ALTERNATIVE LEARNING ACADEMY (ALA)

DAEP-Disciplinary Alternative Education Program

Guidelines & Expectations

2026-2027

PACE Center
2314 Old Alvin Rd
Pearland, TX 77581
Phone 281.412.1599 • Fax 281.412.1580

Parent/Guardian **and** student **must** attend orientation prior to the first day at ALA. Orientation is held at the PACE Center every Tuesday and Thursday at 3:00pm

Student **must** purchase the mandatory ALA T-shirt https://tinyurl.com/PearlandPACE.

Contact Information

Administration
Dr. Kimberly Darden, Principal, DARDENK@pearlandisd.org
Coral Mortell, Assistant Principal, MORTELLC@pearlandisd.org
E'real Wooten, Counselor, WOOTENE@pearlandisd.org

Office Staff
Jamie Horne, Secretary
Gylles Landryl, Attendance/Receptionist
Adrienne Addison, Registrar
Vanessa Escatel, Nurse Aide

Teachers
Dr. Kathy Goodwin, Special Education GOODWINK@pearlandisd.org
Lauren Hooker, Junior High Teacher HOOKERL@pearlandisd.org
William Butler, HS Social Studies BUTLERW@pearlandisd.org
Jennifer Louissaint, HS English LOUISSAINTJ@pearlandisd.org
Keith Coleman, HS Math COLEMANKW@pearlandisd.org
Tiffany Shelton, HS Science SHELTONT@pearlandisd.org

*Contact your home campus elective teacher regarding elective assignments and grades.

Paraprofessionals
Beverly Taylor
Kathleen Jennings
Jewel Butler

Mission Statement

The Alternative Learning Academy will facilitate student learning with master educators in order to foster positive academic growth and social skills in conjunction with the district educational goals and state mandated testing.

Explanation of ALA

Students who are in violation of the district's Student Code of Conduct are sent to the Alternative Learning Academy (ALA) as an option in the disciplinary process. The Disciplinary Alternative Education Program (DAEP) in Pearland is called the Alternative Learning Academy (ALA) and has been developed to provide campus administrators with an option for students who are in violation of the Student Code of Conduct.

The goals of the program:

1. Provide an alternate educational environment for students who have committed persistent or serious violations of the Student Code of Conduct;
2. To meet the academic needs of students assigned;
3. To encourage positive student attitudes and behaviors.

Student Orientation

Before attending any new placement at the Pearland ISD Alternative Learning Academy, **a student and a parent/guardian must attend an in-person orientation** to review the expectations and guidelines of Pearland ISD's DAEP campus. Orientation is held at the Pearland PACE Center every **Tuesday and Thursday from 3:00pm till 4:00pm (*Doors close at 3:10)**. Further, any student that carries over a new placement to the following school year must complete reorientation.

Students are not allowed to start their placement at the Alternative Learning Academy without the student's placement paperwork from their home campus. We do not have any control over when the home campus will send the placement paperwork; therefore, we encourage students and their parents to stay in contact with their home campus assistant principal to ensure paperwork submission.

Further, students are **required** to purchase the ALA T-shirt starting at **$17** and should complete this before they begin their ALA placement. Students can purchase the T-shirt online at (https://tinyurl.com/PearlandPACE) or at the orientation.

PLEASE NOTE:
Failure to complete the orientation will delay a student beginning their ALA assignment and may add to his/her placement time. Students must be in ALA dress code on the first day of placement. Students who are not in compliance may be sent home until they fulfill these standards.

Academic Requirements

The academic curriculum is continued at the Alternative Learning Academy. ALA has four certified teachers for grades 9-12. One teacher for each of the four content (core) areas, i.e., English Language Arts, Math, Science, and Social Studies. ALA has one composite certified (all subjects) teacher for grades 7-8. There is also a Special Education teacher for students with individualized education plans.

The Alternative Learning Academy will provide most of the classroom work, grade the student's individual assignments and report the grades to the student's home campus. **Students enrolled in any modified, Pre-AP/AP, Dual Credit, and/ or Elective courses will receive assignments from the home campus teacher.** Parents will be able to view their students' behavior and progress through the online platform. If the student has not successfully completed all Academic/Behavior requirements, the student will be unable to earn all their points.

Successful completion of all academic/behavior expectations and elective assignments is required for the student to receive credit for their assigned ALA placement.

