



# PARENT-STUDENT HANDBOOK

2017-2018

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## **MISSION AND PURPOSE**

The overall mission of Siouxland Christian School (SCS) is “to assist parents in raising godly children by providing academic excellence in a Christ-honoring environment.” Meaningful education has reverence for God as its starting point and glorifying God as its goal. Parents are given the responsibility of carefully instructing their children in the principles and doctrines of the Bible (Deuteronomy 6:6-7; Prov. 22:6; II Tim. 2:15), and thus have a religious and moral responsibility to provide Christian education.

SCS is an extension of the Christ-centered home and church. The entire faculty consists of born-again Christians who believe that teaching is both a calling and a ministry. They are dedicated and well qualified, both spiritually and academically. Each member has been selected and prayerfully chosen.

## **STATEMENT OF FAITH**

We emphasize Christian unity in loving our Lord through a personal relationship with Jesus Christ. We interpret the Scriptures literally, in a grammatical sense. SCS accepts students from families in agreement with basic biblical truths for salvation presented herein. However, since we are represented by more than 30 churches, where we differ on minor doctrinal issues, we defer to family and church for clarification.

Those who serve the Lord as board members, faculty, and staff at SCS must be in total agreement with the SCS *Doctrine and Tenets of Faith*. We seek to maintain unity by emphasizing salvation by faith, not works, and by the grace of God through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

## **DOCTRINE AND TENETS OF FAITH**

Siouxland Christian School is first and foremost committed to instruction and education that conform to the Word of God. Because we are of diverse church and denominational backgrounds, it is important that as a body of believers known as Siouxland Christian School, we are diligent about unity, based on the truths of Scripture, in the bond of love. To that end, it is important to set forth in writing this *Doctrine and Tenets of Faith*, the following statements of fundamental truth and doctrine:

1. **The Scriptures Inspired**  
We believe that the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments are verbally inspired by God, inerrant in their original writing, and that they are of supreme and final authority in faith and life.
2. **The One True Godhead**  
We believe in one God, eternally existing in three persons: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. God, the Holy Spirit, is the executor of all God’s work. Believers are born again, indwelt, sealed, and guided by the Holy Spirit (John 3:6-8; Romans 8:9; Ephesians 1:13-14; Romans 8:14). We are admonished to walk, worship, and pray in the Spirit (Romans 8:4; John 4:24; Ephesians 6:18), to know God through Jesus Christ, and by the Holy Spirit, to find the meaning of life.
3. **Man and His Fall**  
We believe that God created the world, with man in His image; that man sinned and thereby incurred both physical and spiritual death, which is separation from God; and that all human beings are born with a sinful nature and are sinners in thought, word, and deed, becoming accountable upon reaching moral responsibility (Genesis 1:26-31; Romans 5:12-21). Along these lines, in accordance with God’s Word, we believe that marriage is between one man and one woman, with the act of sexual intercourse only being Scriptural (thus acceptable) in the context of marriage (Genesis 2:23-24, Exodus 20:14, Leviticus 18:22, 1 Corinthians 6:9, Ephesians 5:31).
4. **God Manifest in the Flesh**  
We believe that Jesus was begotten by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, and is true God and true Christ. He is God manifest in the flesh – the supreme expression of God’s glory (Hebrews 1:3). It is God’s intention that our primary focus is on Jesus Christ (Hebrews 12:2). We enter into a personal relationship with God through Jesus Christ by believing in His atoning work and trusting Him.
5. **The Salvation of Man**  
We believe that the Lord Jesus Christ died for our sins, according to the Scriptures, as a representative and substitutionary sacrifice, and that whoever believes in Him is justified on the basis of His shed blood. We believe that Jesus is “the Way, the Truth, and the Life” (John 14:6). No one comes to the Father except through Christ.

6. The Ascension

We believe in the literal resurrection of the crucified body of our Lord, His ascension into heaven, and His present life there for us as High Priest and Advocate.

7. The Church

We believe in the local church, which was established by Jesus Christ. The Church is the body of Christ, the habitation of God through the Spirit, with divine appointment for the fulfillment of her great commission. Each believer, born of the Spirit, is an integral part of the church (Ephesians 1:22 and 2:19-22; Hebrews 12:23).

8. Blessed Hope

We believe in the personal and imminent return of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. Jesus is coming again to gather all His saints to heaven (1 Corinthians 15:51-52; Thessalonians 4:16-17; 2 Thessalonians 2:1).

9. Faith

We believe that all who receive the Lord Jesus Christ by faith are born again of the Holy Spirit. Salvation is by faith in Jesus Christ and not by human works; however, our works will determine the rewards in eternity. (Romans 10:9-10; Ephesians 2:8-9; Titus 3:5-7; 2 Corinthians 5:10).

