

Student Handbook

Dallas Lutheran School

2026-2027



Home of the Lions

TABLE OF CONTENTS

I. SCHOOL OVERVIEW

Mission Statement.....	1
Vision/Values.....	1
Guiding Behaviors.....	1
Accreditation/Affiliation.....	1
School Philosophy.....	2
Board of Trustees.....	2
Non-Discrimination Policy.....	2

II. GENERAL INFORMATION

Academic Dishonesty/Plagiarism	3
Appointments with Faculty.....	4
Conflict Resolution... ..	4
Dance Passes	4
Early Dismissal/Late Arrival.....	4
Emergency Drills	5
Food/Candy/Beverages.....	5
Gender Identification	5
Hall Passes	5
Hallway Signs	5
Health Services.	
Immunization Record.....	5
Medication.....	6
Health Screenings.....	6
Hours of Operation.....	6
Insurance.....	6
Legal Adult Status	6
Library Use.....	7
Lockers and Backpacks.....	7
Lost and Found.....	7
Lunch Program.....	7
Publicity Use of Photos.....	7
Recommendations.....	7
School Emergency News.....	8
School Telephones.....	8
Senior Off-Campus Lunch.....	8
Social Media	8
Spiritual Life.....	8
Testing Program	8
Textbooks.....	9
Vehicles.....	9
Visitors.....	9
Wifi	9
Withdrawal from DLS.....	9

III. ATTENDANCE

Attendance Policy	10
Steps to Follow.....	10
High School Absences	10
Middle School Absences.....	10
Appointments.....	10
Known Absences.....	10
School Absences	10
Sick Absences	11
College Visits	11
Student Living Requirement	11
Parent Pick Up	11
Tardy Policies.....	11
Truancy.....	12

IV. DRESS CODE

Philosophy.....	13
School Uniforms.....	13
Outerwear.....	13
Senior Wear.....	13
Spirit Fridays	14
Physical Education Uniforms.....	14
Specific Issues.....	14
Hair Length, Styles, Etc	15
Dress Code Violations.....	15

V. STUDENT BEHAVIOR

General Expectations.....	16
Cell Phones / iPads.....	16
Dance Behavior	16
Detention	16
Harassment.....	17
Not At School.....	17
Public Display of Affection.....	17
School Activities Involvement.....	17
Security Cameras	17
Staff Communications	17
Student Searches	17
Theft	17
Substance/Violence Issues	18
Substance Testing.....	18
Potential Consequences.....	18
Right to Appeal	19

VI. ATHLETICS

Objectives.....	20
Athletic Eligibility	20
HS Eligibility.....	20
MS Eligibility.....	20
Senior Athletes	20



VII. EXTRA-CURRICULAR

Opportunities.....	21
Drama.....	21
Music.....	21
National Honor Society.....	21
National Junior Honor Society.....	21
Spanish Honor Society.....	22
Student Council.....	22
TAPPS Academic/Art Contests	22

VII. TECHNOLOGY

Proper Use.....	23
Electronic Communication.....	24
iPad Related	24
Data Storage	24

IX. PARENT ORGANIZATIONS

Parent Teacher Fellowship	25
---------------------------------	----

X. BELL SCHEDULE.....

XI. PARENT COMMITMENT... 26

XII. STUDENT COMMITMENT 27

School Calendar.....	28
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Topics covered in Academic Course Catalog

- Accommodations
- AP Class Weighting
- AP Exams
- AP / Dual Credit courses
- Classrooms Expectations
- Community Service
- Dropping/Adding Classes
- Grading System/GPA
- In Progress Grades
- Middle School Promotion
- Off Campus Physical Education
- Parent Grade Reports
- Probation – Academic
- Reading Program
- Semester Exams
- Summer Novel Testing
- Summer School
- Online Course Credit
- Talent Zone
- Transcripts
- Valedictorian/Salutatorian

The DLS Student Handbook is designed to provide general information on school policies and practices. A student's and family's presence in the school signifies their acceptance and willingness to abide by the policies set forth in this handbook and as they will be revised periodically.

DLS reserves the right to alter policies at any time without prior notice. Students and parents signify acceptance of a change in policy by remaining members of the school community after notice of the change is given.

Mission Statement

Dallas Lutheran School empowers students to discover their God-given potential.

Vision/Values

Changing the world through Christ-centered education.

Excellence, Personal Growth, Faith, Family

Guiding Behaviors

Excellence:

- We equip students with the appropriate academic content they'll need in their next stage.
- Students are expected to perform at their highest levels.
- We provide a well-rounded experience and a unique culture, giving students an unmatched overall experience.
- Staff and teachers will demonstrate professionalism in their interactions with administrators, parents, students and each other.
- We help our families live a well-balanced life.

Personal Growth:

- We encourage each student to develop their God-given talents.
- We create opportunities to explore new skills and interests.
- We instill responsibility and accountability in our students.
- We inspire our students to do the right things in the right ways.
- We emphasize integrity, perseverance, follow-through and delayed gratification.

Faith:

- We respect and value every person as a child of God.
- We serve and love our neighbor.
- We unapologetically uphold the scriptures to be the true word of God.
- We teach God's grace.
- We live our faith, but we recognize that we are all imperfect.

Family:

- We continually seek to be a family of people who care about and support each other.
- We treat everyone with love and respect.
- We seek to find the positives in all of us.
- We pray for, and with, each other.
- We want all families to actively participate in the school community.

Accreditation/Affiliation

Lutheran School Accreditation (Texas District), National Lutheran School Accreditation, Texas Private School Accreditation Commission.

Dallas Lutheran School is owned and operated by the Lutheran High School Association of Dallas.

It is a Recognized Service Organization of the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod.

School Philosophy

The philosophy of education at Dallas Lutheran School is based on the Holy Scriptures as the Word of God and centers on Jesus Christ to whom all Scriptures bear witness. Our primary purpose is to provide an educational climate for our students in which they will find meaning, purpose and power for their lives in Christ by growing in grace and in their knowledge of Him as their Lord and Savior. (2 Peter 3:18).

Dallas Lutheran School provides a unique educational environment in which the fellowship of believers is encouraged by the Word to yield their lives to Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior. The role of the student is to develop his/her God-given gifts and abilities to be equipped for his/her “life of good works” which God has already prepared for him/her (Eph. 2:10). The role of the faculty is to minister to the students. Such a ministry requires spiritually mature and academically qualified faculty members who are continually open to the work of the Holy Spirit.

Board of Trustees

Dallas Lutheran School is owned and controlled by the Lutheran Secondary Association of Dallas (LSAD) Inc. This association, through its association congregations, elects a Board of Trustees. The Board is responsible for adopting a budget, reviewing the operation of the school, and establishing policy.

These policies are carried out through the Head of School, the chief executive officer of the school.

Non-Discrimination Policy

Dallas Lutheran School does not discriminate in any manner contrary to law or justice on the basis of race, color, gender, age, religion, disability, veteran's status or national origin in its educational programs or activities, including employment and admissions.

Dallas Lutheran School reserves the right, within its sole discretion, to refuse admission of an applicant and/or to discontinue enrollment of a current student participating in, promoting or supporting: illegal alcohol or drug use, pornography, sexual immorality; or displaying an inability or resistance to support the qualities and characteristics required of a Biblically based and Christ-like lifestyle or a refusal to adopt , follow, and respect the Dallas Lutheran School Student Handbook.

