures can be found on the Nurse's Office page of the myMeadows parent and faculty portals.

## Appendix: Morning Car Line

Speed limit 5 mph. No drop-off in parking lots. Watch for students crossing the roads.

Beginning & Lower School Combined Line

Beginning School Line

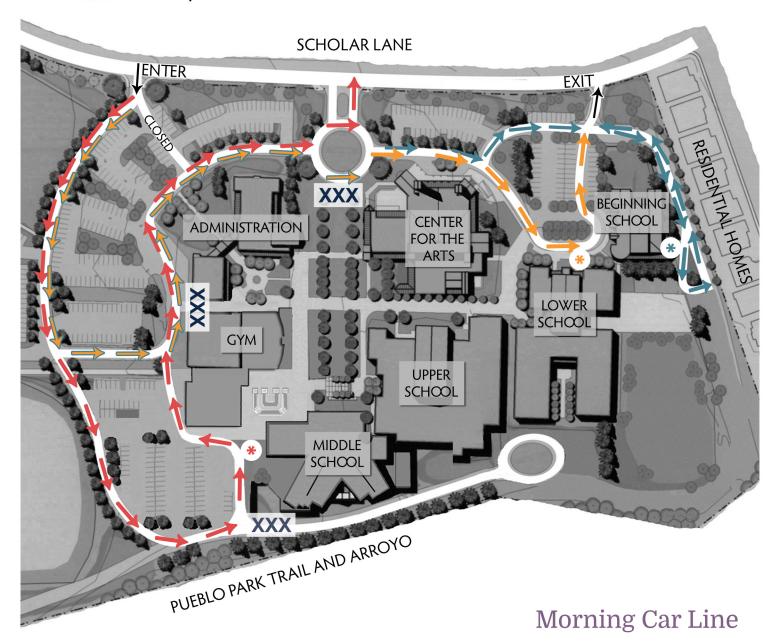
Lower School Line

Middle & Upper School Combined Line

**★** Drop-off Point

XXX No Drop-off Before 8:15 a.m.

W • E



## Appendix: Afternoon Car Line

Speed limit 5 mph. Watch for students crossing the roads.

Beginning & Lower School Combined Line 

Beginning School Line 

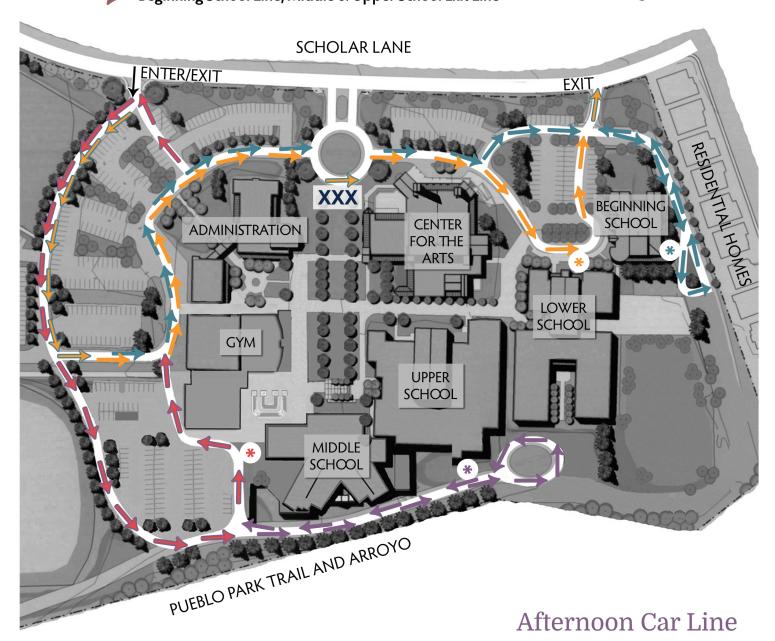
Lower School Line 

Middle & Upper School Combined Line 

Upper School Line 

Beginning School Line, Middle & Upper School Exit Line 

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# TMSPA Handbook & Directory

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The Meadows School Parents Association (TMSPA) was established to facilitate communication between the School and home to promote, in the spirit of The Meadows Family, friendship, loyalty, and enthusiastic support of its programs and activities.

#### **EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

President-ElectRecording Secretary	Rebecca Staniec Casey Sage Hilary Mody Tania Thompson			
VICE PRESIDENTS				
Lower SchoolMiddle School	Kenly Bansal Julia Lowry Alison Verdirame Wendy Agrawal			
DIRECTORS-AT-LARGE				
Center For the Arts	Patty YeagerMinji WuBelinda Englman			
COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS				
Faculty Luncheons	Catherine Le & Jenny Yu-Mattson  Randall Feikes, Ashley Levin & Ellen Schaner  Casey Sage & Patty Yeager  Ellie Donboli, Karen Warren & Markia Jefferson-Zano  Belinda Englman  Kuan Chin, Megan Schwartz & Kathy Negron-Searcy  Wendy Agrawal, Casey Sage & Minji Wu  Belinda Englman & Julia Lowry  Jaimee Scoggins, Victoria Oganesian & Allyson Badoyen			

#### 

Twelfth Grade.......Mickey Norton & Angela Thalgott

#### **CLASS REPRESENTATIVES**

Middle School	Joanna Falb, Casey Sage, Suzi Schnell, Jaime Chilton & Brandice Vincent
Ninth Grade	
Tenth Grade	Katie Stewart & Shamaila Shahzad
Eleventh Grade	Sunny Kwon Glendon & Dawn Hutchinson
Twelfth Grade	

Your involvement is vital and ever-welcomed.
Your participation makes goals attainable,
and your child's experiences—as well as your own—richer.

