



Norterra Canyon School

Theresa Milks, Principal

Samantha Devriendt, Assistant Principal

Mrs. Pearson Syllabus Expectations

Parent Involvement is all about the children. Participation in your child's education is proven to boost his or her achievement in school. We are committed to treating parents as partners while keeping lines of communication open and focused on the needs of your child. Mutual trust and respect between parents and teachers is required to maintain a positive learning experience at any school. We believe that your trust in Norterra Canyon is required to ensure your child's success.

Welcome to Third Grade! I am very excited to be part of the Norterra Canyon community again this year! This year will be my eighth year teaching third grade and I'm thrilled to be a part of the Norterra Canyon community. I look forward to building a positive relationship with you and your child. I hope to offer your child a kind, safe, and fun environment so that they may acquire the skills necessary to meet their learning goals.

Degrees & Certifications:

Bachelor of Business Administration

Elementary Education Certification 1-8

Structured English Immersion 1-8 Endorsement

For more information about third grade and my classroom, please visit my website at: <https://www.dvusd.org/Page/51074>

[Overview of Arizona State Standards](#)



Norterra Canyon School

Theresa Milks, Principal

Samantha Devriendt, Assistant Principal

Mrs. Pearson Syllabus Expectations

- [DVUSD Math Resources for Parents](#)
- [DVUSD English Language Arts Resources for Parents](#)
- [DVUSD Social Studies Resources for Parents](#)
- [DVUSD Science Resources for Parents](#)
- [What is Depth of Knowledge \(DOK\)?](#)

BEHAVIORAL EXPECTATIONS

All District Rules will be adhered to at Norterra Canyon School. Please refer to the [DVUSD Student Rights and Responsibilities Handbook](#).

Throughout the day I give PBIS reward dollars to students who make positive choices at school. At the end of the week, students will use their dollars to purchase items from the school store.

DISCIPLINE POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

Our goal is for students to be responsible for their own behavior. Students who cause a problem for themselves or others will, with the help of a staff member, work out a solution to the problem that is agreeable to all concerned. If the student refuses to be an active participant in the problem-solving, or the problem persists, the behaviors will be addressed through the use of [progressive discipline](#).



