

*Vantage Point High School*

*Student Handbook*

*2025-2026*



10900 Huron Street

Northglenn, CO 80234-3301

**Phone: 720-972-5800**

**Attendance Line: 720-972-7141**

Cafeteria: 720-972-5806

Fax: 720-972-5814

Website: [www.vantage.adams12.org](http://www.vantage.adams12.org)

**HANDBOOK AND DISTRICT POLICIES ARE AVAILABLE ON THE VPHS WEBSITE  
AT [www.vantage.adams12.org](http://www.vantage.adams12.org) UNDER THE STUDENT/PARENT RESOURCES TAB  
PLEASE REVIEW AND SIGN THIS FORM TO RETURN AT CHECK-IN.**

A copy can be requested at the school.

**HANDBOOK EXPECTATIONS**

This handbook is designed to familiarize students and families with an overview of Vantage Point High School and our values, rules, regulations, and policies. Please take the time to read it carefully.

It should be understood that the information in this handbook is the reference guide for the successful operation of our program and that students are directed to comply with the outlined expectations in this manual.

We realize that this handbook is not inclusive of every school situation, but we hope that it clarifies most policies of the school and the school district.

If you do not understand or if you need further information about any of the contents, please contact us at your earliest convenience.

Our goal is to provide a positive and meaningful educational experience for all of the students of Vantage Point High School. The contract requires parent and student signatures.

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**STUDENT / PARENT CONTRACT**

I, \_\_\_\_\_, will comply with all rules and regulations, policies and procedures as they pertain to Vantage Point High School and in alignment with the VPHS school of choice contract as well as Adams 12 Five Star Schools policies.

Furthermore, I understand that failure to comply with said policies may result in losing my student status at Vantage Point at any point during the year and for a length of time to be determined by the principal.

I have reviewed the Student/Parent Handbook for **2025/2026** containing updated District Policies and information.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

Adams 12 Five Star Schools  
1500 E. 128<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
Thornton, Colorado 80241

**BOARD OF EDUCATION**

**2025-2026**

Ms. Lori B. Goldstein	.....	President
Ms. Amira Assad-Lucas	.....	Vice President
Dr. Paula Battistelli	.....	Secretary
Ms. Courtney Potter	.....	Director
Ms. Alexis Marsh-Holschen	.....	Director
Mr. Chris E. Gdowski	.....	Superintendent of Schools

**WELCOME**

Welcome to Vantage Point High School! We are very happy to have you join our community, and we look forward to a very positive year of growth and a commitment to learning.

The Vantage Point staff is an experienced and dedicated group of individuals who are willing and prepared to address the needs of all students who attend our school. Our hope is that each student will find a way to “connect” with at least one staff member who will serve as a listener, helper, and positive role model.

Vantage Point offers the opportunity for a new start to make positive changes in order to prepare for a successful future. A commitment to take advantage of this opportunity is critical to ongoing enrollment and success.

Our staff looks forward to working with you throughout the **2025-2026** school year. Please contact us if we can be of assistance in any way.

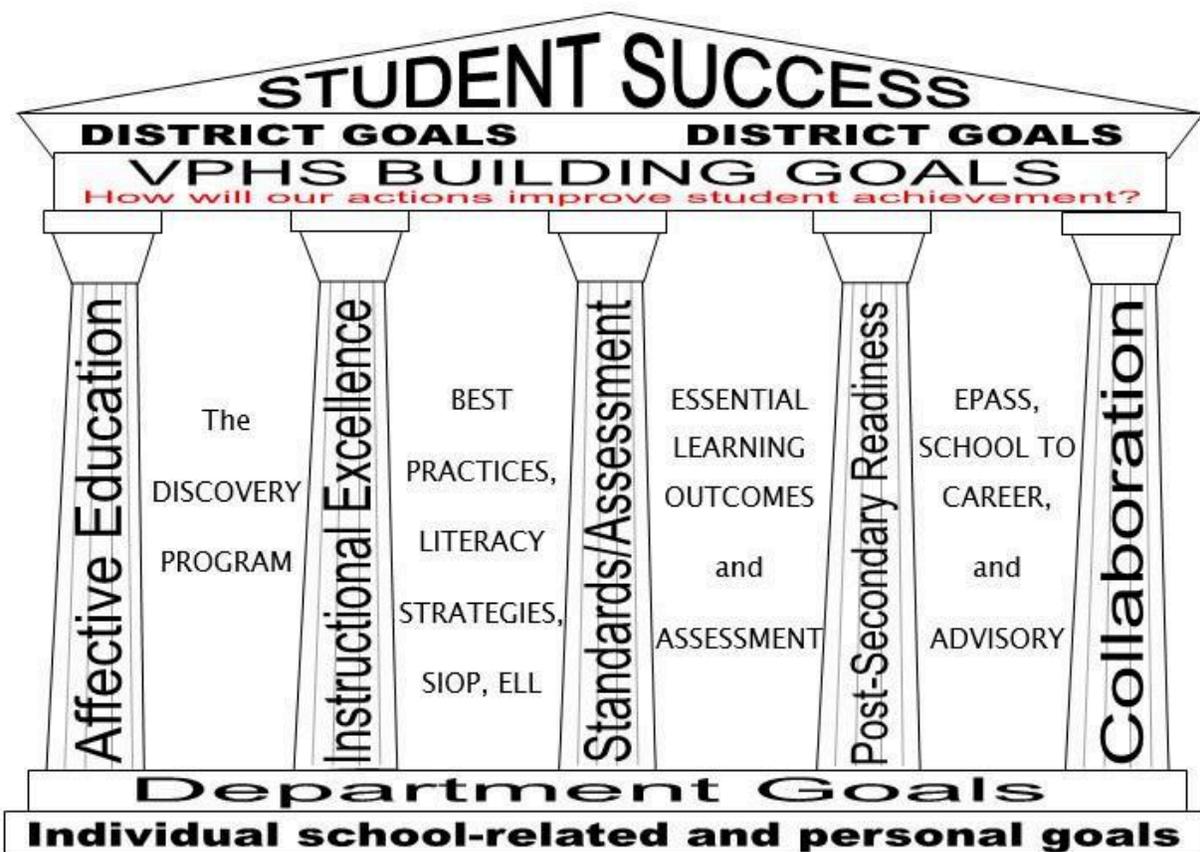
Sincerely,

Alison Helfand  
Principal  
720-972-5800  
Vantage Point High School  
Adams 12 Five Star School District