II. GENERAL INFORMATION

The purpose of Dallas Lutheran School is to support and encourage Lutheran secondary education in the State of Texas, and to that end, to establish, maintain, and administer a Lutheran High School in Dallas County, Texas, in harmony with the teachings of the Holy Scripture, the Lutheran Church Confessions (Book of Concord, 1580) and the principles and practices of the Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod.

Academic Dishonesty / Plagiarism

The administration and faculty at Dallas Lutheran School believe academic honesty is essential and students should avoid actions that misrepresent academic success. Academic dishonesty is the unauthorized and/or unacknowledged use or distribution of products, ideas or information that are not your own. Some examples of academic dishonesty would include:

- paying someone else to complete an assignment and submitting it as your own work
- giving or receiving answers by use of signals during a quiz or test
- copying, with or without the other person's knowledge, another student's answers on homework, quizzes or tests and submitting them as your own
- doing class assignments for someone else or allowing another student to copy your answers
- plagiarizing published material, class assignments, or lab reports
- turning in an assignment that has been created using AI or obtained from the internet in any way
- obtaining an unauthorized copy of a test in advance of its scheduled administration
- using unauthorized notes or electronic resources during a quiz, test or assignment
- collaborating with other students on assignments when it is NOT allowed
- fabricating data, including inventing fake research and documentation for essays
- destroying or stealing the work of other students
- accessing and altering grade records
- falsifying an attendance record

Plagiarism is a specific form of Academic Dishonesty in which a student uses the words, ideas, or original creation (art, photography, music, slide show, video clip, etc.) of someone else without giving credit to the creator. Plagiarism involves both stealing someone else's work and lying about it (by failing to credit them with the work) afterward. Some common examples of plagiarism include:

- paraphrasing, summarizing, or quoting the ideas or information written by someone else without giving proper credit (through the use of introductions and citations)
- copying verbatim (word for word) from other sources (print, electronic, or oral) without the use of quotation marks or appropriate documentation.
- using the academic, creative, or artistic work of another person or AI and claiming it as your own

While many students are accustomed to using and sharing words, ideas, images, sounds, etc. indiscriminately via social media, the American legal system still considers those things intellectual property and as such they are protected under copyright laws. Therefore a charge of plagiarism can have severe consequences for students after high school, including expulsion from a university, loss of a job, and loss of credibility or trust. Consequences at Dallas Lutheran School for any of the above could be up to and including receiving a zero on the assignment, invalidated credit for a class, suspension, or expulsion for repeated offenses.

Appointments with Faculty

Instructors are eager to give extra assistance when it can be arranged. The 8am-8:25am period is available to schedule time to meet with any teacher. Students should take the initiative in making arrangements with the instructor. If students and/or their parents would like a specific appointment with a teacher, it can be arranged with the individual teacher.

Conflict Resolution

Our goal is always partnership as brothers and sisters in Christ, but all families experience conflict at time. If a conflict should arise, the student is encouraged to follow the guidelines of Matthew 18:15-16 in order to resolve the conflict in a Christian manner. This outlines that the individual first privately consults with the person with whom they have a grievance. In most school cases, that means the student conferences with the teacher over the area in conflict. If that does not resolve the issue, another person can be brought into the conversation who can help with the dispute. In this case, the next step is to bring in a parent followed by the relevant school administrator.

At no time should a parent, teacher, or student voice their concern outside their immediate household before discussing the issue with the individuals involved. Anyone unwilling to follow this procedure, or in any manner or form causing or prompting adverse publicity concerning Dallas Lutheran School, shall subject their student to potential dismissal from enrollment at DLS.

Concerns which are voiced anonymously (through letters, phone calls, etc) cannot be dealt with by DLS staff or administration since anonymity does not allow for resolution between the parties.

Dance Passes

Middle school dances are only for DLS middle school students. Permission to attend by any other student must be obtained from School Administration.

High school dances are only for DLS high school students. Students from other schools wishing to attend must complete “**A Dance Guest Pass**” and be pre-approved by School Administration. The pass may be obtained from the school office in advance of the dance. The guest dance form must be completed and returned following the rules stated on the guest pass. Students requesting signatures for guest passes for other school’s dances may be denied if they have poor attendance, frequent tardiness or any recent suspensions or behavior issues.

Early Dismissal/Late Arrival

Being a secondary student is a full-time job and should be the primary focus for the energy and time of each student. Early dismissal or late arrival is an exception to the norm and must receive special permission. The following represents procedures and regulations to govern early dismissals or late arrivals:

1. No late arrivals or early dismissals for grades 7-10 except by administrative approval.
2. No dismissal during the middle of the daily schedule is permitted except by administrative approval.
Once a student is on campus, he/she must remain for the scheduled class day.
3. All students will pay full tuition regardless of the duration of their class day.

Emergency Drills

General safety requires that from time to time we will have emergency and weather-related drills during the year. Unannounced drills are held to acquaint students with instructions for leaving the building in an orderly manner.

Walk (don't run) and remain quiet and calm. Once outside, silence is maintained until the "all clear" is given. Drills include:

- **Fire** – students will evacuate the building and away from the school as directed by school personnel.
- **Evacuation** – students will evacuate the building and then proceed to the north side of the property near the adjacent street for potential parent pickup.
- **Hold** – students will not be permitted outside but must remain inside the locked school buildings. Classes may still be held.
- **Lockdown** – students will all enter classrooms, teachers will lock their classroom doors, and all will remain quiet and follow teacher's instructions.
- **Tornado** – students will go to the locker room used by their grade level and gender and follow teacher instructions.

Food/Candy/Beverages

- All food and beverages are to be consumed in the lunchroom or concessions area, not brought back into the school classrooms.
- Students will clear their own tables after lunch and leave their eating area clean.
- Closed lunches are to be kept in student backpacks and carried to the lunch area.
- Snacks may be sold during breaks or students may bring their own snack.
- Beverages other than water may be consumed during non class times (before/after school/break/lunch).
- Only sealable drink containers brought from home will be allowed in classrooms, and should contain only water.

Gender Identification

Students will be addressed by their names and using the pronouns which match their legal name. Dallas Lutheran Schools follows TAPPS guidelines for gender identification of athletics – students are to play in the category marked on their birth certificate.

Hall Passes

Students who are in the hallways other than the normal passing period are expected to have a hall pass.

Hallway Signs

All postings or displays on the high school campus must be approved by the school office or as permitted by the sponsor of a school activity. Event announcements need to be removed following the event.

Health Services

Immunization Record

State law requires all students to be current on all immunizations and to have a record of all immunizations received on file in the school office before the first day of school. In addition to the required infant and preschool series, this includes a Tetanus booster within the last ten years and a second Measles vaccine. The chicken pox vaccine (or statement from parents of history of disease) and the completed Hepatitis B vaccine series is now required for all students.

Students will not be allowed to attend classes without this up-to-date information.

For more details, please see <https://www.dshs.texas.gov/immunize/school/school-requirements.aspx>

Medication

Prescription medication should be left in the office with the instructions on the side of the bottle. The school office of Dallas Lutheran School does not hand out non-prescription medication to students unless parents authorize it. When a student requests to be able to take any medication, the office will first contact the parent and authorize that we are allowed to dispense that medication.

Health Screenings

All “New to DLS” 7th-10th grade students and/or “all 9th grade students” must complete health screenings this fall. “New to DLS” students must have a hearing check, a vision check, and a diabetes (skin-fold) check. All 9th grade students must all have a diabetes check and a scoliosis test. (If you are NEW 9th grader, you are having all four tests done.) Parents must either a) provide proof that these tests were completed through their own physicians, or b) pay \$15 to DLS for the tests to be done by a medical doctor in the fall during the school day at DLS. These tests are mandated by the state and are required for continued enrollment at DLS.