Norterra Canyon School

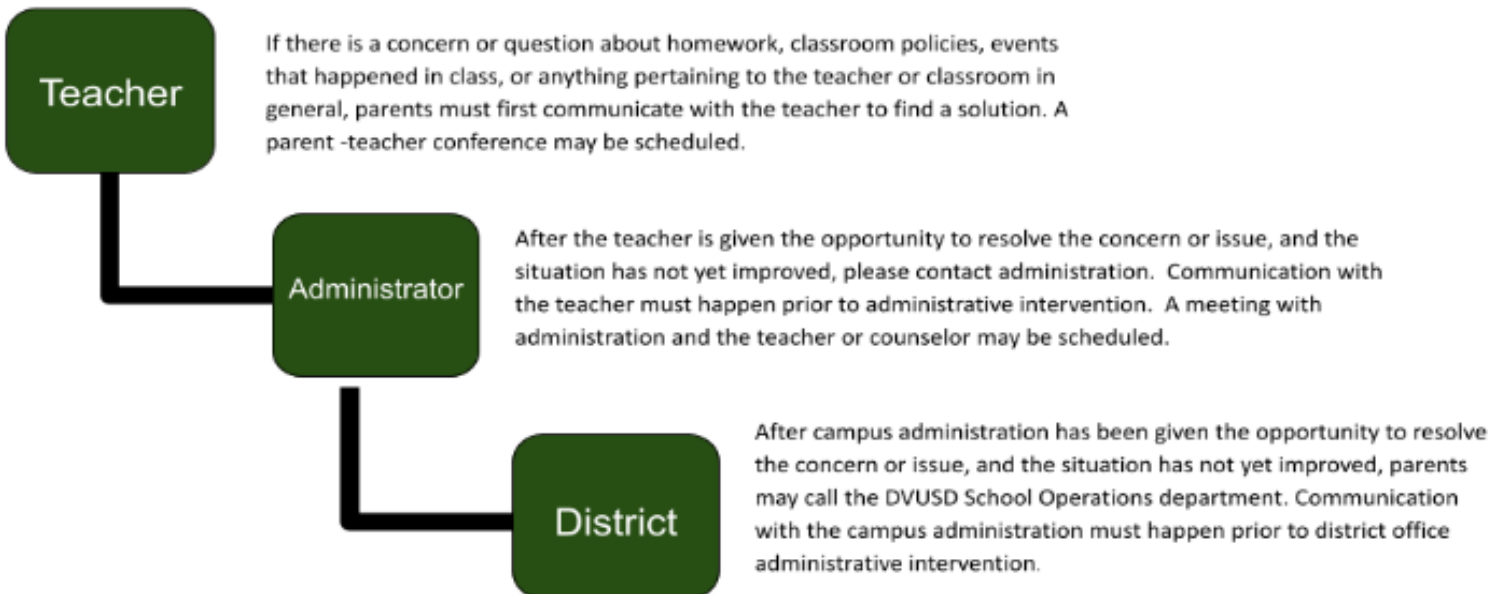
Theresa Milks, Principal

Samantha Devriendt, Assistant Principal

Mrs. Pearson Syllabus Expectations

The guidelines in the [Deer Valley Student Rights & Responsibilities Handbook](#) will be used to address behaviors resulting in an office referral.

COMMUNICATION PROTOCOL



SCHOOL WIDE COMMUNICATION

- [Norterra Canyon School Website](#)
- Weekly Smores via social media, email, and texts

TEACHER WEBSITE



Norterra Canyon School

Theresa Milks, Principal

Samantha Devriendt, Assistant Principal

Mrs. Pearson Syllabus Expectations

<https://www.dvusd.org/Page/51069>

TEACHER CONTACT INFORMATION

Please schedule specific times to meet with me, as we need time to communicate effectively. I often have professional duties directly before and after school hours. Please understand that I will not be able to meet or discuss issues while I am teaching or supervising students. However, I will contact you as soon as I can.

Norterra Canyon has implemented email office hours and a “curfew” to ensure that we maintain a healthy work-life balance. I strive to respond to emails within 24 hours of receiving messages Monday through Friday from 7:30 am to 8:30am and again from 3:30-4:30pm unless previous meetings have been scheduled during these times. My email address is stacey.pearson@dvusd.org.

CLASSROOM VOLUNTEERS

- **School Policy:** *Volunteerism in any form is greatly appreciated at Norterra Canyon Academy. Deer Valley Unified School District requires all school volunteers to take the DVUSD Volunteer training course offered throughout the year (if you have taken this in previous years, you are all set). Volunteers must set specific dates and times with the teachers. It is imperative to establish an important role for the volunteer without interrupting the learning environment. Parent volunteerism in the classroom during the school-day varies based on need, teachers, and grade levels. Contact your teacher for more information.*

FIELD TRIPS

- All chaperones must complete the one-time DVUSD Volunteer training course prior to attending the field trip. <https://www.dvusd.org/Domain/5182>
- Chaperones will be chosen on a first come first served basis.



Norterra Canyon School

Theresa Milks, Principal

Samantha Devriendt, Assistant Principal

Mrs. Pearson Syllabus Expectations

- We make every attempt to offer field trips free of charge. However, the trip may cost a small amount depending upon transportation costs and entry fees to the venue.

PROFESSIONAL LEARNING COMMUNITIES (PLC's)

Most Fridays, students will be released early so that we are able to participate in PLC work. This work is directly related to the planning, instruction and interventions we implement in our classrooms to ensure that students master the standards.

Role of PLC

A professional learning community is a group of educators that meet regularly and work Collaboratively to improve teaching practices and the achievement of students. The questions that drive the work of PLC's are:

1. What do we want all students to know and be able to do?



Norterra Canyon School

Theresa Milks, Principal

Samantha Devriendt, Assistant Principal

Mrs. Pearson Syllabus Expectations

2. How will we know if they learn it?
3. How will we respond if some students do not learn?
4. How will we extend the learning for students who are already proficient?

PLC Teams are responsible for collaborating to establish general consistency among the following:

- Assignments, presentations, products, observations and assessments used to determine a student's level of performance in relation to grade-level standards.
- The method and schedule for additional learning opportunities.
- Due dates, deadlines, and procedures for reassessment.
- Create opportunities for common scoring of assessments.