# Vantage Point High School

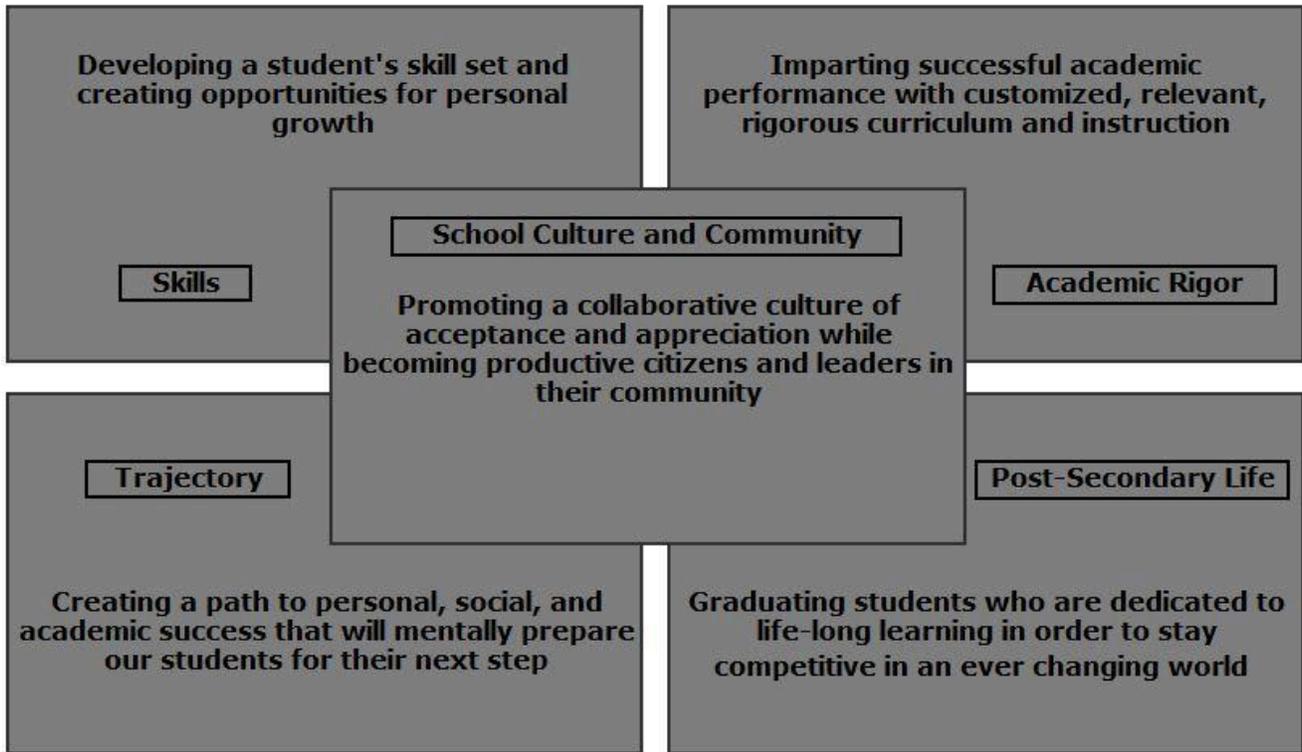
2025-2026

## *School Improvement Plan*



# VANTAGE POINT MISSION

*We are committed to...*



## VPHS VALUES

Focus On Learning  
Support Each Other

Mutual Respect  
Appropriately Confront

## 2025– 2026 Important Dates Calendar

### Vantage Point High School

August 12, 2025	Quarter 1 First Day of School	Student Welcome
September 1, 2025	Labor Day	No School for Students
September 2, 2025	Staff Workday	No School for Students
September 29, 2025	Staff Workday	No School for Students
October 2, 2025	Fall Conferences	
October 13-17, 2025	Fall Break	No School for Students
October 20, 2025	Quarter 2 First Day of Classes	
November 3, 2025	Staff Workday	No School for Students
November 24-28, 2025	Thanksgiving Break	No School for Students
December 19, 2025	Staff Workday	No School for Students
December 22, 2025 – January 2, 2026	Winter Break	No School for Students
January 5, 2026	Staff Workday	No School for Students
January 6, 2026	Quarter 3 First Day of Classes	
January 19, 2026	Martin Luther King Jr. Day	No School for Students
February 16, 2026	President’s Day	No School for Students
February 17, 2026	Staff Workday	No School for Students
February 19, 2026	Spring Conferences	
March 9, 2026	Staff Workday	No School for Students
March 16, 2026	Quarter 4 First Day of Classes	
March 23 - March 27, 2026	Spring Break	No School for Students
<b>April 13, 2026</b>	<b>VPHS School Day</b>	
<b>April 24, 2026</b>	<b>VPHS Staff Workday</b>	<b>No School for Students</b>
<b>May 4, 2026</b>	<b>VPHS School Day</b>	
May 8, 2026	Last Day for Seniors	
<b>May 15, 2026</b>	<b>VPHS Staff Workday</b>	<b>No School for Students</b>
May 20, 2026	Last Day of Classes	
<b>May 21, 2026</b>	<b>VPHS Graduation</b>	<b>No School for Students</b>
May 22, 2026	Staff Workday	No School for Students
May 25, 2026	Memorial Day	No School for Students

**\*Bold items are special dates/information related to VPHS.**

Calendar is subject to change and will be updated monthly on the VPHS web page. Throughout the year, there will be many additions to our calendar. Please visit our school website for a current list of events: [www.vantage.adams12.org](http://www.vantage.adams12.org)

## CLASS SCHEDULE

Vantage Point High School offers a variety of classes with an opportunity for each student to enroll in eight (8) classes per quarter. The school starting time is 8:00 a.m. with dismissal at 1:50 p.m. Our class schedule rotates starting each quarter with Silver classes and ending with Black classes at the end of the quarter. Students will start in Advisory Homeroom each day and then have their other 4 classes daily. The calendar will be posted on the VPHS web page with dates for Silver and Black classes.