Length of Assignment

The length of the assignment will be decided by the home campus and can include up to **60 successful days, unless another amount is determined by the home campus**. Early release may be earned upon successful completion of the ALA program. Points earned are contingent upon the student's daily behavior and attendance. **A student assigned to the Alternative Learning Academy may not participate in or attend any extracurricular activities or enter for any other reason the home campus or any Pearland Independent School District Campus/facility.**

Students who trespass may have extra days added to their assignment and receive a trespassing warning/citation from Pearland Police Department.

Point System

The length and completion of the ALA assignment will be based on a point system. Students will have the opportunity to earn 100 points per day. Students earn points by arriving on time, attending school each day, completing work, arriving in dress code, and behaving appropriately. Students assigned to ALA more than once within two school years will be required to earn more points towards completion of the ALA program.

- 1st ALA Placement: 3000 points must be earned for release
- 2nd ALA Placement: 4000 points must be earned for release
- 3rd ALA Placement +: 4500 points must be earned for release

***Students with a 1500-point assignment MUST be present in ALA for at least 15 successful days.**

If a student receives *any infractions*, he/she will be unable to earn all 10 points for that period. Students cannot earn points for the day if they are suspended. ISS placement allows students to earn a maximum of 50 points.

Incentives & Their Criteria

Hot Lunch

All ALA students will begin their placement with a limited lunch option that does not allow the student to go through the hot lunch line. Once the student has completed **500 points** they will be allowed to go through the hot lunch line and purchase additional items. Further, it is expected that students will be successful through the intake process. If the student did not meet the expectation for intake/breakfast, they will earn a lunch detention and will not have the opportunity to go through the hot lunch line.

Dress-Code Waiver

Students that have earned **1500 points** will be allowed to wear denim pants with home campus school spirit shirt on Fridays only for the remainder of their ALA placement. Students are expected to follow all other dress code requirements and will lose this incentive if they do not comply. This includes shirt being tucked in, belt worn, etc.

Additional Transportation Privilege

ALA students are given the opportunity to drive themselves to/from ALA. Students that have obtained a minimum of **1500 points** will have the option to transport themselves (only themselves) while completing their ALA placement. Any student that violates the parking requirements and/or the student code of conduct will lose this incentive for the remainder of their ALA placement.

Extra Points towards Early Release

Daily Bonus Points

ALA offers a weekly incentive program, which will allow a student to earn bonus points each day. Each day when a student has a perfect day (receives all 100 points for that day) they will receive an additional 10 points. That gives students the ability to get an additional ½ day of points every week they attend ALA and receive all of their points.

Once Per Week Bonus Points

ALA offers an additional opportunity for students to earn bonus points on Friday of each week that school is in session. Students must meet two requirements: 1.) maintain passing grades in all elective courses and 2.) be in attendance on Friday. If students meet these requirements, they can earn an additional 50 points each Friday. That gives the student ½ day of points every week they attend ALA.

ALA Attendance and School Day

The Pearland Independent School District instructional calendar is followed at the Alternative Learning Academy. Classes will begin promptly at 7:15 A.M. and end at 2:35 P.M. Adult supervision is provided from 7:00 A.M. to 2:30 P.M. Students **are not to arrive before 7:00 A.M. and are to be picked up no later than 2:45 P.M.**

Students who arrive after **7:30am** will be considered tardy. Each time a student is tardy, they will have **15 points** deducted. After 3 tardies, a student may be assessed additional consequences, which may result in him/her needing to earn additional points for completion of their ALA assignment. **Additionally, when the student is tardy, the parent/guardian will need to walk them into the office, have them sign-in, and wait until a staff member has completed the pre-intake process before leaving campus.**

Attendance

All students at ALA will continue to follow compulsory attendance law. It is the responsibility of the parents/guardians and school personnel to encourage regular and punctual attendance of the student. When the student is absent, it is the parent's/guardian's responsibility to contact/notify ALA personnel at 281-412-1599. The student will need to bring a note from the parent(s)/guardian(s) OR submit one through the attendance portal upon return to school. **Absences will be compiled with home campus absences.** Students who are in violation of attendance laws will be referred to the District Outreach and Attendance office and may be summoned to court.

Reminder: Points in ALA are awarded based on the student's attendance with positive behavior and the successful completion of assignments.

Transportation

Bus service is not available. The parent/guardian is responsible for getting their student to and from ALA.

Student Cars

As an additional incentive for good behavior, students that have earn 1500 points will be given the option to drive themselves (only themselves) to/from campus. In addition to meeting the minimum point total student will have to have a valid parking permit from their home campus, park in the designated parking spaces, and follow the Pearland ISD code of conduct. Student will need to park on the west side of Presner stadium in parking spots that face the stadium. Any student that violates the parking requirements and/or the student code of conduct will lose this incentive for the remainder of their ALA placement.