Generative Artificial Intelligence Tools in Grades K-8: *After careful consideration and in alignment with the developmental needs of our students and the Children's Online Privacy Protection Act (COPPA), DVUSD has determined that the use of Large Language Models (LLMs), such as ChatGPT, is not suitable for students in grades K-8 (under 13 years of age) and will not be utilized or endorsed in academic contexts.*

HOMEWORK & GRADES

- The intent of homework is to practice, extend learning, and provide opportunities for students to develop critical, independent study skills and self-discipline for their life-long educational journeys.
- Grades are a reporting tool utilized to reflect what a student knows and is able to do in a content area. We measure achievement, not effort or behavior, in our grading system.
- Grades will be equitable, accurate, specific, consistent.
- A student's grade should reflect academic learning and should never be used as a punitive tool.
- Grades are for reporting the status of academic learning, not behavioral conduct
- The primary purpose of assessment and grading is to provide detailed feedback to inform and support student learning.
- Learning is a process that takes place over time and at different speeds for different students.



Norterra Canyon School

Theresa Milks, Principal

Samantha Devriendt, Assistant Principal

Mrs. Pearson Syllabus Expectations

- PowerSchool is an essential resource for parents and students. It is not only a tool for communication regarding grades, it is a resource for our students and parents to check progress, missing work, and what is being taught/learned regularly. Please ensure that you and your child have access (separate accounts) and even sign up for the app and push notifications or weekly email updates as an option in [PowerSchool](#).

MEANINGFUL GRADE ENTRIES

Teachers are expected to enter a meaningful grade for each student in the electronic gradebook on a regular basis so that students, parents, and support staff can better monitor student progress. A meaningful grade is a grade entry for an assessment or coursework that measures learning standards. The frequency of entering meaningful grades is as follows:

- Classes that typically meet 4-5 days per week = at least 1 meaningful grade each week
- Classes that typically meet 2-3 days per week = at least 1 meaningful grade every other week
- Classes that typically meet 1 day per week = at least 1 meaningful grade every 3rd week

At least one meaningful assessment/assignment grade entry must be entered each week, but an entry that impacts the course grade must be entered at least every 2 school weeks (every 3rd week for classes meeting once per week).

3rd-8th GRADE

Students in 3rd through 12th grades will receive marks for their **proficiency** towards the grade level standards using the following scale. These marks are for information and do not calculate the student's overall course grade.

- **4 = Highly Proficient**
- **3 = Proficient**
- **2 = Partially Proficient**
- **1 = Minimally Proficient**



Norterra Canyon School

Theresa Milks, Principal

Samantha Devriendt, Assistant Principal

Mrs. Pearson Syllabus Expectations

Students in 3rd through 12th grades will receive marks for their **overall performance** in each course of study using the following letter grade scale. Overall course grades for students in grades 3-12 will be calculated from the average of the student's assignment scores* (assessments, coursework).

- **A = 90-100%**
- **B = 80-89%**
- **C = 70-79%**
- **D = 60-69%**
- **F = 0-59%**

Grades of "D" and above are passing marks. A course grade of "F" indicates that the student has failed the course.

*For graded work in the Assessment/Coursework Categories, teachers will enter the proficiency marks for each standard measured and use the following guide to assign a score to the assignment. Parents will see the percentage score for each grade book entry with the letter grade mark on the front page of the PowerSchool parent portal.



Norterra Canyon School

Theresa Milks, Principal

Samantha Devriendt, Assistant Principal

Mrs. Pearson Syllabus Expectations

Highly Proficient A 100%-90%			Proficient B 89%-80%		Proficient C 79%-70%	
100-97	96-94	93-90	89-85	84-80	79-75	74-70
All 4's on standards	All 4's except for one 3	Mostly 4's with some 3's and/or 2's	Mostly 3's with some 4's All 3's on standards	Mostly 3's and 4's with a 2	Mostly 3's with some 2's	Mostly 2's with 3's and/or 4's
Partially Proficient D 69%-60%			Minimally Proficient F 59%-50%			
69-65		64-60	59-56		55-50	
Mostly 2's and 3's with a 1		All 2's on standards	Mostly 2's and some 1's		All 1's on standards	
No Evidence						
49% - 0%						

For additional information, the parent may click the blue "show standards" icon to view the proficiency marks for the learning standards associated with the assessment or coursework.