Hours of Operation

The school day officially begins at 8:00 AM (clubs, meetings, etc), with classes beginning at 8:25AM A.M. and ending at 3:30 P.M. on Monday, Tues, Thurs, and Fri. Wednesday is now a late start day to allow for staff meetings and classes will begin at 8:50am. Klekamp Hall will be open by 7:45 AM as a supervised place to gather until school starts. The school will not be responsible for students staying beyond 4:00 P.M. unless they are a part of a school sponsored activity. Gates will be closed and locked outside of school hours unless there is a school sponsored event on campus.

Insurance

DALLAS LUTHERAN SCHOOL DOES NOT CARRY MEDICAL INSURANCE FOR STUDENTS INJURED ON SCHOOL PREMISES, UNDER SCHOOL JURISDICTION OR WHILE PARTICIPATING IN SCHOOL ACTIVITIES. Accidental injuries are inevitable and certainly the potential for accidents is increased by participation in extra-curricular activities.

DALLAS LUTHERAN SCHOOL ASSUMES NO LEGAL RESPONSIBILITY FOR PROVIDING MEDICAL INSURANCE. For your protection, we urge that serious consideration be given to student accident insurance (information available in the school office), but we also encourage your coverage under a comprehensive medical plan. If you already have medical insurance, this low cost coverage is designed to supplement your other insurance by assisting with deductibles and balances left unpaid by your primary carrier. If you have no other insurance, you may wish to consider this option, but please note that the benefits ARE NOT sufficient to cover the FULL cost of medical treatment.

All students are expected to have some form of insurance protection.

Legal Adult Status

Students who are age 18 and are legally adults are still required to have parents fill out liability/permission forms etc. Parents have entered into a relationship with the school to educate their student. That relationship requires the school to keep them a part of our information processes.

Library Use

The purpose of the library is to provide up-to-date research resources for school reports and papers.

Students may check out up to three books from the library for a period of three weeks. The due date will be stamped on the outside of the book when it is checked out. If it is not returned by that date, the student will be charged \$1.00 for each day it is late. It is the STUDENT'S responsibility to know the overdue date of the book(s). If students lose books, they will be charged a \$15 processing fee plus the replacement cost of the book. Fines will be added to the families DLS FACTS billing account.

Lockers and Backpacks

DLS has limited lockers. Students are free to use a backpack during the school day and use their given athletic lockers.

Lost and Found

Any articles left at school will be put in a "lost and found" in the office. All articles left in the gymnasium will be held in the coaches' office. Periodically throughout the year, lost and found items will be donated to charities if they are not claimed.

Lunch Program

- Dallas Lutheran School will be using the services of Guess Who Is Coming To Dinner? catering company. Families are expected to make payment with that company in a timely manner.
- Vending machines are available in the lunchroom. Students are free to bring their own lunches.
- Students may not leave campus to get food without permission.
- DLS does not allow non-family food deliveries (Uber Eats/Grub Hub etc) during the school day. If a parent needs to bring a lunch a student forgot, or for a birthday etc, just check in at the office first.
- Students are expected to eat in designated lunch areas.

Publicity Use of Photos

Student photos are used at times for school publicity purposes such as in newspaper articles and website images. Parents who do NOT wish their students pictures to be posted publicly need to contact the School Office at office@dallaslutherschool.com

Recommendations

To keep our teachers spending their time on teaching, DLS teachers will not complete teacher recommendations for other middle/high schools. Parents may submit principal recommendation requests to the school office. This policy is reflected in what we are asking of future DLS students in our admission process. DLS students seeking college recommendations from faculty should request them in advance and provide all necessary information, forms or mailing materials.

School Emergency News

DLS uses the FACTS emergency text alert system to notify students and parents on their phones in the event of school closing or an emergency situation. Parents/students are asked to allow school notifications. Information will also be posted on the school website and social media platforms for unexpected closing and sent to WFAA in case of weather related closing.

School Telephones

The school telephones in the office may be used with permission only. As cell phones are not allowed to be out at any time, students needing to contact a parent may ask permission and use the office phone. Parents should not text or call students during the educational school day. Please call the office if needed and we will relay a message to your student.

Senior Off-Campus Lunch

Senior students will be given the opportunity to have off-campus lunch privileges once established individual criteria have been met.

Social Media

Dallas Lutheran School wants you to stay connected. Here are our official school accounts.

School Website www.dallaslutherschool.com

Sports Related Info: www.dlsions.com

Facebook Account : <https://www.facebook.com/dallaslutherschool/>

Instagram: @dallaslutherschool and @dlathletics

Twitter: @lutheran_school and @dallaslutheran (Athletics)

YouTube = <https://www.youtube.com/dallaslutheran>

Spiritual Life

Dallas Lutheran School emphasizes the importance of love and respect for God, neighbor, and self. The spiritual life of the school is an essential part of this realization, and faith is our foundation.

Our week begins on Monday with Chapel services held in Klekamp Hall. All students are expected to participate in our worship services. Chapels are open and parents/family are welcome to join us anytime!

Prayer is a key component for spiritual growth. Each school day includes lunchtime prayers, prayers by teachers in classrooms, and coaches often include prayers as a part of their practice and games.

Students spend time learning more about God by studying his word in theology classes. The goal of the theology classes is not to “grade” the faith of students, but to “deepen” their faith in Jesus Christ. Classes are taught from a scripture-based perspective following the doctrines of the Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod.

Academic Success Center

Dallas Lutheran School is willing and able to provide extended time testing and other accommodations for students on campus who have demonstrated need and have official documentation of need. Students MUST be enrolled in the Academic Success Center program with updated testing on file in order to receive both classroom and any testing accommodations such as for PSAT, SAT, ACT and AP testing. In the program, students receive accommodations documented on a Student Success Plan, and communication and follow up to help them achieve their learning goals in

the mainstream educational setting. ASC is a fee based program. Email Mrs. Wright for more information at wrighta@dallaslutherschool.com

Textbooks

In most cases, students will be issued an e-textbook. [In the event of a more expensive text, parents *may* be billed a small portion of the cost.] These will be downloaded in the classroom at the beginning of the semester. These books are the property of the student.

In some cases, the school will issue a paper textbook which must be returned in acceptable condition. Students will be charged for books that are damaged or not returned. Students are expected to have a Bible “app” for use in religion class.

Vehicles

Students are permitted to drive to school. Student drivers are required to register their cars with the school office and provide a copy of a TX driver’s license and proof of insurance. Students are to park in the areas designated for student parking.

Students are not to go out to their vehicles at any time during the school day unless given permission. Students are not allowed to drive faster than 10 mph on the school driveways or parking lots. Per Texas law, all drivers are prohibited from texting and using handheld devices while driving in school zones.

It is important to note that parking at school is a privilege, not a right, and the school reserves the right to suspend that privilege to any student in the interest of safety or behavior concerns.

Visitors

All visitors must report to the school office before proceeding to any part of the campus. Students who desire to bring a visitor to school (i.e. lunch time) must receive permission **ONE DAY IN ADVANCE** from the School Office. Visitors are expected to conduct themselves according to the regulations of our school. Visitors must wear a guest pass. No student visitors are allowed the first week of school. The school reserves the right to limit visitor access (including tutors, vendors, families, etc) due to safety concerns.