Code of Conduct

The students will follow the District Code of Conduct, the ALA Dress Code and ALA's additional requirements. Should students not adhere they may receive one of the following consequences:

- Inability to earn all points for the day; Suspension (OSS); Expulsion to JJAEP.
- **Students who have committed persistent (three or more of the same violation) or serious violations of the Student Code of Conduct may receive suspension (ISS and or OSS), or expulsions to JJAEP.**

Additional Expectations for the Alternative Learning Academy

The additional expectations are as follows:

- Students will adhere to ALA dress code at all times.
- Students may not communicate with others verbally or non-verbally at any time without permission.
- Students will have no physical contact of any kind with their peers.
- Students will not bring any items to ALA
- Students will follow each teacher's classroom rules/expected behaviors.
  - A student may not sleep and must maintain an upright position
  - Students may not get out of their seat without permission.
- Students will follow instructions the first time given without hesitation.
- Students will be respectful to staff and peers at all times.
- Students will not be allowed to use the telephone.
- In the case of an emergency, the administrator will call the parent.

Dress Code

Below are the dress code requirements while attending ALA. **Dress code is non-negotiable,** and students must be in compliance at all times:

SHIRTS: Students must wear an ALA short-sleeved shirt or an ALA long-sleeved shirt. The cost of shirts ranges from $17 to $22. Shirts must be worn daily and are required to be fully always tucked in. NO writing or alterations (cutting, tying) are permitted on clothing. Under shirts (short or long sleeve) must be solid white or black or grey. No designs, writing, or other colors are allowed.

PANTS: Must be **SOLID** Khaki (tan) only. Pants should only have four pockets. Pants must fit student's body at waist level, be worn at the waist, and be always worn with a belt.

- NO side pockets or flaps on back pockets.
- NO cargo pants.
- NO blue jeans. No holes, fake holes, rips, or fraying around the hem.
- NO stripes, lettering, diagrams, designs, or pictures.
- NO sweatpants.
- NO additional pants or shorts of any kind under the khaki pants.
- NO capris.
- NO oversized, too tight, or cuffed pants.

- NO sagging pants.
- NO joggers, jeggings, or leggings
- All pants must have belt loops

BELTS: Must be solid black or brown without print, lettering, etc. They must be worn at all times and must not be fall more than two inches past the belt if hanging. Belts must always be visible and be threaded through belt loops attached to pants. NO studs, spikes, embellishments, or sliding buckle type belts.

SHOES and SOCKS: Solid black, solid white or black, white, gray combo **tennis shoes** only. **Socks** must be solid black or white or black, white combo, with **no color** showing above the shoe line. **Shoelaces** must be solid black or white. DO NOT wear dress shoes, boots, beach sandals, flip flops, house slippers, crocs, etc.

JACKETS: Jackets are not allowed to be worn in the building. Jackets will be placed in lockers during the intake process and may be retrieved at the end of the school day.

MAKE UP: Foundation/powder, eye shadow, eye liner, mascara, blush or lipstick/lip-gloss/ chap-stick may NOT be brought on the premises.

NAILS: Long nails are not allowed – must be under ¼" in length past the fingertip.

HAIR: Must be neat, clean, well groomed, natural in color and out of eyes. Male or female with hair below shoulders must tie hair up in a ponytail or bun and bangs must be cut above eyebrows or pinned back out of face.

- Solid black, solid brown, or solid white hair bands ONLY, not to exceed ½" wide OR
- Small hair clips/pins must be BLACK, BROWN, or WHITE.
- NO Mohawks allowed.

TATTOOS: Must be covered at all times. Students are required to use their own bandage or ace band to cover tattoos prior to reporting to campus. Arm tattoos must be covered with a long sleeve shirt; sleeves should not be raised. NO EXCEPTIONS.

JEWELRY: No Jewelry of any kind including rings, earrings, bracelets of any type, objects in ear, nose, tongue, eyebrows or chin. Clear studs, fillers, or holders are NOT allowed.

UNDERGARMENTS: Must not be visible and must be worn under pants. No shorts of any kind under pants.

MISCELLANEOUS: All confiscated items will be **returned to parents at the end of the student's placement**. No objects of any kind can be worn on the wrist, fingers, ears, nose, tongue, or eyebrows. Students are not allowed to write or draw on themselves, their clothing, or shoes.