Due Date	Category	Assignment	Flags	Score	%	Grade
09/22/2022	Assignments	Weathering Rates - Gizmos		100/100	100	A
09/16/2022	Assignments	Weathering of Different Rocks Gizmo		90/100	90	A
09/09/2022	Quiz	Land forms Quiz	Click "Show Standards" icon to see standards measured on the assignment.	85/100	85	B
		4.E1.U1.6 - Plan and carry out an investigation to explore and explain the interactions between Earth's major systems and the impact on Earth's surface materials and processes. 4.E1.U1.6		5		Proficiency level shown here.
08/12/2022	Quiz	Scientific Method Quiz		100/100	100	A

WEIGHTS



Norterra Canyon School

Theresa Milks, Principal

Samantha Devriendt, Assistant Principal

Mrs. Pearson Syllabus Expectations

All 1st-12th grade teacher gradebooks will utilize the following weights for each category in the gradebook.

- ASSESSMENT CATEGORY 80%
- COURSEWORK CATEGORY 20%
- PRACTICE CATEGORY 0%

Missing Work:

An assignment is considered as missing work when it is not submitted by the due date.

Missing work will be treated as such:

- The assignment will be marked with the “missing” special code in the gradebook
- A zero (0) will be entered as the score for the assignment in the gradebook (grades 3-12)
- No Evidence (NE) will be entered for the standards attached to the assignment
- If the work is submitted as Late Work (see below), the zero (“0”) assignment score will be changed to reflect the student’s actual score with no deductions or penalties.
- If the work is not submitted as Late Work or does not meet conditions for Late Work, the score for the assignment will be changed from a zero (“0”) to a 49% by the end of the term.

PROCEDURES FOR RE-ASSESSMENTS AND LATE WORK

Describe the expectation that all students will complete all learning requirements

- Students needing extra help will receive it from their teacher during Multi-Tiered Systems of Support in class
- In order to accurately reflect a student’s academic performance level, teachers will accept late work and missing work for full credit if the work is submitted within the timeframe and procedures developed by the school and before the end of the grading period.
 - The practice/coursework/assessment will be marked with the “Missing” special code in the gradebook with a 49% in line with district grading practices.
 - No Evidence (NE) will be entered for the standards attached to the practice/coursework/assessment



Norterra Canyon School

Theresa Milks, Principal

Samantha Devriendt, Assistant Principal

Mrs. Pearson Syllabus Expectations

- If the work is submitted as Late Work (see terms below), the NE or 49% score will be changed to reflect the student's actual score with no deductions or penalties.
- If the work is not submitted as Late Work or does not meet conditions for Late Work, the score for the practice/coursework/assessment will remain at 49%.
- Students will still be responsible for turning in late work in addition to their current coursework, which results in the natural consequence of a heavier workload. The primary consequence for students not completing the work is to complete the work.

In order for Late Work to be accepted, students must meet the following parameters:

- Assignment is not a timed activity (such as a Quick-Write Essay)
- Assignment is not a Long-Term assignment (over multiple weeks)
- Assignment is turned in within the following time frame
 - K-2 Grades: By the end of the marking period
 - 3-8 Grades: Within 10 DAYS of the end of the unit.

If a student meets the above criteria, he/she will be issued full credit for the work submitted (no added penalties or caps on the grade that can be earned). The teacher will mark the student's assignment with the "Late" special code. If the assignment is an assessment, the proficiency level of the standards attached will be entered.

Please note: Accommodations included in a student's IEP, 504, or EL plan may supersede the above Late Work procedures. Consult with the student's Service Coordinator, counselor, or the student's support team.

REASSESSMENT

Retake: The student completes another assessment of the same learning targets. The assessment to be retaken may be in the same format or a different format. The higher of the two scores will be entered in the gradebook.