Wifi

The school wifi account for students is: DL-Student. The wifi password is: Pridelands2024.

The guest wifi account (ie game spectators) is: dlsguest. The wifi password is: dslsions.

Withdrawal From DLS

Each student has a permanent school record on file that includes academic grades, attendance and tardies, and information received from any previous schools attended.

Once a student is enrolled at Dallas Lutheran School, **all tuition and fees are nonrefundable**, in accordance with the signed Tuition Agreement and the Parent Agreement contained in this handbook. Enrollment represents a financial commitment for the full school year. DLS makes staffing, curriculum, program, event, facility, and other financial commitments based upon student enrollment; therefore, withdrawal from the school does not eliminate or reduce the family’s financial obligation.

Students withdrawing from DLS must return all school property, including books, technology, uniforms or athletic equipment as applicable, complete the required withdrawal form, and satisfy all outstanding tuition

and fees. Once withdrawal requirements have been completed, DLS will process withdrawal grades and forward the student's cumulative records to the receiving school.

III. ATTENDANCE

Attendance Policy

Dallas Lutheran School and Texas School Law require that students punctually attend all scheduled classes in which they are enrolled. Students must keep their other school commitments, which include chapel, athletic events and practices, rehearsals and concerts, study halls, assemblies, meetings, and lunch.

Steps to Follow when a student is absent from school:

1. Parent should contact the School Office (214-349-8912) by 9:00am on the day of the absence, or email the office at office@dallaslutheralschool.com
2. In the event that the school is NOT contacted, the school will attempt to contact parents that morning.
3. Please provide a doctor's note for medical absences.

High School Absences: The maximum number of absences allowed per High School class per semester is TEN (10) (school absences not included). **Upon the 11th absence in each class, students may be denied course credit.**

The school administration reserves the right to review all attendance cases and make exceptions where appropriate.

Middle School Absences: The maximum number of absences allowed per semester is TEN (10). Absences which exceed the attendance guidelines may seriously jeopardize a student's promotion to the next grade and/or continued enrollment at Dallas Lutheran School. The school administration reserves the right to review all cases of excessive absence.

Appointments

Students are required to have a parent email or a note signed by a parent/guardian allowing them to leave at a scheduled time. Parents may also call the school office in advance. Any student leaving the campus for an appointment must check out in the front office and check back in at the office upon their return.

Known Absences

When a student knows in advance that they will be missing school, a parent needs to contact the school secretary and the student needs to contact any affected teacher and make arrangements for missed assignments or work. This absence does count towards a student's total absence count.

School Absences

When a student misses class as part of a school sponsored activity, they are marked with a school absence which does not count towards the total attendance count. Students are responsible for making up all work covered and tests missed. Students with a school absences are not given additional time to turn in their work.

Sick Absences

Students who are sick should stay home until they are healthy enough to return. Students who become ill after arriving on campus should contact the school office and they will make a determination about returning to class or being sent home. Any student having a temperature of 100 degrees or more or who is vomiting will be sent home. Students who have had a fever must be fever free for 24 hours before returning to school.

When a student misses school due to illness or doctor's visit, this **does** count towards the student's overall absence total. Parents with concerns should share them with the school office. Parents are encouraged to vary the times of doctor's visits (spread out which classes they miss) for students who need to be out multiple times.

College Visits

Students with a Junior or Senior class status may work with the College Counselor to make two (2) excused college visits per year. Students are responsible for first communicating with the College Counselor they are attending, then need to notify each teacher whose class in advance is affected. Students are responsible for all missing tests/assignments and must provide parent/guardian documentation regarding their visit. College visits do NOT count against the class attendance totals. Visiting students should bring back an official excuse letter from the college.

Student Living Requirement

A student enrolled in Dallas Lutheran School must be living with a parent, designated legal adult guardian or managing conservator during the entire time of his or her enrollment, in order to provide the necessary support for daily growth of the individual. This regulation is not invalidated because a student has reached his or her eighteenth birthday.

Parent Pick Up

If it is necessary for parents to pick up students at school during the school hours, parents should come into the office and sign them out. It helps to have a note ahead of time so the student can be in the office waiting. If students are driving themselves, a note from a parent giving them permission to leave the school campus must be filed in the school office before they may sign out or a personal phone call or email made to the school secretary. Email office@dallaslutheralschool.com

Tardy Policy

Your education is valuable. Punctuality is a part of responsibility and DLS endeavors to help students become more responsible. All students are expected to be inside their classrooms and prepared when the tardy bell rings.

Students who are 10 minutes or more late to class will be marked absent.

- Students who significantly fail to demonstrate compliance with tardy policies may also have disciplinary actions imposed by administrative action. Disciplinary actions may include being assigned a partial in-school suspension, etc.

- Excessive tardiness will impact the participation grade in any class and therefore impact the final grade on a student's transcript.

The goal is to encourage students to honor their commitments, attend classes in a timely manner, and not disrupt the school academic environment. Teachers will contact parents or guardians of any student who is frequently tardy to class.

Middle School students will follow the same tardy policy as High School students. However, in the event of excessive tardiness, a parent/student conference with School Administration will be scheduled.

Truancy

Truancy is an absence that occurs without parental permission or as a result of leaving campus without proper permission. Students may not make up class work, assignments or tests that are missed. Truant students will be subject to disciplinary action.



IV. DRESS CODE

Philosophy

Dallas Lutheran School (DLS) perceives education as a formal activity and therefore has a conservative approach to the type of clothing appropriate for school dress. As we work and interact at DLS, it is our desire to place our attention on the “inner-workings” of people rather than their outward appearance. The dress code of DLS minimizes the focus on fashion issues and moves students to a degree of conformity. All students on campus are expected to be in dress code.

School Uniforms

DLS students are required to wear specific clothing choices chosen from TeamSports Uniforms.

Shirts

- LS/SS Button Down Oxford – light blue and white
- LS/SS Ladies Tapered Oxford – light blue and white
- LS/SS Pique Polo - navy and white
- SS Performance Polo - navy and white
- Seniors Only Button Down SS Oxford - gold
- Seniors Only SS Pique Polo - gold

Shorts/Pants/Skirts

- Boys Flat Front Shorts/Pants: khaki/navy blue (no joggers or cargo pants or shorts)
- Girls Flat Front Shorts/Pants: khaki/navy blue (no joggers or cargo pants or shorts)
- Girls Pleated Plaid Skirts: DLS plaid

Shoes

- All students must wear a closed toe, closed heel, athletic (tennis) shoe. No type of slip on shoe is permitted. This includes Spirit Days on Fridays. Shoe exceptions are made only on FREE DRESS Days.

Outerwear

DLS allows only official outerwear during the school day. Students may wear non-DLS outerwear to/from school but these items should not be worn during the school day.

“Normal Day” School Uniform Outerwear Options

- Microfleece Pullover – ¼ Zip
- Microfleece Jacket – Full and ½ Zip
- Performance Jacket – Full
- Previously purchased Parker Uniform outerwear (see below)
- Previously purchased TeamSports crew sweatshirts and ¼ zips
- Previously purchased official school letter jacket
- **All “Normal Day” outerwear must have a school uniform shirt on underneath it.**
- *DLS “Hoodies” are allowed unless a teacher requests removal of the hoodie for any reason. Hoods should remain down during school hours.*

Senior Wear

Only Seniors may wear the gold oxford/polo. This is an optional dress code item.

