

# Sullivan Environmental Science Academy



## Student Handbook 2024 - 2025

Sullivan is a very special school. It is an Environmental Science Academy. The environment is everything around us. All our surroundings including the air, soil, water, plants and animals make up the environment. Students here learn about the environment and how the earth works. Students also learn how to reduce the impact that humans have on the environment. At SESA:

**“Everyday is Earth Day!”**

Each grade level studies a different component of Environmental Science ...

Pre-K	Interacting with Nature
Kindergarten	Petrology (rocks)
First Grade	Zoology
Second Grade	Astronomy and Weather
Third Grade	Oceanography
Fourth Grade	Forestry and Agriculture
Fifth Grade	Botany

## PLEDGES YOU NEED TO KNOW



### The Pledge of Allegiance

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



### The Texas Pledge

Honor the Texas flag: I pledge allegiance to thee, Texas, one state under God, one and indivisible.

### The Sullivan Student Pledge

As a Sullivan Student, I will show **C**ompassion for all living things. I will hold myself **A**ccountable for my actions and choices. I will always be **R**espectful and practice **E**nvironmental stewardship. I will share my time and talent, and be of **S**ervice to my community and my world.

#SESACARES

## **Pledge Etiquette**

When reciting the Texas and US pledges, your right hand should be placed over your heart.

## **OUR CORE VALUES**

Our core values are **C**ompassion, **A**ccountability, **R**espect, **E**nvironmental Stewardship and **S**ervice. The first letter of each of those words spells CARES. That is why our hashtag is #SASSCARES. All of those words are in your student pledge.

These core values are like a navigation system that guide our actions and behaviors here at SESA.

Let's learn about each of them.

### **COMPASSION**

Compassion means we care about others, treat them with kindness, and feel a strong desire to help people in need.

How can you show compassion?

- Accept people for who they are.
- Apologize when you've made a mistake.
- Listen carefully to others.
- Encourage those weaker than you. If someone does not do as well as you, cheer that person up and sincerely encourage him or her to keep going.
- Be happy for someone else's success.

- Be humble. Do not think of yourself as better than other people.
- Practice good sportsmanship. In competition, it is normal that someone wins and someone loses. Prepare yourself for the truth that you cannot be the winner all the time.
- Be patient.
- Do not judge others. Imagine yourself in their situation.
- Express gratitude and appreciation.

## **ACCOUNTABILITY**

Accountability, being accountable, means taking ownership of the decisions and the choices you make, and accepting whatever consequences those choices come with.

How can you show accountability?

- Come to class prepared.
- Complete your classwork and homework.
- Keep your desk and workspace clean and organized.
- Clean your room at home.
- Get enough sleep every night. This means going to bed early.
- Take care of your workbooks, library books etc.
- Use your laptops responsibly.
- Do not feed, water, or handle any animal on campus without permission and an adult present.
- Join a school club or organization.

## **RESPECT**

Respect means that you treat others the way you want to be treated. You care how your words and actions may impact them. You are polite and courteous and honor others' feelings and opinions. You respect the rights and freedoms of others. You respect the property of others.

How can you show respect?

- Always listen quietly when others are talking.
- Don't yell or talk over others.
- Walk on one side of the hall - never run.
- Use respectful words like "Yes Ma'am" and "Yes Sir."
- Look people in the eye when talking to them.
- Follow directions when given.
- Pay attention in class, participate and ask questions.
- Raise your hand, and wait patiently to be called on.
- Never vandalize school property. Do not write on walls, desks, library books etc.
- When using the restroom, remember to FLUSH:
  - F - Floors stay dry
  - L - Leave it clean (no paper on the floor)
  - U - Use it quietly
  - S - Soft voices
  - H - Hands washed
- Do not take the stickers/labels off your computers.
- Keep your hands and feet to yourself. Do not touch others.

## **ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP**

Environmental Stewardship refers to the act of protecting and being responsible for the natural environment around us. It means taking care of

Planet Earth.

How can you show environmental stewardship?

- Respect Nature.
- Conserve natural resources.
- Challenge yourself and your family to be low waste. (reduce, reuse, recycle)
- Recycle, Recycle, Recycle! Bring your plastic, paper, cans, and cardboard to school- make sure bottles and cans are rinsed out and clean.
- Do not use water bottles.
- Compost.
- Upcycle.
- Ask your parents to drive less.
- When you leave a room, flip the light switch off.
- Turn off the faucet when you brush your teeth.
- Plant and care for trees.
- Never litter and if you see litter, pick it up.

## **SERVICE**

Service is the action of helping or doing work for someone.

How can you show service?

- Hold the door for someone.
- Collect canned goods for the food bank.
- Donate toys.
- Do some chores.
- Volunteer for cleanups in your community.
- Help your teacher.
- Participate in a community event that brings awareness to an important cause.