## DAILY BELL SCHEDULE

### MONDAY, TUESDAY, THURSDAY, FRIDAY

Advisory Homeroom	8:00 - 8:15
Period 1	8:20 - 9:35
Period 2	9:40 - 10:55
Lunch	10:55 - 11:15
Period 3	11:15 - 12:30
Period 4	12:35 - 1:50

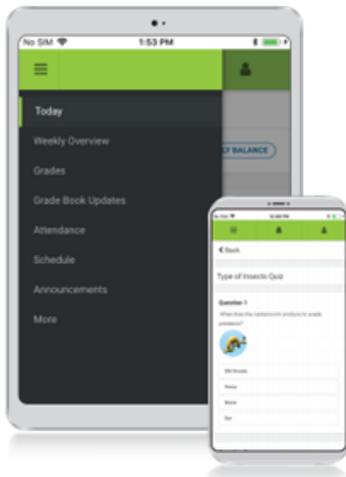
## ADVISORY SCHEDULE

### WEDNESDAY

**Counts as a mandatory attendance day or lose classes for the day.**

Period 1	8:00 - 9:05
Period 2	9:10 - 10:15
<b>Advisory</b>	<b>10:20 - 11:10</b>
Lunch	11:10 - 11:30
Period 3	11:30 - 12:40
Period 4	12:45 - 1:50

# INFINITE CAMPUS PARENT PORTAL



## Download the Mobile App

Campus Student and Campus Parent

### Announcements

Quickly see district announcements as they are posted.

### Assignments

Browse assignments by specific class or due date.

### Attendance

Review attendance events in summary and detail form.

### Grades

Immediate access to grades as they are posted.

### Schedule

Review schedule from anywhere, at any time.



Infinite Campus Mobile Apps can be downloaded through the Apple App Store or Google Play Store



Here you will find instant access to accurate, current and confidential information about your child(ren)'s attendance, grades, class assignment and more.

Please visit our website at [www.vantage.adams12.org](http://www.vantage.adams12.org) and click on the Parent Portal link for procedures, obtain access or to login.

## **VANTAGE POINT HIGH SCHOOL CONTRACT AGREEMENT**

Vantage Point is an alternative high school program serving an important group of students. Our school vision and mission is to serve students in a setting that stretches the boundaries of support as well as limits. Because of the critical need to be a unified program, the school expectations and climate are believed to establish specific benefits to our overall goal of increased student achievement and success. As a result, MUTUAL RESPECT, UNITY, POSITIVE PEER PRESSURE, IMAGE IN THE COMMUNITY, SCHOOL DISCIPLINE, SUPPORT SYSTEMS, SAFETY, ATTENDANCE, and a FOCUS ON LEARNING are all of increased importance.

**VANTAGE POINT IS A CLOSED CAMPUS  
STUDENTS WILL BE REQUIRED TO CHECK OUT IN THE MAIN OFFICE IF LEAVING DURING  
SCHOOL HOURS. ANY STUDENT LEAVING CAMPUS DURING SCHOOL HOURS WITHOUT  
PERMISSION WILL BE REQUIRED TO RETURN WITH A PARENT.**

**Since Vantage Point High School is a school program of choice, it is understood that multiple agreements/acceptance of policies are recognized at the onset in order to maximize student success.**

### **GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS**

All students who are enrolled in Adams 12 Five Star Schools are required to earn 23 credits to graduate. Additional information about graduation requirements is explained later in this handbook.

Other policies applying to our program include:

A grading system A, B, C or F. No grades of D are assigned.

(69.5% or above = Passing, 69.4% or below = Failing)

All of the above requirements may be modified for students on Individual Education Plans (IEP's) based upon their special needs.

### **ATTENDANCE**

Regular attendance at Vantage Point is critical to academic success. Students who are not in class will not succeed. The district's attendance policy speaks to excessive unexcused and excused absences. View the Adams 12 Five Star School District School Attendance Policy [here](#). Attendance Line: 720-972-7147

The staff at Vantage Point has established an attendance policy as follows:

- Student gets **3 Absences**/Block classes - **6 Absences**. Parents are encouraged to verify student absences.
- Any additional Absences will be considered excessive and the student will lose that class resulting in an F for the quarter. (Students may appeal to Vantage Point High School administration if they feel additional absences were due to extenuating circumstances).
- 3 tardies = 1 Unexcused Absence. A tardy will be marked up to the first 5 minutes of class. More than 5 minutes late in any class will be marked as an unexcused absence.
- Students 18 years and older can request a waiver to excuse themselves, but must meet with the principal and parents to understand policy and sign a waiver. If the waiver is not signed, the student may NOT excuse themselves or sign out of school without permission of a parent or guardian.

\*PLEASE NOTE: Excused (EXC) absences are those verified by a Dr.'s note, a funeral notice, court appearances, suspensions and principal verified extenuating circumstances. Parents are encouraged to verify absences; however, excused (EXC) and unexcused (UNX) absences all count towards the 3 absence limit.

## LOST CLASSES

Any student who exceeds the terms of the attendance policy will lose the class or classes and receive a letter grade of an F and be awarded no credit. Once a class is “lost”, the student will be required to attend the Refocus Program. If the student passes the class in the Refocus Program, then the F for the lost class will be changed to NG (no grade). Credit will be awarded in the class passed in the Refocus Program.

**We encourage parents to discuss attendance expectations with your child and to use Infinite Campus or call the school to monitor attendance progress. Teachers will contact parents with attendance concerns.**

## VANTAGE POINT WARRIOR DAYS

Warrior days will be offered throughout each quarter. These days may be scheduled after school or on a Saturday. Students will receive information about these days during the quarter. Warrior days allow VPHS students to earn one day back of their 3 allowable absences. Warrior days are NOT offered to students after they have exceeded all allowable absences.

## DISCOVERY PROGRAM

The *Discovery Program* is a concrete, skills-based curriculum that has the power to create positive change in students. Through *Discovery*, students learn and master the positive social skills necessary to be successful in school and in life. *The Discovery Program* was designed in 1990 by Eric Larsen, an alternative high school teacher in Poudre School District in Fort Collins, Colorado. The program teaches positive social skills to students struggling with academic, attendance, and attitude problems. The curriculum includes social skills, management strategies, culture development, and experiential activities. All students who enroll in Vantage Point High School are required to participate **and pass** the *Discovery Program* as part of their entry into the Vantage Point High School culture. The objectives of the program are as follows:

- To develop a strong sense of community and a support system for all students.
- To teach, practice, and give feedback on specific positive social skills.
- To reinforce the culture of the classroom/school and ensure that all students realize what is expected of them and what they can expect from the staff.
- To self-explore, self-evaluate and gain insight into one’s choices and outcomes.