10. Life Eternal

We believe in the bodily resurrection of the just unto everlasting blessedness, and of the unjust unto everlasting conscious punishment (Revelations 11:1-8).

## **PHILOSOPHY**

“The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge and wisdom” (Proverbs 1:7, 9:10).

Jesus Christ is God manifest in the flesh – the supreme expression of God’s glory (Hebrews 1:3). It is God’s intention that our primary focus is on Jesus Christ (Hebrew 12:2). We enter into a personal relationship with God through Jesus Christ by believing in His atoning work and trusting Him.

God, the Holy Spirit, is the executor of all God’s work. Believers are born again, indwelt, sealed, and guided by the Holy Spirit (John 3:6-8; Romans 8:9; Ephesians 1:13-14; Romans 8:14). We are admonished to walk, worship, and pray in the Spirit (Romans 8:4; John 4:24; Ephesians 6:18), to know God through Jesus Christ, and by the Holy Spirit, to find the meaning of life.

Christian education gives a central place in the curriculum to the Bible, wherein we find absolute truth about God, the universe, and ourselves. The Bible imparts discernment to the believer for evaluating all things. The Holy Scriptures are integrated into all subjects taught at SCS.

Although we often view life as either sacred or secular, the Word of God teaches that everything in a Christian’s life is to be for the glory of God (I Corinthians 10:31).

SCS, in cooperation with the home and church, seeks to train the whole child, encouraging submission to the control of the Holy Spirit.

“A student is not above his teacher, but everyone who is perfectly trained will be like his teacher” (Luke 6:40). If a child is to be completely obedient to God, his models must be also. Only a teacher with a thoroughly God-centered outlook on life can convey the vital concept that God is sovereign in everyday situations.

SCS seeks to prepare students for Christ-honoring social and civic competence, work, continued learning, and wholesome recreation. In an atmosphere of genuine affection, our students learn to make godly decisions and to take responsibility for their actions.

## **CHURCH ATTENDANCE**

All SCS students and at least one parent are strongly encouraged to regularly attend a church that is in line with SCS's Tenants of faith.

## **PARENT PLEDGE**

Parents play a vital part in the total program of SCS. The following pledge is encouraged in an effort to strengthen unity within our school family:

1. I will pray regularly for the teachers and administration of SCS.
2. I will cooperate fully in the educational functions of SCS, doing my best to make Christian education effective in the life of my child, so that he/she will love and serve the Lord Jesus Christ.
3. I will meet all my financial obligations to the school. If I am unable to pay on time, I will notify the school in advance, giving a reasonable explanation for the delay, and projected time for payment.
4. I will support the school by gift giving, as the Lord enables me.
5. I will undertake volunteer duties and responsibilities for SCS as opportunities arise, and as God provides the strength and time.
6. I will attend parent functions for the school whenever possible.
7. If I become dissatisfied with the school in any respect, I will seek to resolve the matter with the person or persons involved, rather than spreading criticism or holding a negative attitude in my heart. I will follow the biblical instruction found in Matthew 18:15.
8. I will not criticize the school.
9. I will seek the advancement of SCS in all areas.

## **BIBLE/SPIRITUAL EMPHASIS**

All students are required to have the New International Version (NIV) Bible for classroom use. Bible study is a vital part of Christian education and is a required subject every year. Integrating the Word of God into the academic program is emphasized, recognizing that all truth is God's truth. The Bible is God's complete revelation, with no extra-biblical teaching as its equal.

## **ADMISSION PROCESS**

Application forms, verbal and written recommendations, documentation of past performance, and personal interviews of the applicant and his/her parents provide the basis for determining eligibility for admittance. The following are required for all new families:

1. *Application for Admission, Student Reference, and Family Reference*, forms must be submitted.
2. Complete online registration through JMC.
3. An entrance test may be required.
4. At least one parent must profess faith in Christ, and be in agreement with the *Doctrine and Tenets of Faith* and *Statement of Faith*. *Parental Commitment* and *Doctrine and Tenets of Faith* forms must be signed. Regular church attendance is expected of students and parents.
5. Secondary students must desire acceptance into SCS and view Christian education as God's will for them. Students considered rebellious or uncommitted to Christian values, as well as those who are married, pregnant, or have children, are not accepted.