## **CLUBS AND ORGANIZATIONS AT SESA**

- Cheer (grades 3-5) - Sponsors Mrs. Patino and Mrs. Galarza
- Chess (grades K-5) - ASP
- Clover Kids (grades K- 1) - Sponsors Mrs. Contreras and Ms. Castillo
- Dance (grades K-2) - Sponsors Mrs. Patino and Mrs. Galarza
- 4-H (grades 3-5) - Sponsors Mrs. Mendez and Ms. Garza
- National Elementary Honor Society (grades 4-5) - Sponsors: Ms. Robinson, Mrs. Hernandez and Ms. Pedraza
- Recycling Club (all grades) - Sponsor Dr. Clayborn
- Student Council (grades 2 - 5) - Sponsor Mrs. Reyes, Ms. Pedraza and Mrs. Tejeda
- Video Production - SESA TV (grades 3 - 5) - Sponsor Mrs. Jackson

## **Attendance and Absences**

It is very important that you come to school every day. You should be in your classroom ready to learn by 7:45 AM. This means that you have eaten breakfast and gone to the bathroom by 7:45 AM.

If you are sick and need to be absent, please bring an excuse from your doctor and turn it in to your teacher when you come back.

## **Dress Code**

- You should dress in a manner that is appropriate for school. Any type of clothing that distracts from the classroom atmosphere will be considered inappropriate.

## **Allowed**

- jean or khaki shorts for prekindergarten, kindergarten and grades 1-2
- jean or khaki walking shorts that come to your mid-thigh or longer may be worn in grades 3-5
- jeans
- khaki pants
- polo shirts in your grade level color
- college or club shirts may be worn on Thursdays
- SESA shirts, purple/gold shirts, Greyhound shirts may be worn on Fridays
- ear piercings

## **Not Allowed**

- short shorts or short dresses
- leggings
- torn jeans (jeans with holes in them)
- see-through shirts or revealing fashions
- clothing with inappropriate pictures or slogans such as those pertaining to drugs, alcohol, weapons, etc.
- tattoos
- body piercings on nose, eyebrow, tongue etc.
- hoodies

## **Grooming Standards**

- You should be neat and clean
- Your hair should be neat, well groomed, and may not cover your eyes

## **Bathroom Etiquette**

- You should go to the bathroom before class starts at 7:45 AM
- From 8:00 AM - 9:30 AM, (during your reading block), students will not be allowed to go to the bathroom unless it is an emergency
- Only one student at a time from your class may go to the bathroom
- You must have your bathroom pass on
- When using the restroom, remember to FLUSH:
  - F - Floors stay dry
  - L - Leave it clean (no paper on the floor)
  - U - Use it quietly
  - S - Soft voices
  - H - Hands washed

## **Bus Etiquette**

- Your safety is most important.
- Stay far away from the bus if you're getting on the bus. School buses are huge vehicles and can pose a threat when they move.
- Form a single file line to get on or off the bus.
- Use the handrails to guide yourself into the bus.
- If you have an assigned seat, you must sit in it.
- Buckle up your seatbelt if your bus has seatbelts.
- Sit with 1-2 additional people at most.
- Do not stand up or move around the bus when it is moving.
- Talk quietly.
- Keep your hands and feet to yourself.
- Do not write on the seats or anywhere else on the bus.
- NEVER distract the driver.
- No food is allowed on the bus.
- Keep your area clean.
- Wait until the bus has completely stopped before getting on or off.
- Remember that riding the bus is a privilege.

## **Grades and Assignments**

Your teachers will be taking at least two (2) grades per week in every subject. If you are absent, you are responsible for making up any work that you missed.

## **Homework**

If your teacher assigns homework for you to do, you are responsible for completing it on time.

## **Projects**

You will have one major project in the first semester, (August - December), and another project in the second semester, (January - May). Your teacher may assign other projects throughout the year.

## **A.R.**

You are responsible for checking out library books, reading daily, and meeting your A.R. goal every week.

## **Assemblies on Campus**

There will be times when we have special visitors or presenters at SESA. You are expected to:

- Be on time.
- Walk to and from the assembly quietly and in a single file line.
- Listen and do not talk.
- Clap only when it is appropriate.
- Represent your school and us with pride.

## **Field Trips**

- Your teacher will review expectations before each trip. The way you are expected to behave at a ballet is different from the way you are expected to behave at an outdoor field trip.

## Student Handbook Acknowledgement Form

All students must adhere to the San Benito C.I.S.D. policies and procedures, student code of conduct, in addition to the SESA student handbook. For District “Student Policy and Procedure” go to <https://sullivan.sbcisd.net/> SESA has established the SESA Student Handbook in order to provide information pertaining to our school and to promote a safe and orderly learning environment for every student.

We urge you to read this handbook thoroughly and to discuss it with your child/children.

If you have any questions about the information provided, we encourage you to ask for an explanation from the student’s teacher, the school counselor, or campus administrator. All students must adhere to the San Benito C.I.S.D. policies and procedures, the San Benito C.I.S.D. Student Code of Conduct in addition to the SESA student handbook.

The student and parent should each sign this page on the space provided below, then return the page to the student’s teacher.

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I acknowledge that we will access the SESA Student Handbook electronically, on the school’s website, for the 2024 - 2025 school year and that we are responsible for reading it.

I would like to request a paper copy of the SESA Student Handbook for the 2024 - 2025 school year and acknowledge that we are responsible for reading it.

Student’s Name: \_\_\_\_\_

(Please print)

Student’s Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent’s Name: \_\_\_\_\_

(Please print)

Parent’s Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Teacher: \_\_\_\_\_

Room # \_\_\_\_\_

Please sign this page and return it to your child’s teacher.