## REFOCUS POLICY

- Students may be required to attend our Refocus Program full time. This may happen due to behavior, attendance, failing grades, or extenuating circumstances. Parents and students will be notified if a student will be in the Refocus Program full time for the quarter.
- If there are questions regarding your status as a student at Vantage Point, or if you would like assistance in exploring other options in education, you may contact the Diagnostic Center Coordinator or Principal.
- If you choose not to comply with the Refocus plan and to return to a traditional Adams 12 district high school, then Vantage Point High School **will no longer be an option.**

## STUDENT SUCCESS

Students are required to pass all course components of the Vantage Point High School *Discovery Program*. When a student completes the *Discovery Program*, he/she will graduate from *Discovery* and be promoted into the Vantage Point High School schedule the following quarter.

There are **3 ways** students may fail the *Discovery Program*: **1)** When students go over in attendance. **2)** When students do not pass all of their classes. **3)** When students are not demonstrating their skills. For example, a student who continues to be disruptive in class (or in multiple classes) would fail Discovery for not demonstrating the **Attending Skill** known as ***Being in the Moment*** or for not ***participating (one of the 6 P's)*** in his/her education. Failure to pass any component of *Discovery* will require the student to retake *Discovery* the following quarter.

Students will have two opportunities to pass Discovery. If they do not successfully complete Discovery after the second time, they will need to seek another educational option other than VPHS.

### **CREDIT**

Students will **earn 2.0 credits** for completing the *Discovery Program*. An **additional .25 credit** may be granted if the parent(s)/guardian(s) participate in the parent component of the *Discovery Program* and the student completes the necessary academic requirements associated with the parent participation.

### **ATTENDANCE**

A student may have a total of **four (4) absences** for the quarter. **We will not distinguish between excused or unexcused absences.** The fifth (5th) absence will result in **not** completing the *Discovery Program* and having to re-take *Discovery* the following quarter. The excuse waiver that allows 18 year olds to call in their own absences does **NOT** apply to the *Discovery Program*. When a student completes the *Discovery Program*, he/she will graduate from *Discovery* and be promoted into the Vantage Point High School schedule the following quarter. All aspects of the Vantage Point High School contract agreement will apply.

### **DISCOVERY WARRIOR DAYS**

Warrior days will be offered throughout the quarter and these times will be communicated to students. Warrior days allow Discovery students to earn one day back of their 4 allowable absences. Warrior days are NOT offered to students after they have exceeded all allowable absences.

THIS POLICY AGREEMENT IS TO BE REVIEWED AND SIGNED BY EACH APPLYING STUDENT AND PARENT PRIOR TO INTERVIEW FOR ACCEPTANCE TO VANTAGE POINT HIGH SCHOOL. SIGNING THIS FORM INDICATES KNOWLEDGE AND ACCEPTANCE OF THE POLICIES AND RESULTING CONSEQUENCES FOR NON-COMPLIANCE AS OUTLINED HERE AND DESCRIBED IN THE STUDENT/PARENT HANDBOOK.

### **DISCOVERY STUDENTS CELL PHONE POLICY**

- **Cell phones are not allowed for students in the Discovery Program.**
- When students enter their **FIRST PERIOD** class, they are expected to turn in their cell phones to their teacher and therefore, will have the opportunity to do so.
- Once the cell phones are collected, if students are seen with their phones (or even if their phones are heard), it will be considered **Defiance or Authority**.
- At that point, students will have to leave class and go to the Main Office. The student will be given a **Problem Solving form** to complete and the student will be sent home for the day.
- Students will be allowed to return to school once the student and parent have come in for a Re-entry meeting **AND** the students bring in the completed **Problem Solving form**.

# Skills for Everyone that Form the Foundation of a Successful Life

## The 6 P's

<b>Prompt</b>	Early <b>IS</b> on time
<b>Prepared</b>	Be ready mentally, emotionally, and physically to participate and <b>Learn</b> .
<b>Polite</b>	Treat everyone with dignity and mutual respect.
<b>Positive Mental Attitude (PMA)</b>	Expect a good outcome. Use your words. Manage your anger. Actively work to solve problems.
<b>Participate</b>	Education is Your responsibility. Own it! Step into the Circle. Be part of the process.
<b>Produce</b>	TCB --- Take Care of Business.



## USE YOUR ATTENDING SKILLS

<b>Be in the Moment</b>	Be engaged in Your Learning.
<b>Use Appropriate Body Language</b>	Keep your head up, facing the speaker. No heads on desks. Show you are attentive!
<b>Use Appropriate Eye Contact</b>	Make eye-to-eye contact. Shake hands and look each other in the eye as a sign of respect.
<b>Use Appropriate Feedback</b>	Show you understand and are engaged. Smile. Nod. No blank states at the wall.
<b>Question!</b>	<b>Ask questions to clarify or validate.</b> Put your hand in the air and be <b>recognized!</b> It's your responsibility to make sure you understand what the teacher wants from you.

## **BUILDING RELATIONSHIPS BY RESPECTING YOURSELF**

### **THREE REDIRECTS**

**A redirect is an opportunity for you, the student, to own your behavior as teachers appropriately confront you about your behavior in a respectful way. Our values are Mutual Respect, Appropriately Confront, Support Each Other, and Focus on Learning. As a staff, we believe that this technique will accomplish ALL four of our values at VPHS and give you needed life skills.**

### **PROCESS**

1. The teacher will ask you in a friendly, respectful tone if you are using your appropriate attending skills? We will not argue or engage in disrespectful tones or behaviors. This counts as the **FIRST REDIRECT**. We expect you to own your behavior and respond that you were not using your skills. We will ask if you can fix it. Of course, you will say yes. We will Thank You and move on.
2. The teacher will make a direct statement regarding your continued behavior and lack of attending skills. The teacher will again follow the above procedure. This counts as your **SECOND REDIRECT**.
3. The teacher will ask you to step outside the room and tell you this is your **THIRD REDIRECT**. The two of you will respectfully discuss your behavior and expectations. You will be asked If you can comply and told that if the behavior which is disruptive continues you will be automatically sent to see an Administrator and **WILL** receive an absence for that period.
4. The student will be sent home with a requirement to return with a problem-solving sheet and participate in a conference with the teacher including a parent.