## **TUITION PAYMENT**

SCS has a tuition program called *SMART*. *SMART* provides advantages to schools, parents, and students nationwide. Tuition may be paid in one of the following ways:

1. Payment in full by August 1<sup>st</sup> (3% discount given)
2. Monthly installments to *SMART*

Tuition must be current (if not paid in full by August 1) and all fees paid in order for students to participate in athletics, band, winter formal, homecoming, prom, final exams, etc. Unpaid fees to include mission trips and other events will result in the student being ineligible for participation until such financial obligations are met. For instances in which delinquency is not addressed and/or prolonged, students may be removed from enrollment with SCS.

If a student withdraws or is dismissed, parents are asked to contact the office to clear financial records before student records are released. Student records/transcripts will not be released until all tuition and fees are paid in full. A full month's tuition is charged if a student attends any portion of a month.

## **FEE SCHEDULE**

Below is a list of potential fees for students attending Siouxland Christian. Please remember that all fees are subject to change, especially those set by outside entities such as SMART Tuition and the Western Valley Conference.

### **Administrative Fees**

\$40 Financial Aid Application Fee  
\$50 SMART Registration Fee  
\$70 Late Payment Fee (charged through SMART)  
\$35 Insufficient Check Fee  
\$45 K4/Preschool Registration Fee  
\$250 K-12<sup>th</sup> Grade Registration Fee  
\$130 K4/Preschool Resource Fee  
\$225 Kindergarten Resource Fee  
\$300 1<sup>st</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> Grade Resource Fee  
\*See Tuition Schedule for current tuition rates.

### **Class Fees**

\$50 Art Fee (per semester)  
\$50 Photography (per semester)  
\$50 Paint (per semester)  
\$50 Graphic Arts (per semester)  
\$90 Band Fee (per semester)  
\$25 Instrument Rental Fee (per semester)  
\$250 Iowa Online Learning (per semester course, deficit credit)  
\$50 Senior Graduation Fee

### **Athletic Fees**

\$5 Adult Entry to Athletic Contests (entry fees determined by Western Valley Conference)  
\$3 Student Entry to Athletic Contests (entry fees determined by Western Valley Conference)  
\$145 Family Pass (Athletics)  
\$90 Varsity & JV Athletic Fee (per sport)  
\$75 Junior High Athletic Fee (per sport)

### **Lunch Fees**

\$0.75 Milk/Juice Only  
\$2.70 Kindergarten Lunch  
\$3.25 1<sup>st</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Lunch  
\$3.80 6<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> Grade Lunch  
\$3.80 Parent/Visitor Lunch

### **Miscellaneous**

Free Electronic Directory  
\$5 Printed Directory  
\$35 Yearbook

\*\*Other fees are event/activity specific due to needs, location, etc. (i.e. athletic warm-ups, cheerleading uniforms, formal/prom locations, food arrangements, dj, mission trip travel, etc.).

## **TUITION ASSISTANCE FINANCIAL AID**

Tuition assistance financial aid is available on a limited basis. Further information may be obtained by contacting the school office.

## **FINANCIAL GIFTS**

SCS is a private non-profit entity. The school currently receives no federal funding. SCS does receive benefits from the Northwest Iowa Christian Schools Tuition Organization (NICSTO). NICSTO is an Iowa law allowing private donors to give money to help families pay for tuition to private schools in exchange for a 65% tax credit (not a deduction) on their Iowa state income tax.

Individuals are invited to contribute to the operation of the school via donation gifts for general expenses or general tuition scholarships. Most monetary donations are tax deductible; gifts designated for a specific student are not tax deductible.

## **FOUR-YEAR COLLEGE PLAN FOR GRADES 9-12**

The four-year college plan will be developed at the end of the 8<sup>th</sup> grade year.

### **Freshmen:**

- Discuss career and academic plans with the counselor or designee.
- Become familiar with college and career resources.
- Get involved in extracurricular activities.
- Plan how you might use summer vacations to explore your career interests.

### **Sophomores:**

- Find ways to improve your grade-point average (i.e. improve time management skills, become more organized, etc.).
- Discuss financial considerations with your parents.
- Start preparing for ACT and SAT exams.
- Continue to research colleges.
- Take a career interest survey.
- Talk to friends attending college.
- Sign up for the PSAT in the fall.

### **Juniors:**

- Consider taking dual credit and advanced courses.
- Make a list of colleges and universities you might want to attend.
- Make plans to visit your college choices.
- Consider applying for early admission.
- Research scholarship opportunities.
- Sign up for the PSAT in the fall.
- Prepare for ACT and SAT exams and take them in the spring.
- Take a challenging class load and keep up your grades. (Junior year grades are the first ones admission officials will look at.)
- Send for college applications.