RESTRICTED ITEMS:

- NO Personal Items: Pictures, Letters, Reading material, makeup or Chap Stick/ lip-gloss, brushes/combs, **gum or candy**
- NO ELECTRONICS: Cell Phones, Tablets/Laptops, Mp3 players, Headphones/Earphones.
- NO Bags, Backpacks, Purses/ Totes
- NO Jewelry / Accessories
- NO Body Piercings of any kind, earrings, watches, rings, tongue rings, necklaces/chains, wristbands, navel rings, eyebrow rings, lip rings, grills, chin rings
- NO supplies are allowed. ALA will provide students with supplies

- Only allowed to bring money for lunch and MUST be given to ALA staff at arrival time NO EXCEPTIONS. All lunches that are brought will be searched. No open containers or screw top beverages**.**

The Alternative Learning Academy and its staff are not responsible for items that are confiscated and prohibited.

Students that fail to meet the ALA dress code policy will have further consequences (i.e. ISS, OSS, etc.).

Parents/guardians will be contacted in the event their student receives a consequence due to dress code and the parents/guardians will have until **9:00am** to pick the student up from the Alternative Learning Academy. It is the parent's/guardian's responsibility to ensure the student complies with the dress code before they are dropped off at ALA.

Hallway Rules and Procedures:

- Students may not communicate with others verbally or non-verbally at any time without permission.
- No talking or whistling in the hallway! It should remain silent at all times.
- Stay in dress code and keep your hands to yourself.
- Walk on the right side of the hallway in a single file line at all times.
- When you arrive at your destination, line up outside the door behind the line and wait for permission from the staff member to proceed.
- Do not stop at other classrooms or destinations. Anything other than walking directly to your assigned destination will be considered truancy.
- Do not stop at the restroom. All students will be given restroom breaks at predetermined times during the day.

Bathroom Rules and Procedures:

Restroom breaks are taken as a class **at designated times**. ALA Staff will provide supervision and check restroom after student exits.

- Students may not communicate with others verbally or non-verbally at any time without permission.
- No talking or whistling in the hallway! It should remain silent at all times.
- Stay in dress code and keep your hands behind your back.
- Stand face forward until directed into the bathroom.
- Do not tap/bang on the wall while you wait your turn.
- Students will not bring anything into the restroom.
- Stalls will be inspected after the student finishes for vandalism, graffiti, and bodily waste. Students that have not utilized this time appropriately will be responsible for cleaning before exiting the bathroom and/or loss of points that could lead to suspension.

Breakfast and Lunch Rules and Procedures:

Breakfast is served in first period after the student has completed the intake process. Breakfast ends at 8:01am and all breakfast related items and/or trash must be thrown away at that time. Students that arrive after the completion of

breakfast will not be given breakfast. Breakfast is available for purchase from the Pearland ISD Food Service. To be eligible to order breakfast, the student will need to indicate breakfast needed in their ALA intake form daily.

Lunch is from 10:44-11:15 Monday through Friday and students will eat their meals at the PACE center cafeteria. A lunch is available for purchase from the Pearland ISD Food Service. Students will have an opportunity to go through the hot lunch line only after they have earned **500 points**. Students that follow the ALA guidelines will have an opportunity on Fridays to purchase additional items like chips, snacks, and drinks (other than water/milk). Additionally, students that receive a lunch detention (either through intake or from the previous day) will not have the opportunity to go through the hot lunch line. Breakfast and lunch are provided for students who qualify for free lunches.

A student may bring his or her own sack lunch but may not have "fast food" brought to them. Students must have canned drinks, as bottled drinks are not allowed. Also, energy drinks and candy will not be allowed. Unapproved items brought to campus as part of a student's lunch will be thrown away.

- Students may not communicate with others verbally or non-verbally at any time. It should remain silent at all times.
- Students are to remain in dress-code at all times.
- All students will have assigned seats, and new students will wait at the stage until they are assigned a seat.
- Upon entering the cafeteria, students should go directly to their assigned seat and wait to be directed to the lunch line by an ALA staff member.
- Students will raise their hand and wait to be called on if they should have questions, need assistance, or wish to go through the water line at any time.
- Students will face forward and stay in dress-code. This includes keeping hands and head outside of their shirt.
- During dismissal, students will wait until they are told to line-up. At that time the student will walk to the marker, face-forward, and follow the directions of the staff member.

Parent & School Partnership:

- **No electronic devices are allowed in the building at ALA**. If a cell phone, MP3 player, or any other electronic device is taken up,
    - 1st offense- It will be taken up and locked in a lock box. The parents/guardians will be responsible for picking up the cell phone after 2:35 p.m.
    - 2nd offense- The cell phone will be locked in a lock box and a parent conference will be held before the cellphone is returned to the parent/guardian.
    - 3rd offense- The cell phone will be held for 5 business days and then returned to the parent. Review and sign any paperwork given by staff.
- It is your responsibility for your child to attend school and be on time.
- Contact the office when your student will be absent and provide documentation for the absence upon the child's return.
- When your student is tardy, you will need to walk them into the office, have them sign-in, and wait until a staff member has completed the intake process.
- All students must be off site by 2:45 pm.
- When your child is suspended/receives an ALA placement, you MUST provide transportation for them for the duration of the assignment to ALA.