At any time, your behavior becomes disruptive and you are not cooperating with the teacher respectfully - if you choose to use profanity or to not manage your anger appropriately, the teacher may remove you from the class without using the three redirects.

**Our HOPE is that you will begin to OWN your behavior. Learn how to problem solve as an adult in a mutually respectful and dignified manner EVEN if there are conflicts and consequences involved due to your choices.**

## **GENERAL INFORMATION 2025-2026**

### **Absence Make-up Work and Tests**

1. It is the student's responsibility to contact the teacher to receive missed work.
  - a. During an excused absence:
  - b. Students shall be allowed to make-up work missed during excused absences for full credit.
  - c. Students will be given the same number of days they were absent plus one additional day to make up those assignments that were assigned on the day of the absence. The make-up period begins on the next school day following and absence.
  - d. Individual teachers may grant extra time for make-up in hardship cases.
  - e. Projects that are assigned prior to a student's absence are to be turned-in on the due date or upon the student's return date to school, unless prior arrangement has been made with that specific teacher.
2. During an out-of school suspension:
  - a. Students will be allowed to make-up work during an out-of-school suspension. The policy gives students certain opportunities for make-up work.

### **Community Use Of District-Owned Facilities**

The Community Use Program is an integral link between schools, citizens of the District, and the communities served by Adams 12 Five Star Schools. The Community Use Program will encourage the accessibility of District facilities by students, their families, and the community, and thereby increase opportunities for these individuals and groups to be involved in the school environment. District facilities are only subject to such accessibility and increased opportunities, however, when they are not being used for District programs as set forth below.

### **Individual Rights & Responsibilities**

Vantage Point High School follows the Adams 12 Five Star Schools District Policy. Please refer to [District Policy 8900](#).

### **Student Meals**

Students may pre-order breakfast or lunch in the counseling office from the school district nutrition services program. We encourage families to apply on-line at <https://family.schoolcafe.com/A12FSS> for free or reduced meals and other benefits.

**Only parents or guardians are allowed to bring a student food into the main office. Students will be able to pick up food from the office during passing periods ONLY.**

### **Emergency Information**

Vantage Point High School has a security and camera system throughout the building. We comply and exceed the district's mandates for security and emergency drills. If you have any questions, please contact an administrator. If you have information that is important to the safety of our students or school, please contact the school administrator. In rare instances, the Superintendent and/or Principal will need to close Vantage Point High School on an emergency basis for a variety of reasons, such as inclement weather and power failure. If an emergency occurs while school is in session, students are to remain with the teacher in the

classroom until official dismissal has been given by one of the school administrators. No student will be allowed to go home without permission of both the parent/guardian and school administration. Emergency school closure information will be sent to the following media outlets:

Radio: KOA/KOAQ KHOW KBPI/KNUS KOSI KOOL KYGO

Website: [www.adams12.org](http://www.adams12.org)

T.V.: KMGH—7 KUSA—9 KCNC—4

Information on school closures may also be obtained by calling the District information number at 720-972-4000, then press 7 for school closure information.

### **Fire, Lockdown and Tornado Drills**

Each room is equipped with instructions for evacuation during a fire drill. The students should acquaint themselves with these directions as soon as possible. The teacher is responsible for giving complete directions to be followed during the drill. Tornado drills will be held in the fall and spring of each year. These drills must be taken seriously and all instructions carefully followed. If dangerous weather ever causes us to have to take cover, we would request the cooperation of the parent/guardian in such a situation. Any parent/guardian stopping at the school during that time must come to the Main Office, and we will make every effort to locate her/his student.

Lockdown drills will be held at least once each trimester. These drills must be taken seriously and all instructions of their teachers followed carefully. The safety of students and staff is foremost and can only be accomplished with everyone's full cooperation. Please, No talking during drills, students must maintain zero (0) voice level and walk safely and quickly. Should students not maintain protocol during a drill, a suspension may be warranted.

### **Pets on School Property**

In an effort to keep our school feeling safe for all students and families and in accordance with District Policy, only service animals are permitted on school property. We ask that all other pets remain off school grounds during school hours. We appreciate your cooperation with this request.

### **Visitor/Parent Check-In**

District Policy requires that all parents and visitors must present a drivers license/I.D. at the front desk and sign in at the office upon entering the building. Your license will be scanned through our Raptor system and a visitor's badge/sticker will be provided. You will be asked to wear a visitor's badge/sticker at all times.

### **Internet User Agreement**

The Internet User Agreement is signed jointly with a student's parent/guardian. Parents should discuss with their students the responsibilities, obligations, accountability, and commitment involved in signing the conditions of the Internet User Agreement signed at check-in and school's responsibility to enforce the agreement. Students will need their I.D. card to verify internet permission before working on the Web.

**Students who have failed to use the Internet appropriately by following the Internet User Agreement can forfeit the usage of the Internet for up to the end of the school year.**

### **Transportation [District Policy 3600](#)**

#### **Riding on the Bus**

- Obey the directions of the driver

- Did you know it's a state regulation, when crossing railroad tracks, and upon signal from the driver, all passengers are to be quiet and remain quiet until all railroad tracks are crossed. Students need to remember not to damage district vehicles. Students and their parents are financially responsible for the damages they cause on the district vehicles, so writing on and damaging seats or walls of the bus is unacceptable and it could be expensive!
- No exiting through windows, emergency hatches or emergency door without permission
- Flame or spark-producing devices are not allowed on the school bus
- Due to limited bus capacity, a student may not ride another bus to and/or from school without prior permission. A written notice from a parent/guardian of both parties is required 24 hours prior to the change and approved by an Administrator

**The following items may NOT be transported on the bus:**

- Animal/pets, living or otherwise.
- LARGE ITEMS (i.e., band instruments, science projects. "Rule of Thumb"—items that protrude into aisle, extend above the seat back, or occupy the space of another student cannot be transported.
- NO SKATEBOARDS, SCOOTERS, OR ROLLER BLADES may be transported at any time.

It is important to know and understand all the rules of the bus, and the consequences of not following those rules. Please speak with your children about what these rules mean. Office Hours 4:45am- 6:00pm, 720-972-4300.