### **Seniors:**

- Meet with the counselor or designee to fine-tune your educational plan.
- Ask teachers, counselors, coaches, and employers for letters of recommendation.
- Complete applications to the schools you have chosen, paying special attention to application deadlines.
- Complete required scholarship applications.
- If you need to take the SAT or ACT over, make sure you have the schedule of dates and locations where the exams will be administered.
- Meet with college representatives who visit your school.
- Soon after you make your final selection, send housing and admission deposits to the college of your choice.

### **About Highly Selective Universities**

Selecting a strong course program (like that of SCS) and involvement in extracurricular activities and/or community service projects enhances a student's chance for admission into the college of his/her choice. Students currently gaining acceptance into top universities and colleges tend to have completed 44 or more high school credits, SAT scores of 720 for math, 680 for writing and 630 for critical reading, an ACT score of 23 or higher, and are in the top 10% of their graduating class. Institutions are looking for well-rounded students. Admission practices include examination of ACT scores, high school course selections, and involvement in high school and community activities.

## **GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS – GRADES 9-12**

A minimum of 44 credits are required for graduation

### **Important Considerations**

- Credits for graduation generally begin accumulating in the 9<sup>th</sup> grade. High school courses taken during middle school will be counted as high school credit toward graduation and are computed in the high school grade point average.
- To be eligible for graduation, students must meet both the minimum requirements for the State of Iowa and SCS.
- Alternative courses meeting SCS and state requirements may be added, subject to administrative approval. However, students are to follow the below outlined curriculum requirements to ensure graduation with their class.
- SCS is not an open campus. If a student participates in a post high school class, he/she is required to return to campus unless the ending of the post high school class corresponds with the SCS academic day, or student's given schedule.
- Any course taken outside of SCS must be pre-approved by administration in order to receive transfer credits.
- Physical Education is required each semester by the State of Iowa. Under limited circumstances it may be waived upon special approval of administration.
- Seniors under disciplinary action at the time of graduation will not be allowed to participate in commencement exercises.
- A student must attend SCS as a fulltime student their Junior and Senior year to be considered for valedictorian or salutatorian.
- All fees, including tuition, must be paid before a diploma will be issued.
- All scheduled classes must be completed before a diploma will be issued.
- Seniors may not march in commencement exercises if they lack any credit for graduation.

### **Curriculum Offered/Required Credits**

#### **Language Arts (9 credits)**

2 credits of Grammar/Literature Analysis  
2 credits of Grammar/Advanced Literature  
2 credits of Grammar/American Literature  
2 credits of Grammar/British Literature  
1 credit of Speech

#### **Math (7-9 credits)**

(Most 4 year colleges require that students have completed through Algebra II.)  
2 credits of Algebra I  
2 credits of Geometry  
2 credits of Algebra II  
2 credits of Pre-Calculus  
1 credit of Consumer Math (1/2 credit per semester)  
1 credit of Personal Finance (1/4 credit per semester)

#### **Science (6-8 credits)**

(Most four year colleges require students have completed through chemistry.)  
2 credits of Biology  
2 credits of Physical Science  
2 credits of Chemistry  
2 credits of Anatomy  
2 credits of Physics

#### **Social Studies (8 credits)**

2 credits of Geography  
2 credits of World History  
2 Credits of U.S. History  
1 Credit of American Government  
1 Credit of Economics



## **Fine Arts (2 credits)**

These 2 credits must be earned from two different areas (music, oral interpretation, visual).

Art	(1/2 credit per semester)
Band	(1/2 credit per semester)
Choir	(1/2 credit per semester)
Theatre	(1/2 credit per semester)
Yearbook	(1/2 credit per semester)
Graphic Design	(1/2 credit per semester)
Photography	(1/2 credit per semester)
Film Making	(1/2 credit per semester)
Painting	(1/2 credit per semester)
Printmaking	(1/2 credit per semester)

## **Foreign Language (Strongly Recommended)**

Most four year colleges require students complete 2 years consecutive of a foreign language, i.e. I & II. Some colleges require 3-4 years.

As our foreign language offerings on campus are limited, students planning on attending a four-year college are strongly encouraged to take at least two consecutive semesters of a foreign language through WIT (college credit earned, usually transferable) if not completing these at SCS.

## **Bible (4 credits)**

Bible	(1/2 credit per semester)
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## **Health/Family Living (1 credit)**

Health/Family Living	(1/2 credit per semester)
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## **Physical Education (2 credits)**

(1/2 credit per semester)

## **Electives (7 credits)**

Technology	(1/4 credit per semester)
Teacher/Office Aide	(1/4 credit per semester)
Yearbook	(1/2 credit per semester)
Theatre/Band/Choir	(1/2 credit per semester)
Study Hall	No credits awarded
Post-Secondary Enrollment	College credit given on high school transcript

## **College Preparatory Curriculum**

Completion of the following program will assist students in meeting the admission requirements at most four year colleges and universities. Check with your post-secondary institution for specific admission requirements.