Seniors will be allowed to wear a sweatshirt/fleece/polo/hoodies/T-shirt of the college or university to which they have been accepted on ***Fridays during second semester.***

Spirit Fridays

- Students are invited to wear a **DLS T-shirt and/or jeans** on Fridays instead of school uniforms. Jeans/shirts must be in **good condition and dark colored**. They may NOT have rips or holes in them. No sweatpants or leggings on Fridays.
- Spirit shirts do not have to be tucked in on Spirit Fridays.

Additional Spirit Friday Outerwear Options

- Fleece crew – gray and royal
- Fleece hood – gray and royal
- Previously purchased TeamSports DL outerwear

Specific Issues

1. **Shorts** must have “at minimum” a 5 inch inseam. Shorts may not be rolled up.
2. **Skirts** should be at least fingertip length. Skirts should not be unzipped, unbuttoned, or rolled-up.
3. DLS outerwear should have a school uniform shirt, or school polo on underneath it.
4. **T-shirts under school uniform shirts** are to be white, black, blue or gray. Other visible colors or shirts showing images through the outer-shirt should not be worn. Only short sleeve T-shirts are permitted under short sleeve shirts.
5. **Shoes** should be closed-toed and closed-heeled tennis shoes, have a clean and well- groomed look, and any shoe laces must be tied. No high heels, cleats, slippers, “croc” style, over-sized, or “western style” boots allowed in the normal dress code.
6. **Writing or coloring** on clothing/shoes with pens or pencils is not permitted.
7. Shirts/blouses are to be **tucked in**. Pants must be worn at waist level. **Belts** need to be worn with pants or shorts.
(Belts may not have lettering or made of chain, metal, scarves, or ribbons, etc.)
8. **Appropriate undergarments** are required. Only shorts/tights may be worn under skirts - NOT over the knee “thigh-highs,” fish nets, *sweatpants*, pajama-bottoms, yoga pants, etc. For colder weather, **Tights or leggings** must be solid black/white/navy, no designs.
9. Clothing items purchased through **other vendors** and “Dallas Lutheran” put on it does not qualify as meeting school dress code.
10. For a school sponsored **off-campus activity** (field trips, etc), the school dress code is in effect unless otherwise specifically stated.
11. Students should listen carefully when **special dress days** (i.e., “jeans day”) are planned. If a student chooses not to dress according to the plan of a special day, the regular school dress code is in effect. Girls wearing **long untucked shirts** on special dress days need to have shorts protruding below the shirt so that they can be seen.

Hair Length, Styles, Body Decoration

Regarding hair length, styles, and body decoration, the following guidelines will be followed:

- **Facial hair** is allowed but must be kept neat and trim.
- **Traditional haircuts are desired:** No shaving of any part of the head, no “large spiked” or “dreadlocks” or “mohawks” or “mulletts” or “man buns” or “hair tufts” please. No extreme contrasts in hair length between the side and top of the head.
- **No dyeing or bleaching of hair beyond natural hair color.** School administration reserves the right to make final determination as to what is appropriate.
- **Boy's hair** should not fall below the top of the shoulders. Hair should not be covering the eyes.
- **No visible body piercing** (beyond ear piercing) or **visible tattoos.** **Boys are not permitted to wear earrings** or “spacers” in earring holes.
- **No headwear** including hats, headbands, bandanas, sunglasses, hair rollers, etc.
- Ties are acceptable.

Consequences for Dress Code Violations

*DLS reserves the right to decide what is “appropriate dress” and which hairstyles are appropriate for DLS students.

We recommend that a student or parent consult the school administration before wearing a hairstyle or purchasing a piece of clothing which may be questionable. Students who violate the dress code may:

- a) have the item confiscated and held by office until a parent/guardian picks it up,
- b) may not be permitted to attend classes until their clothes are remedied to administration standards.
- c) Student may be issued school uniform apparel to wear.
- d) Parent may be contacted

The school administration reserves the sole discretion to administer consequences.



V. STUDENT BEHAVIOR

Classroom Expectations

Dallas Lutheran School students are expected to exercise self-discipline with the feelings and property of others. The school discipline is based on the belief that a respect for authority is the surest way to develop a cooperative spirit. Self-discipline is encouraged whenever possible, and the older students, particularly juniors and seniors, are called to share progressively in the responsibilities of school operation and to set a good example for the younger students. It is important to realize that rules alone do not create good discipline: it comes from students who realize that the goals of the school can be achieved only through mutual trust, understanding, and cooperation.

- All students will be in their scheduled classroom before the tardy bell sounds.
- Students must request permission and a pass to leave a classroom once class has started.
- All students will have all needed books and materials in class each day.
- No student will be dismissed from class until the teacher indicates the class is ended.

Cell Phones

Dallas Lutheran School Cell Phone Policy

There's been a shift in education over the past couple years to modify cell phone policies as new data is released about the impact of cell phones on children and teenagers. We've carefully reviewed the data, gathered feedback from other schools, as well as parents and teachers, and read about the growing number of schools who have updated their cell phone policies over the past year. As a school, we have updated our cell phone policy to best reflect the current educational trends. **For the 2026-2027 school year, DLS will prohibit the use of cellular telephones within a school building or on campus during regular school hours.**

Researchers and scientists have coined the term, "The Great Rewiring," to describe the dramatic shift cell phones have made in terms of teen's mental health. Anxiety and depression among teenagers (13-18) have increased 161% from 2010 to 2022. (National Society on Drug Use and Health, 2022). Suicide rates among teenagers has risen nearly 40% since 2000. (Marcotte & Hansen, 2023). Sleep deprivation, social deprivation, attention fragmentation, and addiction have also all suffered since the introduction of cell phones and data being collected since 2010. Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration. (2023).

We will continue with our technology policy that requires a laptop or iPad for each student to complete schoolwork. We believe there is great value in students developing the skills needed to be prepared for college and beyond, including responsible use of technology, as well as the benefits of technology. However, we believe we can best do this as a school by concentrating on the responsible use of technology that enhances the educational environment without the distraction of cellphones.

At DLS;

- We want to provide a place for learning that is distraction free so that students can focus and retain valuable information.
- Limit/eliminate the opportunity for students to have pictures and videos taken of them by other students without their permission.
- Control the inappropriate use of social media.
- Increase social interactions among students and staff.
- Encourage independence, problem solving, and critical thinking, and a positive social climate.

Students will be prohibited from using a cellular telephone within a school building or on campus during regular school hours without express permission from a teacher or administrator (8:25-3:30). This includes lunch and other non classroom times (clubs, chapel, announcements, etc.) Devices are to remain out of sight and not used during the school day. Students will be expected to keep cell phones in their lockers, cars, or backpacks for the school day. (Not in clothes pockets.)

Parents and guardians are able to communicate with their child through the school office if needed. DLS will not be responsible for damage, loss, or theft of these items. Failure to comply with school policy will result in the following:

First Phone Offense: Phone will be confiscated, and student may pick up from the front office at the end of day.

Second Phone Offense: Phone will be confiscated, and parent or guardian may pick up by from the front office at the end of day and a \$25 fine will be billed through FACTS.

Third Phone Offense: Phone will be confiscated, and a meeting will be scheduled between administration, parent, and student. A \$50 fine will be billed through FACTS.

If you have questions, please reach out to Coach Frieling at frielingk@dlstx.org

Dance Behavior

In order to maintain a comfortable, safe and inviting atmosphere, dancing that is sexually suggestive is prohibited. Students who repeatedly do not maintain this boundary will be asked to sit or leave the dance by school officials.