Bicycles and skateboards brought to school must be locked to the racks. The bicycles should be registered with the local Police Department, but this is a decision of the student and her/his family. The school does not assume liability for bicycles. Bicycles and skateboards are to be **walked** on school grounds; this includes the track. Students may ride skateboards/scooters to and from school for transportation only. Rollerblades, Skateboards and Scooters must not be ridden on school grounds, including the black top and track at any time.

**PARKING PERMITS**

All students will need to obtain a parking permit in order to park on school property. This will require a valid driver's license and a copy of vehicle registration. Students will not be allowed to go to their car during school hours if they are not parked on campus.

## **GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS - DISTRICT POLICY 6340**

### **Vantage Point Capstone Graduation Guidelines**

#### **What is in the new graduation guidelines?**

Adams 12 Five Star Schools selected from this menu to create a list of options that their students must use to show what they know or can do in order to graduate from high school, beginning with the graduating class of 2021.

#### **To graduate, all students must accomplish the following two components:**

- Achieve a minimum score in both English and mathematics in at least one of the approved College and Career Readiness Demonstrations. (Vantage Point High School will be utilizing the SAT and WorkKeys assessments).

AND

- Complete 23 credits in the following coursework:
  - 4 English
  - 3 Mathematics
  - 3 Social Studies (1.0 US History & 0.5 Government)
  - 3 Science (2.0 lab-based credits)
  - 1 Physical Education
  - 2 Fine and Practical Arts
  - 7 Electives

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**Total:** 23 Credits

#### **What are these assessments and what score do students need to graduate?**

##### **ACT WorkKeys - National Career Readiness Certificate**

English: Bronze or higher (this requires passing 2 English tests)

Math: Bronze or higher

ACT WorkKeys is an assessment that tests students' job skills in applied reading, writing, mathematics and 21st century skills. Scores are based on job profiles that help employers select, hire, train, develop and retain a high-performance workforce. Students who score at the bronze level (at least 3) in applied mathematics, mapping and reading earn the ACT's National Career Readiness Certificate.

**SAT** - English: 470    Math: 500

The SAT is a college entrance exam that is accepted or required at nearly all four-year colleges and universities in the U.S. The current SAT includes sections on reading, writing and math. The highest possible score for each section is 800.

## **When will students take these assessments?**

All students take the SAT during their 11<sup>th</sup> grade year. If they do not receive the cut off score during their 11<sup>th</sup> grade year, they may retake the test at the cost to the family.

Work Keys will be offered free of charge the first time during Discovery class the first nine weeks they are enrolled at VPHS. Students may retake the WorkKeys assessments, but must wait at least one semester between attempts. Any retakes will require the family to pay for any additional attempt (at cost). These retakes will be rescheduled after school with the WorkKeys coordinator. No additional attempts will be allowed within a semester of the student graduating to allow time for the student to complete a capstone project.

## **What happens if the student does not meet the expectations of the assessments at the approved levels?**

Students who have not meet the assessments will be required to complete a capstone project prior to graduating that demonstrate proficiencies in two areas:

**English: Individualized**

**Math: Individualized**

A capstone is the culminating exhibition of a student's project or experience that demonstrates academic and intellectual learning. Capstone projects are district determined and often include a portfolio of a student's best work.

The Capstone Project allows each senior the opportunity to demonstrate his/her years of educational experience. Your reading, writing, speaking, accessing information, thinking, and problem solving.

## **CURRICULUM**

The curriculum at Vantage Point High School includes the basic courses of instruction available at other District Twelve high schools that grant credit toward a high school diploma. Required classes supplemented by a wide variety of appropriate electives address student needs in the mental, physical, social and emotional domains. It is our goal for students to be self-motivated learners, to be aware of self and others, and to live a healthy life-style in a larger community. PLEASE NOTE: Vantage Point curriculum may not include courses required to be admitted to some colleges/universities. It is a student's responsibility to see a guidance counselor regarding post secondary educational options and necessary requirements.

## **Graduation Requirements 2025-2026:**

1. Graduates must complete and score proficient on the MAPS test to be eligible to graduate.
2. All graduating seniors are expected to have their classes and Epass classes complete by 8:00 AM on May 8, 2026 (there are no exceptions to this deadline).
3. Graduating seniors will not be allowed to enroll into a Epass class after **April 27th**
4. In order to be considered a graduating senior, you must enter with the following credits:
  - a. First Quarter: student must be within 9 credits of graduating
  - b. Second Quarter: student must be within 7 credits of graduating
  - c. Third Quarter: student must be within 4 credits of graduating
  - d. Fourth Quarter: student must be within 2 credits of graduating

## **BOOKS / EQUIPMENT / FINES / UNPAID FEES**

Damaged or lost books and school equipment in the custody of students will be paid for as loss/damage occurs. In the event the items are recovered, the money will be returned to the student. Students will NOT participate in the graduation ceremony until all district/building fines and fees are paid in full. This includes any unpaid fines or fees from prior schools/programs.

## **STUDENT FEES**

Fees for the current school year are listed below. The general fees apply to all students and the class fees apply to students enrolled in the class listed. Class fees are applied each quarter. Students may not enroll in a class with a fee if fees from previous years are not paid. Please make checks payable to Vantage Point High School or pay on-line through PayForIt.net. All students are billed monthly from the district.

## **GENERAL FEES**

\$5.00 - REPLACEMENT ID/LANYARD/COVER

## **COUNSELING AND GUIDANCE**

Your counselor is interested in helping you in any way he/she can. They will listen to your concerns and guide you in making decisions regarding school, classes, home, or relationships involving other students. If you are having a problem with another student, your counselor encourages you to come to his/her office to discuss and seek resolution to the problem. Students must have written permission, signed in advance by the counselor, to be out of class or students need to have a pass specifically to the counselor's office.

The counselors are here to support the school's mission to ensure that every student graduates prepared to pursue post-secondary education and/or the workforce. Students will be assisted in developing an appropriate post-secondary plan and will understand their choices for post-secondary education and career training. The counselors will provide relevant information to students, parents/guardians, teachers, and administrators about career and educational services available in the local community and beyond. Students and parents/guardians are encouraged to contact and/or meet with counselors to discuss future plans and options.