To get involved, please email us at TMSPA@themeadowsschool.org

## RULES OF GOVERNANCE AND REGULATIONS OF THE MEADOWS SCHOOL PARENTS ASSOCIATION

#### **ARTICLE I - NAME**

The name of this Association, established by and serving under the auspices of The Meadows School Board of Trustees, shall be "The Meadows School Parents Association," hereinafter referred to as "TMSPA."

#### **ARTICLE II – PURPOSE**

The purpose of TMSPA shall be to facilitate a closer interest and communication between the parent and/or guardian and the School and to provide assistance to the School through special projects. No financial benefit shall inure to any member, group, or individual.

#### ARTICLE III - MEMBERSHIP

The membership of TMSPA shall be composed exclusively of parents and/or guardians of students attending The Meadows School. All parents and/or guardians are members of TMSPA. No membership fee is required.

#### **ARTICLE IV – OFFICERS**

**Section 1. Officers:** The officers of TMSPA shall be a President, a President-Elect, a Recording Secretary, a Treasurer, a Beginning School Vice President, a Lower School Vice President, a Middle School Vice President, and Directors-at-Large.

#### Section 2. Duties:

- 1. **President:** The President shall act as general executive of TMSPA; shall see that the Rules of Governance and Regulations are enforced; shall call meetings of TMSPA and preside at such meetings; shall be an ex-officio member of all committees except the Nominating Committee and, upon request, shall attend The Meadows School Board of Trustees meetings as the parent representative.
- 2. **President-Elect:** In the absence of the President, the President-Elect shall perform all duties of the President and shall also be in charge of the summer camp expo and various projects assigned by the Executive Board.
- 3. Recording Secretary: The duties of the Recording Secretary shall be as follows:
  - Keep records of all proceedings of the Executive Board and general membership and communicate to the Executive Board copies of the meeting minutes as soon as possible after each meeting.
  - Provide safe keeping of all TMSPA records, including the Rules of Governance and Regulations and the meeting
    minutes book at The Meadows School or in such a place as designated by the Executive Board and shall exhibit
    these records at all reasonable times.
  - Shall notify officers and committee chairpersons of upcoming meetings.
- **4. Treasurer:** The Treasurer will work closely with The Meadows School Business Office to follow set procedures that maintain checks and balances with all TMSPA accounts. The duties of the Treasurer shall be as follows:
  - Shall be responsible for executing the financial transactions of TMSPA, subject to the approval of the Executive Board and/or The Meadows School Business Office.
  - Shall receive a monthly statement of TMSPA's financial transactions from The Meadows School Business Office prior to each monthly meeting and report the financial status of all TMSPA accounts at each meeting.
  - Shall prepare the year-end report for approval by the Executive Board and/or The Meadows School Business Office at the start of the school year.
- **5. Beginning School Vice President:** The Beginning School Vice President shall facilitate and implement Beginning School activities, working closely with the Director of Beginning School.

- **6. Lower School Vice President:** The Lower School Vice President shall facilitate and implement Lower School activities, working closely with the Director of the Lower School.
- **7. Middle School Vice President:** The Middle School Vice President shall facilitate and implement Middle School activities, working closely with the Director of the Middle School.
- **8. Upper School Vice President:** The Upper School Vice President shall facilitate and implement Upper School activities, working closely with the Director of the Upper School and the Director of Student Life.

#### 9. The Directors-At-Large:

- Correspondence: The Correspondence Chair shall prepare the summer mailing for bulk mailing by collating, labeling, sorting, bundling, and transporting to the bulk mailing center throughout the school year. Conduct any necessary correspondence for TMSPA.
- **Hospitality:** The Hospitality Chair shall be responsible for the organization of various hospitality services as designated by the Executive Board for TMSPA functions and events in each Division. Shall attend events and over see the Hospitality committee members.
- **School Store:** The School Store Chair shall order, stock, and sell items with School crest or logo. Set up a booth and sell items at All-School Reception, Homecoming football game, and other special events.
- **Booster Club:** The Booster Club Chair(s) shall be responsible for encouraging enthusiastic support and interest in the School through athletics by recruiting, coordinating and communicating with parent volunteers to assist with concessions, creating enthusiasm for each team sport and creating and organizing spirit events to enhance School spirit.
- Arts: The Arts Chair shall be responsible for (i) encouraging enthusiastic support for and interest in the School through the visual and performing arts by supporting and promoting art and photography shows, orchestra & band concerts, theatrical, musical and choir productions, and (ii) creating awareness of and enthusiasm for the visual and performing arts at the School. The Arts Chair helps administer the box office ticketing system and recruits parent volunteers to sell tickets at box office for all theatrical shows. In addition, the Arts Chair coordinates with the faculty and staff in the Center for Fine Arts in executing his or her duties.