Detention

A student may receive a lunch detention or after-school detention at the discretion of school administration.

Harassment

Students who witness a student harassing another student are asked to speak on behalf of the harassed student (ie. “hey, we don’t do that here”) and to communicate their concerns to a nearby staff member.

Public Display of Affection

Respect for oneself and for others makes kissing, embracing, and other types of public display of intimate behavior inappropriate for school and school activities. Additionally, for developmental reasons, DLS high school students are not permitted to “date” DLS middle school students.

School Activities Involvement

Attendance at school activities, whether on or off campus, is a privilege, not a right. Students are expected to dress appropriately for all activities. Cooperative, respectful behavior is expected at all activities. Inappropriate behavior may result in the student being required to leave or sit-out an activity. Depending on the situation, additional consequences may apply. Once a student leaves a sponsored event, he/she will not be allowed to return.

Security Cameras

DLS uses numerous cameras as part of an overall security system. These cameras are located in “common” areas such as hallways, etc. Although their primary goal is for school security, DLS reserves the right to use the recorded footage in dealing with student behavior including student discipline.

Staff Communications

DLS students contacting DLS staff should do so in person, through school email accounts, or via use of school promoted virtual options. Students should not use social media or texting with school staff members. All communications should reflect the teacher-student relationship in style.

Student Searches

The school reserves the right to conduct searches or inspections of personal effects, lockers, baggage, and/or other student property as a general deterrent to the possession of any illegal (e.g. illicit drugs, alcohol, tobacco, weapons) or unauthorized items. The searches may be conducted time to time without prior announcement or anytime there is a student safety concern.

Theft

In order to limit the opportunities for theft, students are to be vigilant of their belongings and to lock valuable belongings into their school/sports locker. Leaving an unprotected bag out in a hallway is to be avoided. School administration will attempt to help students regain missing belongings where possible, but it is the job of the student to secure their items in advance.

Substance/Violence Issues

Dallas Lutheran cares about student health and welfare. In partnership with our school parents, we have put in place standards regarding student behavior. These standards will be in place for anything “on campus” – defined as anything on DLS property and at events sponsored by DLS at other locations. *DLS students represent the school whether on or off campus.*

The following constitute serious *breaches of the discipline policy and will result in disciplinary action.*

1. Significant and intentional **damage to school and or personal property.**
2. **Possession or use of drugs** listed in the current Federal Controlled Substance Act. The school must be notified of any prescription medication to be administered.
3. Possession or use of **alcoholic beverages.**
4. Smoking or possession of **any type of tobacco substances.** This includes tobacco possession by students who are 18 years old, chew, cigars, **E-Cigarettes**, or similar paraphernalia.
5. **Theft** or possession of anything stolen.
6. Possession of **fireworks**, explosive or dangerous materials.
7. Repeated use of **obscene, profane, or intimidating language**, including by electronic communication.
8. Immoral **sexual conduct** including but not limited to watching of pornography, etc.
9. Possession of **any type of weapon**, including but not limited to guns, rifles, air or spring activated rifles and knives.
10. The distribution (electronic or otherwise) of **sexually provocative pictures/video** to another student.
11. The intentional **threat or use of physical violence.**

Parents will be contacted and, if necessary, the police will be notified where applicable.

Substance Testing

When there is reasonable suspicion (ie. physical symptoms such as the smell of alcohol, slurred speech, bloodshot eyes, impaired motor skills and/or reliable witness reports) that a student is under the influence of illicit drugs or alcohol and that student denies any use, **the school reserves the right to require drug testing before that student can continue attending classes.** Failure to cooperate in this testing is treated as an admission of guilt. Where fees for services are involved, parents must accept responsibility for payment.

Possible Consequences:

- *Required Counseling:* A student may be required to attend a certain amount of counseling sessions to work through the topic in questions.
- *(ISS) In-School Suspension:* A temporary separation from classes to help refocus the student on academics and appropriate behavior. A student assigned to an in-school suspension will not attend classes, be allowed to go to the lunchroom, or participate in any school activity on the day of the suspension. The absence is considered unexcused: all classwork/homework missed is at risk of being given a ZERO. Attendance is included in the count towards when a student is dropped from a class.

- *(OSS) Out of School Suspension:* A temporary separation from the school to help a student evaluate their behavior and choices. A student assigned to out-of-school suspension will not be permitted on campus. The student will not participate in or attend extra-curricular activities during the day(s) of suspension. The absence is considered unexcused: all classwork/homework missed is at risk of being given a ZERO. Attendance is included in the count towards when a student is dropped from a class.
- *Extracurricular Discipline:* School activities are considered to be privileged activities. Involvement in major disciplinary offenses may cause the student's involvement in certain extracurricular activities to be limited or removed. In addition, recognition, letters, and awards may be withheld as a result of a student's decision to take part in inappropriate activities.
- *Office Removal:* If the student holds an office, elected or appointed, the student may be removed from that office for the remainder of the school year. This may include Honor Societies and Leadership groups.
- *Removal from class without credit:* A situation in which a student is dropped entirely from a class and then placed into a study hall for the remainder of semester. How this is recorded on the transcript is determined by school administration.
- *Disciplinary Probation:* Student attempts to rectify his/her behavior under the rules of a formal contract.
- *Expulsion:* This is a permanent separation from the school for the remainder of the academic year. Specific disciplinary action in the form of automatic expulsion will result in the case of any student who is found passing a controlled substance or is in direct or indirect possession of a firearm. Expulsion may also result from violations of a student behavioral contract, or cases of repeated suspension level offenses.



VI. ATHLETICS

Objectives

Dallas Lutheran School is a member of the Texas Association of Private and Parochial Schools (TAPPS). Dallas Lutheran School is a member of TAPPS - 1A. As a member of our district, the Dallas Lutheran Lions compete for championship in many varsity sports within the district and also with other TAPPS private/parochial schools outside the district. Depending on enrolment, League sports for boys on the varsity level may include football, soccer, basketball, baseball, cross country, track, and golf. Girls varsity sports include volleyball, basketball, soccer, cheerleading, cross country, track, and golf. For the Middle School, the following will be offered as possible sports for boys: football, basketball, soccer, cross country, golf, and baseball; the following will be offered as possible sports for Middle School girls: volleyball, basketball, cross country, golf, and cheerleading.

Athletic Fees of \$200 for 1 sport or \$150 for multiple sports will be billed through FACTS and help cover the costs of the following, but do not fully fund:

- DLS branded athletic gear (t-shirt, pants, hoodie, bag)
- Team competition uniforms where applicable
- Tournament Fees
- Coaching Fees
- Space Rental
- Athletic Trainer and Supplies
- Travel Fees
- Other

The DLS Athletic Department covers the majority of the mentioned costs of running an athletic program. Ways parents are expected help support DLS Athletics is through volunteering for things like Concessions and Line Judging.

Student athletes at Dallas Lutheran will be required to abide by the following academic standards:

1. All athletes are expected to carry a full academic schedule.
2. An athlete will have spent no more than eight (8) consecutive semesters in high school.
3. An athlete must meet the listed eligibility policy.
4. All other rules and standards outlined in the athletic handbook apply to participating students.

DLS Athletes must adhere to the rules of eligibility as dictated by TAPPS.