In order to earn a retake opportunity, a student must complete all of the following:

- Complete all formative coursework related to the content/skill assessed
- Consult with the teacher
- Submit a reassessment plan or application, if required by the teacher



Norterra Canyon School

Theresa Milks, Principal

Samantha Devriendt, Assistant Principal

Mrs. Pearson Syllabus Expectations

A reassessment plan must be scheduled within the following time frames:

- K-2nd Grades: Until the week before the end of the marking period
- 3rd-8th Grades: Within 10 school days after receiving the assessment score

EXTRA CREDIT

Just as imposing grade penalties for poor behavior distorts academic grades, so does awarding higher grades or extra credit for good behavior. Extra credit renders an academic grade less accurate since it is not based upon performance of the standards, but rather on compliant behaviors. **No extra credit will be awarded.**

Norterra Canyon Behavior Processes

Behavior Matrix & PBIS Rewards

Please help us to encourage your child to follow our school-wide behavior expectations: Be Respectful, Be Responsible, Be Safe, and Be Kind. The [matrix](#) below is posted in every classroom campus wide, as well as other school locations such as the library, cafeteria, and front office. During the first two weeks of school, students will be taught the expectations at each location.



Norterra Canyon School

Theresa Milks, Principal

Samantha Devriendt, Assistant Principal

Mrs. Pearson Syllabus Expectations



The Pirate Way

Campus Expectations: Be Respectful, Be Responsible, Be Safe, Be Kind

	Be Respectful	Be Responsible	Be Safe	Be Kind
Classroom	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Attend to the speaker Respect materials 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Engage in class activities Be prepared Follow directions Persevere 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Walk Push in chairs Hands and feet to self 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Support others Work cooperatively in groups
Hallway	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Use quiet voices Keep campus clean 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Get to your destination quickly 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Walk Single file lines during transition Keep your place in line 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Be polite to students and staff you pass
Cafeteria	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Clean up after yourself Maintain a reasonable volume Be respectful to staff and volunteers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sit in the rows assigned to your grade/class Throw trash away 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Stay seated Eat your own food Wait to line up until you are directed to do so Raise hand to get up 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Say please and thank you Use appropriate language
Playground	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Take turns Be respectful to staff and volunteers Keep food in your lunchbox 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Return equipment at the end of recess Line up when your teacher blows the whistle Be a problem solver 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Use equipment safely Stay in designated areas Avoid horseplay See something, say something 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Use appropriate language Include everyone
Bathroom	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Enter calmly and quietly Respect the facilities Respect others' privacy 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Use your time appropriately Wash your hands 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hands and feet to self 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Leave the bathroom clean
Library	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Use quiet voices Log out of computers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Take care of books/materials Be a good digital citizen 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Walk Push in chairs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Listen attentively to the librarian

Students demonstrating these positive behaviors, both in and out of their classrooms, will enjoy earning points using our PBIS Rewards program. Points can be spent on tangible items and social incentives in our NC School Store.

[Help us stock our school store using the link here!](#)

Discipline Process: Minor & Major

To ensure our school is safe, positive, and productive for all learners, a process is in place to address behaviors that do not meet the expectations above. The information below will be shared with students. Please help us implement new processes by talking to your child about minor and major behaviors. If you have any questions, contact your child's teacher.



Norterra Canyon School

Theresa Milks, Principal

Samantha Devriendt, Assistant Principal

Mrs. Pearson Syllabus Expectations

WHAT IS A MINOR BEHAVIOR?	WHAT IS A MAJOR BEHAVIOR?
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Teacher managed It will not result in a punishment the first time I do it It shouldn't be repeated because my teacher corrected me It can become major if I continue to repeat it The teacher will contact parents 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Office managed It will result in a punishment the first time I do it It is against school district rules in the Student Rights and Responsibilities handbook The school administration will contact parents

MINOR BEHAVIORS Handled in classroom <i>(3 minors, then a major)</i>	MAJOR BEHAVIORS Handled in office
Disruption Unprepared for class Cheating Inappropriate language Note passing Put downs/teasing Gum/food/drink Dress code Littering Off task Throwing objects Public Display of Affection Property misuse Tardies Defiance/disrespect Horse play Refusal to work Technology misuse Electronic device usage	Fighting Weapons Offensive language Bullying/harassment Skipping class Vandalism Theft Drugs/alcohol/tobacco Threatening/aggressive behavior (physical or verbal) Disorderly conduct Inappropriate content

When students demonstrate minor behaviors, NC staff will follow the four step process below.

Step 1: Redirect and reteach expectations Student verbally reflects with staff member Natural consequence
Step 2: Redirect and reteach expectations Student completes reflection in buddy room Natural consequence
Step 3: Redirect and reteach expectations



Norterra Canyon School

Theresa Milks, Principal

Samantha Devriendt, Assistant Principal

Mrs. Pearson Syllabus Expectations

Cell Phone Policy

With our tech savvy world we have found it to be helpful for this cell phone policy to be readily available for families to reference.