**Section 3. Term of Office:** The officers shall serve for a term of two years from the close of the Annual Open Meeting at which time they are elected or until their successors are elected, with the exception of the Beginning School Vice-President who shall serve a term of one year.

**Section 4. Vacancies:** Vacancies in office, with the exception of the office of President, whose office, if vacant shall be filled by the President-elect, shall be filled by appointment by the Executive Board.

#### ARTICLE V - EXECUTIVE BOARD

**Section 1. Composition:** The officers of TMSPA shall constitute the Executive Board.

**Section 2. Duties of Powers:** The Executive Board shall have general supervision of the affairs of TMSPA between its business meetings, fix the hours and place of meetings, make recommendations to the membership and perform such other duties as are specified in these Rules of Governance and Regulations. The Board shall be subject to the orders of TMSPA, and none of its acts shall conflict with action taken by TMSPA.

**Section 3. Meetings:** Meetings of the Executive Board shall be held monthly. Special Meetings may be called by the President or three members of the Board. The quorum, shall be a majority of the Board, that must be present at meetings in order to conduct business.

#### **ARTICLE VI – COMMITTEES**

**Section 1. Standing Committees:** Standing committee chairs and committee members shall be presented to the Executive Board on a slate developed by the nominating committee and voted on by the members of TMSPA at the last Annual Open Meeting in May.

**Section 2. Special Committees:** Special committees shall be formed as necessary by the Executive Board to carry on the work of TMSPA.

**Section 3. Elections:** Elections shall be by majority vote at the last Annual Open Meeting in May.

**Section 4. Terms of Office:** Standing committee chairs and committee members shall serve a term of two years from the close of the Annual Open Meeting at which time they are elected or until their successors are elected, with the exception of the Buddy Program Chairs, Parent Reception Chairs, Welcoming Chairs, and the Class Representatives who shall serve a term of one year.

#### **ARTICLE VII – OPEN MEETINGS**

**Section 1. Scheduled Open Meetings:** There shall be at least one meeting of TMSPA each school year. Members shall be notified in writing of all upcoming meetings. The last meeting, to be held in May of each school year, shall be known as the Annual Open Meeting and shall be for the purpose of receiving final reports from officers and committees. The General Election shall also take place at the Annual Open Meeting.

**Section 2. Special Open Meetings:** Additional Open Meetings may be scheduled at the request of five members of the Executive Board or the request of the Head of School. The President shall call a Special Open Meeting within two weeks of receipt of said request. The purpose of the meeting shall be stated in the notice of the meeting.

**Section 3. Voting:** A majority vote, either by voice vote or show of hands, shall be decisive. Voting shall be by written ballot upon request.

#### ARTICLE VIII – PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY

The rules contained in the current edition of Robert's Rules of Order shall govern TMSPA in all cases to which they are applicable. In the event these Rules of Governance and Regulations do not address TMSPA issues, Robert's Rules of Order will prevail.

#### **ARTICLE IX – DISSOLUTION**

In the event of the dissolution of TMSPA, all assets shall be turned over to The Meadows School.

#### ARTICLE X - INDEMNIFICATION

The officers, directors, employees, agents, and servants of TMSPA shall be indemnified for any costs, expenses, or liabilities incurred as a result of the performance of their duties as provided in the Nevada State Statutes, or any amendments thereto.

## ARTICLE XI – AMENDMENT OF RULES OF GOVERNANCE AND REGULATIONS

These Rules of Governance and Regulations may be amended at any scheduled open meeting of the membership by a two-thirds vote, provided that the amendment has been submitted in writing and approved by the Executive Board at the board meeting prior to the scheduled open meeting.



# TMS Memberships & Affiliations

(Selected)

- Center for Bright Kids (CBK)
- Educational Records Bureau (ERB)
- Educational Testing Service (ETS)
- Global Online Academy (GOA)
- The Johns Hopkins Center for Talented Youth (JHCTY)
- Northwest Accreditation Commission (NWAC)
- Northwest Association of Accredited Schools
- National Association of College Admission Counselors (NACAC)
- National Association of Independent Schools (NAIS)
- Nevada Interscholastic Activities Association (NIAA)
- Northwest Association of Independent Schools (NWAIS)
- Secondary School Admission Test Board (SSATB)
- School Scholarship Service (SSS)
- Western Association of College Admission Counselors (WACAC)



### THE MEADOWS SCHOOL

8601 Scholar Lane Las Vegas, NV 89128-7302

BEGINNING SCHOOL 702-254-5220

LOWER SCHOOL 702-797-5835

MIDDLE SCHOOL 702-797-5933

UPPER SCHOOL 702-254-3852

GENERAL NUMBER 702-254-1610

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