Athletic Eligibility

The Texas Association of Private and Parochial Schools (TAPPS) requires that HS students maintain no fewer than one failing class at the end of every grading period. DLS has held to a higher standard - "no pass, no play." In creating an eligibility standard, DLS is choosing to create options that: help group sponsors monitor their student's progress academically, help students keep an appropriate balance between curricular and extra-curricular interests, help motivate students to succeed in the classroom, and allow students a way to improve their situation in a relatively short time frame.

HS Eligibility

- High school students will have their grades officially checked every "3 weeks" of a semester by school administrators to track their progress. Students failing a class become ineligible until the next grade check, the end of the semester, or once all of their grades are back to passing. Administration reserves the right to make the final eligibility determination.

- If a student is declared ineligible, the student is allowed to continue practicing (at the group sponsor's discretion) but that student is not allowed to participate in any games/events until declared eligible by school administration.
- All students are automatically declared eligible at the start of each semester.

MS Eligibility

DLS recognizes that MS athletes have different issues and needs than HS athletes. MS students interested in extra-curricular activities will have four eligibility checks during the academic school year as listed on the school calendar. Any student failing one or more classes at the grade check dates will be ineligible. Eligibility will be re-instated as soon as the student is passing all classes.

Senior Athletes

Seniors in Spring sports (baseball/track, etc) will be allowed an "early dismissal" for the remaining days of the year (while still getting credit) upon completion of their spring sport season.

Extra-curricular Opportunities

Dallas Lutheran School offers a variety of extra-curricular opportunities. Each DLS organization has standards and expectations governing conduct and behavior that apply to the operation and participation in the group and its interaction in the general student body. Students interested in starting a club should seek a faculty advisor and then contact school administration for approval.

Drama

Dallas Lutheran School may offer theatrical opportunities with productions in the fall and spring so that students may explore and develop their gifts in this area. All Dallas Lutheran School students are eligible to participate and/or be involved in other ways with productions if they abide by the listed standards. Students who deviate from these standards will jeopardize their continued participation in current and future dramatic productions. All participants in dramatic productions will:

1. attend all classes for the entire school day prior to attending rehearsals and performances. Special circumstances will be up to the discretion of School Administration.
2. adhere to all guidelines presented in each production's audition packet.

Music

Dallas Lutheran School is a member of the Texas Private Schools of Music Educators Association (TPSMEA) and the Texas Association of Private and Parochial Schools (TAPPS). Through association with these organizations, Dallas Lutheran School offers year-round opportunities to perform in concert and in competition—individually, in ensembles, and in large groups. Students can be involved in High School Choir, REVIVE, Drumlions, and Middle School Choir. DLS students must be involved in a Dallas Lutheran group in order to participate in TAPPS contests.

All competing music students at Dallas Lutheran School will attend all classes for the entire school day prior to attending rehearsals and performances. Special circumstances will be up to the discretion of School Administration.

National Honor Society

The Lion Chapter of the National Honor Society at Dallas Lutheran School promotes scholarship, leadership, service and character in high school sophomores, juniors and seniors. Students who have attended DLS for at least one full semester and who have at least an 90% GPA are invited to submit candidate forms outlining their leadership positions and service hours to the Faculty Council for consideration. With the approval of School Administration, the Faculty Council extends invitations for induction to those students who meet the qualifications for leadership, service and character based on the candidate forms and faculty evaluations.

National Junior Honor Society

The Lion Chapter of the National Junior Honor Society at Dallas Lutheran School promotes scholarship, leadership, service, citizenship, and character in Middle School students. Students in 7th and 8th grades who have attended DLS for at least one full semester and who have at least a 90% GPA are invited to submit candidate forms outlining their leadership, citizenship, and community service to the Faculty Council for consideration. With the approval of School Administration, the Faculty Council extends invitations for induction to students in 7th and 8th grade who meet the qualifications for leadership, service, citizenship and character based on the candidate forms and faculty evaluations.

Student Council / Middle School Student Council (if applicable)

The DLS High School Student Council (9-12) hears student views, presents opinions and assists in planning school activities.

Members of the Middle School student council plan and organize activities for the rest of the middle school student body. This requires skills in public speaking, working with others, setting goals, and meeting them. As part of a small group, members feel valued and connected. They create school spirit and provide social opportunities for others. As they serve on committees, members learn leadership and teamwork, try new things, and take on new responsibilities. Service projects may include collections for food and clothing. Members develop character as they lead meetings, make decisions, and get along with others. Leadership opportunities include serving as officers and class representatives.

TAPPS Academic/Art Contests

Faculty members provide leadership in directing interested students in competitive experiences both as individuals and groups. Area private schools provide competition through the TAPPS organization. According to the TAPPS Fine Arts Constitution, all high school students are allowed to participate in TAPPS Art and/or Academic competition if they are in good and regular standing.



The use of technology at school is intended for the purpose of educational development at DLS. While on campus, students are expected to use equipment and provided services primarily for educational purposes or assigned work.

DLS requires students to bring their own iPad (or MacBook) for educational use in school.

Proper Use Information

- There should be no **vandalism of any technology** device (desktop/laptop/iPad/printer/other). Vandalism includes any attempt to deface, disable, or destroy a component or its data. This includes physical vandalism, *editing data that is not yours*, and computer viruses.
- **Theft** of any school device will be dealt with in coordination with the Dallas Police Department.
- DLS is not responsible for any **loss, theft or damage to personal devices**. We will assist where possible in recovery efforts.
- Students will not provide their account passwords, including: FACTS, the DLS network, Apple ID, or other services, to anyone at school outside of the DLS technology staff as necessary.
- Any use of **cameras in restrooms** or locker rooms, regardless of intent, is strictly prohibited and will be regarded as a serious violation. Whether on or off-campus, no device will be used to take inappropriate, illicit or sexually explicit photographs or videos, or used to cause harm or misrepresent the school.
- Students may not take **videos of teachers**, staff, classroom activities etc and share them online or otherwise without permission of the DLS staff involved. Failure to follow this policy will result in disciplinary sanctions.
- **Transmission of any material in violation** of any United States laws is prohibited. This includes, but is not limited to, copyrighted material, threatening or obscene material, or material protected by trade secret. In the United States, no copyright statement is necessary to claim copyright of an original work. When unsure, assume that it is copyrighted.
- No **computer programs** (executables), MP3's, or copyrighted material may be distributed over the network. The use of virus programs or other intentionally harmful programs is prohibited and will be dealt with seriously. Downloading of software or other information to school computers must first be approved by the instructor.
- Computers and iPads are a tool, just like calculators and pencils, all of which have **appropriate times to be used** for quality academic instruction. Teachers maintain the right to determine when students can have any of these things out and in use in their classrooms.
- Because computer audio can be distracting and disruptive, the **volume setting** on any devices should be turned off while students are on campus. Having a pair of earbuds available at school is recommended for class audio activities. Headphones/earbuds should not be worn in the hallways.
- **Games should not be played in class**. Students continually playing games are subject to disciplinary action.
- Students may not **access information on any of the school's non-public computers or servers** **without** permission from the administration, nor may they use any other student's computer without permission from that student. Students should not attempt to access restricted resources. Any attempt by students to bypass these firewalls or network restrictions may be subject to disciplinary action.
- **Access to the internet** and school-computers is a privilege. This privilege may be lost if these guidelines are not followed. When situations arise, logs of use may be checked for possible problems or conflicts. If you identify a security problem, notify the instructor.