**Please consult with a VPHS Counselor for specific information regarding college.**

## **CREDIT OUTSIDE OF SCHOOL**

Students have options to earn high school credit outside of normal school hours by participating in one of our concurrent course offerings. In order to take advantage of these programs, the student must be in good standing (not on contract or ANY classes refocused) with VPHS. All programs must be approved through the counselor and administration. These programs include:

**EDGENUITY CLASSES (Credits to be determined by counselor)**-Hybrid teacher directed online classes which students work on for credit recovery or credit advancement. If a student is planning on a joining the Military, please check with a recruiter to verify credit approval for online course work.

**HIRE- Education** Hire-Education gives elective credit to students who hold a part-time job while attending Vantage Point. Students must work a minimum of 62.5 hours to earn .25 credits. Quarterly on-site evaluations are completed by the HIRE education coordinator. A student may not count more than 2.0 credits from HIRE Education towards the graduation credit requirements. A signed contract is required BEFORE a student may begin accumulating hours and earning credit.

## **STUDENT GRADES AND PROGRESS**

Grades are updated weekly in Infinite Campus. It is the student's responsibility to be aware of academic progress, attendance and missing assignments on a regular basis. Parents are encouraged to log into Infinite Campus at any time to have access to their student's progress.

In addition, it has been demonstrated that successful students have regular interaction and dialogue with their parents about school progress. We encourage parents and students to work together to include this important component for success.

Vantage Point has conferences twice per year. These conferences are student led and we encourage parents to attend. The dates are listed on the important Dates Calendar and on our school website.

## **GRADE NOTIFICATION POLICY**

1. Responses to parent phone calls/emails within 24-48 hours.
2. Update student progress in Infinite Campus.
3. Teachers notify parents when a child's grade drops to an F with sufficient time to correct.
4. Teachers notify parents and student if student is not working up to potential with sufficient time to correct.

## **BEHAVIORAL EXPECTATIONS**

FOCUS ON LEARNING  
MUTUAL RESPECT  
SUPPORT EACH OTHER  
APPROPRIATELY CONFRONT

Appropriate behavior, cooperation, and mutual respect are important concepts in the successful operation of Vantage Point High School. Each member of the Vantage Point community is expected to follow these expectations in order to create a positive climate for learning. Students are encouraged to appropriately confront individuals who jeopardize our success. If you are appropriately confronted by another student or staff member, please remember that this is an operational standard of our program and accept it as a constructive attempt to remind you of expectations.

Vantage Point's operational philosophy is that of mutual respect between all staff and students. Specific behavioral expectations such as no physical fighting or intimidations, name-calling, stealing, or swearing will be enforced for the purpose of providing a safe and positive learning atmosphere. Students need to respect the property of others and the school.

Conflicts are to be resolved through mature and responsible discussion with third party mediation when necessary. Conflicts between a staff member and student should be taken to the staff member involved or the principal. Student conflicts can be mediated by the Dean, administration, or any other willing staff member.

## **DISCIPLINARY GUIDELINES**

Students are reminded that Vantage Point High School provides them with the opportunity for a new start and the chance to make the necessary changes to become successful. Enrollment numbers at Vantage Point High School are limited. Students who do not take advantage of this opportunity may be taking the space of another student who may benefit from the Vantage Point program. It should be understood that students who fight and are uncooperative, disrespectful, and do not attend will not be welcome for continued enrollment.

When infractions of District policies, building rules, and/or classroom expectations occur, the following will be followed:

1. Flagrant infractions may result in immediate suspension or deduction of absences (1 to 5 days) from school. They may all lead to recommendation for expulsion. These infractions include:
  - a. Defiance of authority
  - b. Fighting
  - c. Substance abuse
  - d. Verbal abuse of a staff member
  - e. Weapons
  - f. Violation of Safe Schools Policy
  
2. For flagrant, habitual incidents, the following procedures /steps will be followed:

Students may be placed on the District Remedial Discipline Plan which may result in a district hearing to consider expulsion. This includes flagrant gang affiliation against building or district policy.

In the case of serious disciplinary infractions, see the Suspension/Expulsion policy. Multiple day suspensions and/or expulsion proceedings may occur immediately. Student due process will be utilized during these proceedings.

### **DUE PROCESS**

The staff at Vantage Point High School will utilize due process when it is necessary to discipline, suspend, expel, or exclude a student from school. The components of due process include the following:

1. Students and parents will be made aware of appropriate school rules and policies.
2. Students and parents, when possible, should be informed of charges/violations against him/her.
3. Students will have the right to respond to the charges.
4. A decision will be made based upon the facts and statements of witnesses when available.
5. No retaliation can occur against students or family members who voice concerns or file grievances.
6. Students, families, and community members can be heard by the Board of Education when the internal hearing procedures have been exhausted.

Please refer to [District Policy 5010](#) for further information.

### **SUSPENSION/EXPULSION**

The principal or designee is delegated the authority to suspend a student for at least five school days and up to ten days. Prior to suspension, a student shall be entitled to informal due process.

When a student's continued presence endangers persons or property or threatens to disrupt the academic process, he/she may be suspended immediately. The school will attempt to notify the parent/guardian by telephone or registered mail and a hearing will be held at a later time.

### **STUDENT SEARCH AND SEIZURE**

Vantage Point High School follows the Adams 12 Five Star Schools [District Policy 5130](#).

Whenever possible, necessary searches at any school related function shall be conducted by a school administrator.

“Contraband” consists of all substances or materials prohibited by District policy or state law including, but not limited to, drugs, drug paraphernalia, alcoholic beverages, guns, knives, other weapons and incendiary devices.

“Reasonable suspicion” must be based on facts obtained from a reliable informant or through personal observation or experience causing the school official to believe, based on his/her own experience, that search of a particular person, place or thing would lead to discovery of an item listed above.

Students may be referred to law enforcement after student search and seizure.

### **VPHS CANINE SEARCHES**

Vantage Point is routinely inspected by detection of contraband canines for prohibited items in order to provide a safe learning environment for students and staff. If substances are found, appropriate disciplinary actions will be taken and student may be referred to law enforcement per District policy.

### **TOBACCO USE**

The use or possession of any tobacco product including mechanical or electronic cigarettes is prohibited within school zone or at any school sponsored activity. The Vantage Point discipline policy will be enforced, as well as a referral to law enforcement. If a student is found vaping or smoking inside the building, the student will be refocused.