Norterra Canyon's school cell phone policy is **Off and Away All Day**. Students are not permitted to use cell phones during school hours unless directed by a teacher (this includes in classrooms, in common areas, and during lunch/recess). While we understand that there are times you need to communicate with your child, all communication should be through the office. Please do not text or call your child's cell phone during school hours. Students not feeling well need to report to the nurse's office, rather than contact a parent to pick them up. We need your help to preserve the instructional environment of our classrooms every day of the school year! This policy also applies to the use of earbuds or airpods. So, while students are on campus, cell phones are to be put in the student's backpack unless a teacher has given permission for cell phone use. In an effort to be consistent with this expectation the following consequences will be implemented schoolwide:

1st Offense: Cell Phone and/or airpods will be confiscated and can be picked up by the student at the end of the school day from the teacher. The student will be placed on STEP 1 Referral for a Minor Incident. Parents will be notified via email.



Norterra Canyon School

Theresa Milks, Principal

Samantha Devriendt, Assistant Principal

Mrs. Pearson Syllabus Expectations

2nd Offense: Cell Phone and/or airpods will be taken & kept in the office until the end of the day. It can be picked up from the office (by the student) at the end of the day. Student will be placed on STEP 2 Referral for a Minor Incident and earn a natural consequence. Parents will be notified via email.

3rd Offense: Cell Phone and/or airpods will be taken & kept in the office until the end of the day. It can be picked up from the office (by the parent) at the end of the day. Student will be placed on STEP 3 Referral for a Minor Incident and earn 1 after school detention. Parents will be notified via email.

4th Offense: Cell Phone and/or airpods will be taken & kept in the office. It can only be picked up by a parent/guardian and will be accompanied with a conference discussing cell phone privileges. It can be picked up from the Principal or Assistant Principal at the end of the day accompanied with a conference about appropriate use. Student will be placed on STEP 4 Referral for a **Major Incident** and earn a consequence at the discretion of administration. Parents will be notified.

We are thankful for your support in ensuring a safe, positive, and productive learning environment for all Pirates.

PLAGIARISM/CHEATING

Academic integrity is a cornerstone of learning. Students must present their own work in order for teachers to accurately assess learning and provide appropriate feedback.

Any type of academic dishonesty will not be tolerated in DVUSD and any student who engages in cheating or plagiarism will be disciplined for those behaviors. It is important that the penalty imposed is not reflected in the student's academic grade. Incorporating a behavior penalty into a student's academic grade, such as issuing a loss of credit, causes the overall grade to no longer represent what the student knows or has learned and, in essence, has become meaningless.



Norterra Canyon School

Theresa Milks, Principal

Samantha Devriendt, Assistant Principal

Mrs. Pearson Syllabus Expectations

If a student engages in academic dishonesty, they will initially receive a “1” or “0” depending on their grade scale. The teacher will provide an opportunity for the student to demonstrate his/her level of proficiency of the same standards. If they choose not to reassess, the 0 or 1 will remain.

The student will be assigned a discipline consequence for the cheating and/or plagiarism behavior they engaged in. Parents will be contacted and the student will be held accountable through the district’s SR&R handbook. ***Depending upon the developmental needs, the stage of the student and the severity of the offense***, discipline consequences could take the form of a letter of apology or other restorative measure, loss of privileges, after school detention, and/or suspension.

TECHNOLOGY

Each student in Kindergarten will have access to their own IPAD. Grades 1-8 will have their own Chromebook. Grades 1/2/3 will keep their chromebook at school. Grades 4/5/6/7/8 will be able to bring the chromebook home. DVUSD will be offering an Optional Device Protection Plan for families of 4th-8th graders utilizing take-home devices. Enrollment in the plan is ***optional*** with the understanding that if students/parents do not enroll in the protection plan they may carry full liability for the student device (iPad or Chromebook) in the same way they do for other damaged or lost school property, such as textbooks. The district has provided families to purchase an annual insurance policy of \$25.

<https://url.dvusd.org/DeviceProtectionPlan>.

Electronic payment option <https://url.dvusd.org/TouchBaseParentInstructions>