- The School has a limited amount of information that it can transfer at any one time. This means that **downloading or uploading large files** over the Internet should be avoided during school hours. Users should not deny or interfere with service to other users by “resource hogging.” Behavior that may cause excessive network traffic or computing load is not permitted.
- All computer users should **print only essential material**. Paper is a valuable resource and should not be wasted in printing every e-mail received or every website visited. Print responsibly. Limitations may be placed on students’ permission to print if they abuse this privilege.

Electronic Communication

- Students will be responsible stewards of the Dallas Lutheran School name in the use of their **school email account** and other technology in dealing with the outside community. When you send a letter from your school email address, you are representing the school. Sending an email to an outside party is in many circumstances similar to sending a paper message with the school letterhead. Conduct your communication accordingly.
- Students will not use DLS email or personal/private social media to **act in a way that violates the conduct** defined in the student handbook. This includes inappropriate language, cheating, harassment, bullying, or promotion of illegal drug/alcohol use. Never send messages that are abusive. Never swear, use vulgarities, racial slurs, or any other inappropriate language.
- Students should **not reveal phone numbers, addresses, names, pictures** or other personal information to others without prior permission.
- School email accounts/addresses should not be used to **promote outside organizations** or interests.
- Students are expected to **check their email at least once per day** and are responsible for communication, assignments, and notices/announcements from faculty or staff as if the communication had been communicated verbally or in writing on a handout. *Not having checked your email is not an excuse for not completing the homework obligations contained therein.*

iPad Related

- Students should arrive on campus each morning with their **iPads/MacBooks fully charged** and ready for a full day of use. Allowance will NOT be made in class for students who do not bring their devices to school. Come prepared.
- Students are responsible for storing their devices securely when not under their own supervision.
- Students who lose their iPad must then make arrangements to replace it asap.
- **Malfunctions or technical** issues are not acceptable excuses for failing to complete an assignment, unless no other means of completion exist.
- Students should create and maintain a **private, personal** access code not to be shared with others for the lock screen. This protects the student from friends “messing with their iPad.”

Data Storage

- Backing up **data stored on the device** (documents, notes, email, etc.) **is the responsibility of the student**. Students should use cloud services like Google Drive, Apple iCloud, or Dropbox. **DLS cannot back up or restore student iPad data.**
- DLS strongly recommends students regularly update their apps from the Apple Appstore. (Many app problems can be resolved by simply keeping apps and software up to date.)
- iPad memory space is limited. Academic content should take precedence over personal files and apps. In the case of memory space conflict, it is the responsibility of the student to manage their data in such a way that coursework can be completed.

Parent Volunteers

While Dallas Lutheran School no longer has a formal Parent-Teacher Fellowship (PTF), we know that a thriving school depends on the support and involvement of our families. We welcome parents and guardians who are willing to share their time and talents throughout the year.

Volunteer opportunities include:

- **Athletics Support:** Assisting our athletic department with concessions, line judging, team meals, special events, and other needs as they arise.
- **Class Representatives:** Helping communicate class information, coordinating occasional social activities, supporting teachers and class sponsors, and welcoming new families.
- **School Events:** Assisting with admissions events, teacher appreciation, fundraising, Fine Arts performances, graduation, Homecoming, Prom, and other campus activities.

There is **no formal parent organization or membership requirement**; just opportunities to serve when your schedule allows. Whether you can volunteer once or throughout the year, your partnership makes a meaningful difference for our students, faculty, and school community. Families who receive a DLS Financial Grant have required volunteer hours of 10 per semester and will be contacted by the finance office.



*Train up a child in the way he should go;
even when he is old he will not depart from it. – Proverbs 22:6*

Upon enrolling my student at Dallas Lutheran School, and as an essential member of the team working with my student to assist him/her in his/her academic, physical, spiritual and social growth, I agree:

1. to do my best to work with Dallas Lutheran School:
 - I will begin with the premise that since DLS exists for the growth of students, decisions made by staff members are intended to be an attempt to assist with student growth. I will do my best to begin discussions with a positive premise.
 - I will send my student to school properly dressed in school-approved wardrobe each day.
 - I will support the discipline policies as stated.
 - I will pay the tuition and fees due.
2. to be a daily contributing member of the team working to affect the maturation of my son/daughter by:
 - a. I will provide a place to study in my home that is quiet and free from interruptions.
 - b. I will encourage and supervise appropriate study time for my son/daughter.
 - c. I will communicate directly with the teacher involved when any concern arises with my son/daughter.
 - d. I will carefully read letters, flyers, emails and other communications from the school.
 - e. I will closely monitoring the social activities of my son/daughter *including being physically present to supervise any activities occurring at my home to avoid the underage use of alcohol, the use of illicit drugs and the unsupervised freedom which encourages inappropriate sexual behavior.*
3. that since conflict between humans has the potential to cause disharmony and weaken relationships and must, therefore, I will deal with it a God pleasing manner. I have read Matthew 18:15-16 (see below) and agree to follow the guidelines presented there when dealing with conflict or when helping my son/daughter to deal with relationship issues.
 - *If a believer does something wrong, go, confront him when the two of you are alone. If he listens to you, you have won back that believer. But if he does not listen, take one or two others with you so that every accusation may be verified by two or three witnesses. MATTHEW 18:15-16*
4. to take responsibility for my own actions and decisions as I expect this of others.



XII. STUDENT'S COMMITMENT

As a vital member of the student body of Dallas Lutheran School, I agree:

1. to **work within the guidelines** established by Dallas Lutheran School (as printed in the Student Handbook) to help maintain an environment of learning and caring which is God-pleasing.
2. to **accept the assistance given** me by my parents and teachers.
3. to **utilize the process outlined in Matthew 18:15-16** when conflict arises in order to help in the building of Christian relationships.
4. that the inappropriate use of God's name, foul language, vulgar talk and disrespectful behavior are unacceptable at Dallas Lutheran School and I will **work toward the elimination of these behaviors** within the DLS community.
5. to **treat the teaching/learning process at Dallas Lutheran School with respect** by giving my best effort in my daily class work and in my preparation for each academic subject.
6. that in order to give my best efforts, I will **spend the necessary time it takes to prepare** for my classes.
7. to **find a respectful way in which to communicate** with those in authority over me when I feel that they have made a mistake or have treated me in an unfair manner (remembering that they also are incapable of being sinless and perfect).
8. to **treat the property and good name of others with respect** and further to defend and protect them with my best efforts.
9. that to lie, cheat, or steal is contrary to God's will for my life, and I therefore **will be truthful** in my dealings with others including honesty within my academic activities and social contacts. I will seek adult assistance if I have first-hand knowledge of any student or staff member who is lying, cheating or stealing.
10. that behavior which intimidates or threatens the well-being or good name of any individual has no place in a Christian environment, and I **agree to abstain from such behaviors** myself. I further agree to seek adult assistance if I have first-hand knowledge of the involvement of any student or staff member in actions which inappropriately intimidate or threaten.
11. that the use of illicit chemicals is unacceptable and dangerous to the people that are a part of the learning and caring environment which is Dallas Lutheran School, and **I therefore will abstain from the use or possession of such substances**. I will seek adult intervention assistance if I have first-hand knowledge of the involvement of any student or staff member with any illegal substance.
12. that the possession of any weapon or even the threat to bring a weapon on school grounds or to any school activity is unacceptable and dangerous to the people that are a part of this community. I therefore **agree to abide by the law which prohibits the possession, or threat to bring any weapon on school grounds**.

I further agree to seek adult intervention if I have first-hand knowledge of the involvement of any student or staff member with the possession of or threat to bring any weapon on our campus or within any part of our activities.



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