### **DRUG/ALCOHOL POLICY**

Vantage Point High School follows the Adams 12 Five Star Schools [District Policy 5040](#).

### **RETURN TO A TRADITIONAL HIGH SCHOOL**

Students who enroll at Vantage Point should have a successful quarter (pass 6 of 8 classes) if they wish to return to a traditional high school in Adams 12 the following semester with good standing. Traditional high schools do have the right to refuse transfers until the end of the academic year. For students unsuccessful at Vantage Point, a return to a traditional high school would require a meeting to determine the appropriate high school setting and signed agreement made to not return to Vantage Point.

### **TRESPASSING**

When a student enters Vantage Point High School, this school becomes his/her home school. Once students enroll at Vantage Point, they are not to be on or near the grounds of any other school without direct permission from the principal. If on other school grounds without permission, police will be called and individuals may be cited for trespassing. Students found on other school grounds without permission will be suspended for 2 days.

### **SAFE SCHOOLS POLICY/GANG AND OTHER INTIMIDATING BEHAVIOR**

Vantage Point High School operates upon a philosophy of mutual respect and acceptance of opinions and differences. We do, however, support and comply with the District’s [SAFE SCHOOLS POLICY](#) prohibiting behavior, apparel, accessories, and symbols that are likely to interfere with the safety and security of staff and students who attend Vantage Point. A condition of enrollment is to comply with district policy and understand that failure to do so will result in loss of enrollment privileges at this school and could result in expulsion proceedings.

## **NEW FOR THE 25/26 SCHOOL YEAR: DISTRICT CELL PHONE POLICY AND OTHER PERSONAL TECHNOLOGY DEVICES**

Adams 12 Five Star School and Vantage Point High School are committed to improving the learning environment for all students in order to best serve their academic needs.

This year, Adams 12 Five Star Schools will be implementing a new cell phone / persona device policy. You can and should read the entire policy (Policy 5030) on the Adams 12 District Website.

All high school students may not use their cell phones or personal devices (smart watches, headphones/earbuds) during academic time. Cell phones and other personal devices must be turned off, silent, and stored out of sight.

High School students may use their cell phones and personal devices during non-academic time: passing periods and lunch.

Students will also be held accountable for any behaviors on their personal devices which may violate the District's Student Code of Conduct policy.

If a student violates the policy, it will be addressed as follows:

- First Offense: The student will receive a warning and the personal device will be secured by the student.
- Second Offense: The personal device will be confiscated, secured, and transferred to administration. A parent/guardian will be notified and may be released to the student.
- Third Offense: The personal device will be confiscated, secured, and transferred to administration. A parent/guardian will be notified and the device will be released only to the parent/guardian.
- Fourth Offense: The fourth offense will be considered disruptive behavior and defiance of authority and may result in a minimum of one day suspension. Repeated offenses may result in up to 3 days suspension. The personal device will be confiscated, secured, and transferred to administration. A parent/guardian will be notified and the device will be released only to the parent/guardian.
- Continued violations may result in disciplinary sanctions up to expulsion.

***Vantage Point High School is currently in the process of creating additional supports and policies to address cell phone/personal technology use and will communicate any updates throughout the year.***

## Vantage Point High School - Discipline Protocols

**Disciplinary Referrals do not replace Classroom Management/Redirects by teacher; these protocols are designed to assist in reinforcing and supporting each Teacher in maintaining their own classroom management as well as enforce Building/District Policies while providing structure and safety conducive to an effective educational environment.**

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### **Running in the Halls, Horseplay, or Other Physical Activity which may be a Safety Hazard**

1. Redirect Policy will be used to correct behavior. If the student does not correct behavior, a parent phone call will be made.
2. Problem Solving – Conference with dean and counselor will occur prior to student returning to class.
3. Habitually Defiant Behavior (if behavior continues it is considered defiance and requires a Parent, Student, Administrator meeting before returning to school)
4. Disruptive Behavior policy includes Remedial Discipline Plan (RDP) which may lead to recommended expulsion.

### **Hall Pass – misuse**

1. Misuse of hall pass will result in an unexcused (UNX) absence and a Discipline Referral.

### **Profanity**

1. Utilize redirect policy
2. If a pattern of profanity is established then the following will occur:
  - a. Direct discipline referral
  - b. 1<sup>st</sup> conference with parent
  - c. Remedial Discipline Plan (RDP)
3. Any staff directed profanity is an automatic suspension = 1 - 5 days.

**Any profanity directed at or towards a staff member will result in an automatic 2-day suspension.**

## **Gang Affiliation at School**

**WE ARE ENFORCING DISTRICT POLICY FOR GANG AFFILIATION AT SCHOOL.**

**Expellable Offenses, Habitually Disruptive Behavior, Sexual Harassment,  
Nondiscrimination**

VPS administration will follow the District Policies and Procedures for all *possible* Expellable Offenses, Habitually Disruptive Behavior, Sexual Harassment and Nondiscrimination.

**INFORMATION AVAILABLE ON DISTRICT WEBSITE**

**STUDENT CODE OF CONDUCT**

A summary of the Student Code of Conduct for Adams 12 Five Star Schools (the District) is available on the District's [website](#). For complete information, please refer to the latest version of each District policy, available [here](#).

This summary includes information such as:

- student conduct
- student attendance
- cell phones and personal electronics
- District technology and Internet usage
- student dress code
- bullying and harassment

### **COMMONLY REQUESTED INFORMATION**

A summary of commonly requested information is available on the District's [website](#). For the most complete information, please refer to the latest version of each District policy (if applicable), available [here](#).

“Commonly requested” information includes topics such as:

- complaints or grievances
- consolidated billing
- service animals on District property
- student transportation
- video and audio monitoring
- visitors to schools

### **STUDENT HEALTH INFORMATION**

Information about student health and wellness, including immunizations, health screenings, COVID-19, and when to keep your child home from school, is available on the District's [website](#).

### **LEGAL NOTIFICATIONS**

The District's legal notifications/annual notices are available on the District's [website](#).

These notices include information concerning:

- non-discrimination (including Title IX)
- rights under the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA)
- directory information under FERPA
- rights under the Protection of Pupil Rights Amendment (PPRA)
- other opt-out provisions