Severe behavior may result in immediate loss of credit for the day, loss of privileges, days added to the student's ALA assignment, or suspension and/or expulsion as deemed by the campus administrator..

Medication

1. Parent/Guardian of students that require medication will deliver it to the office along with the following in compliance of Pearland ISD Medication policy:
2. Written permission and specific directions for administration of medication are required, per district policy: Directions must include student's name, date, name of medication, dosage, route of administration, and time to be administered.
    - A physician's authorization form must be signed by the physician or dentist licensed in the state of Texas **AND** parent or legal guardian for all **prescription medications OR** for any **non-prescription (OTC) medication** to be administered or kept at school for more than 10 days in one school year.
    - Parent or legal guardian authorization is required for administration of all **non-prescription (OTC) medications** administered 10 days or less, once per school year.
3. All over-the-counter medication must be unexpired and in the original, properly labeled container.
4. All prescription medication must be unexpired and in a prescription bottle/box accompanied by a U.S. pharmacy label.
5. All medication must be brought to the clinic by the parent or designated adult.
6. The student may not carry or administer any medication to himself/herself. However, Texas law permits students to carry and self-administer prescription asthma or anaphylaxis emergency medications if certain criteria are met. The authorization form for "Student Self-Administration of Asthma or Anaphylaxis Medications" must be on file.
7. The school nurse or nurse aide will supervise storage and dispensing of medication.
8. If the medication is new to the student, the first dose of the medication must be given at home.

Students are not to bring ANY medication on their person. All medication must be delivered to the front office by the parent/guardian.

Pearland Independent School District
Alternative Learning Academy Parent & Student Contract

Student Name: _____ ID#: _____

Home Campus: _____ Grade: _____

This receipt is to verify that my student and I have received a copy if the Pearland ISD's Alternative Learning Academy's Guidelines and Expectations, which informs us of our responsibilities throughout the ALA placement. My signature below indicated that I understand the rules, regulations, and expectations of the ALA program.

I have read and understand the rules and regulations before me as binding. I understand that not meeting the guidelines and expectations of the ALA program may result in myself and/or my child incurring penalties which may include court, tickets, fines, Out of School Suspension (OSS), and/or recommendation to the Juvenile Justice Alternative Education Program (JJAEP). I understand that during my orientation, I have received specific information regarding dress code, point system, rules, regulation, procedures, and overall expectations while at ALA. As the parent/guardian I agree to support the ALA program and all its initiatives. I also understand that failure to meet parental requirements will result in my child remaining in the program until all requirements are satisfied.

_____

Signature of Parent/Guardian Date Signed

I understand the rules and regulations of the ALA program and agree to comply and follow all rules at all times. I also agree to comply with and follow the student dress code, and student code of conduct.

_____

Signature of Student Date Signed

ALA Intake Form

Student Name: _____ Grade: _____

Student ID Number: _____ Home Campus:_____

Address: _____

City: _____ Zip Code: _____

Contact Person #1 –(person student lives with):_____

Relationship to student:_____

Work Phone: _____ Cell Phone: _____

E-Mail: _____

Contact Person #2:_____

Work Phone: _____ Cell Phone: _____

E-Mail: _____

Student must be dropped off each morning but have the option of walking home.

How will your student get home each afternoon? Car rider: _____ Walker: _____

Parents/guardians must send an email or a note with contact information by 1:00pm if afternoon transportation changes.

(Please complete the back)

Transportation/Emergency Information/Wellness

If contracts 1 & 2 cannot be reached, we will need names and numbers for persons who may pick up or drop off your student.

Name: _____Number:_____

Name: _____ Number: _____

Name: _____ Number: _____

Probation Officer Contact Information:

Name: _____Number:_____

Health/Wellness

Known allergies? _____

List medications being taken _____

Medication to be administered at school _____

Note: If your student needs to take medication at school, please contact the clinic for medication forms. These forms must be completed and steps followed.

In case of a medical emergency please provide the name and number of your family doctor:

_____

Meals

Parent/guardians are responsible for keeping their student's cafeteria account current. If a student does not have money in their District account, the cafeteria will not allow them to charge items and their access to breakfast and lunch will be restricted.