Language Arts	8 credits
Math	6-8 credits—must include Algebra I & II, Geometry
Science	6-8 credits—must include Biology, Chemistry, Physics
Social Studies	8 credits
Foreign Language	4-6 credits of the same language
Fine Arts	some colleges require Fine Arts and or Technology credits

## **COMMUNITY SERVICE PROGRAM**

At Siouxland Christian our desire is to exemplify the commitment to service that Jesus has shown to each of us. Jesus came as a man not to be served, but to serve. In accordance with Mark 10:45 Siouxland Christian wants to encourage our students to live out a life of service. Living a life of service reflects our thankfulness for the redeeming work of Jesus in our lives, we serve out of a heart of gratitude to our Savior. The Community Service Program is not an end in itself but as a way to begin to encourage our students to serve so that throughout their lives service to those around them is exemplified in their lives.

To earn the Silver Service Cord students will be required to demonstrate a commitment to community service throughout high school by completing at least 160 hours with a minimum of 40 hours being required each year from freshman year through senior year. Upon completion of the requirements the student will be eligible to wear the Service Cord at Graduation along with a notation of his or her service in the Graduation Program.

Students enrolled at SCS for less than 4 years will be required to earn a minimum of 40 hours for each year they are enrolled. Volunteer hours must be completed at a minimum of two different service organizations.

### **Guidelines**

The organization for which the student performs service must be non-profit; therefore, students may not receive payment or compensation in any form for service performed. Hours performed for any group or organization, which in turn profits financially from the service will not count.

- The following may **NOT** count toward service hours:
  - school activities for organizations of which you are a member with responsibilities for that organization, receive a benefit or a grade
  - service hours completed during school hours on a school day, including school service projects
  - family obligations (example—babysitting or caring for other family members)
  - duties performed in association with student's employment assisting a paid employee (including teachers) in completing any duties that are part of their contract (grading papers, decorating a room, carrying supplies, filing, organizing, copying, computer work, etc.)
  - work completed for political parties, issues or campaigns
  - tutoring a friend (example—study groups, proofreading a friend's paper, studying for an exam).
  - mission trips and work camps
  - *The overriding issue should be that the community service is done primarily to benefit others in the community at large with no financial gain to a group or individual, and should be something out of the student's normal course of action.*
- The following **MAY** count toward service hours (this list is not comprehensive):
  - volunteer duties associated with a church
  - community oriented non-profit organization (for ideas of non-profit organizations check out the school website)
  - highway clean up
  - blood drives
  - coaching a youth league team
  - bake sale with proceeds going to your favorite charity
  - run/walk for an event like Race for the Cure
  - plant trees for Arbor Day
  - pre-approved structured tutoring (such as adult education, literacy programs, and citizenship programs)
  - *Use your imagination there a hundreds of ways to shine the light of Jesus in our community*
- For hours completed after May 1st but prior to the first day of school (through the summer) completed forms need to be submitted by **September 1st**.
- For hours completed after the first day of school but prior to Thanksgiving (First Semester) completed forms need to be submitted by **December 1st** .
- For hours completed from Thanksgiving but prior to May 1st, completed forms need to be submitted by **May 1st** .

## **VALEDICTORIAN AND SALUTATORIAN SELECTION CRITERIA**

The Valedictorian and Salutarian are selected each year from the graduating class. The Valedictorian ranks first in class and is considered the top student of his/her class; the salutarian ranks second in class and is considered the second highest student in his/her class. Criteria are based primarily on cumulative GPA, but the number of college classes and scores on ACT tests are also considered. To be considered for Valedictorian and Salutarian candidates must have attend Siouxland Christian at the minimum their junior and senior years.

Godly character is of the utmost importance for all our students at Siouxland Christian and so a life that reflects godly character is critical for those candidates who are pursuing Valedictorian and Salutarian. The character of each candidate will be looked at and will be the at the sole discretion of the principal and/or counselor to make sure the candidate is living a life that reflects the heart of Christ. Items to be looked at will be expressing the love of Christ at school, a respectful attitude, good attendance, minimal unexcused tardies, and academic integrity.

Valedictorian or Salutarian must have the minimum coursework requirements

The following point system will be used to determine the Valedictorian and Salutarian:

- Cumulative GPA shall be determined at the end of the 1st semester of the senior year. The top 4 seniors shall be ranked by GPA and given the following point values.
  - 1st: 12 points: 2nd: 9 points: 3rd: 6 points: and 4th: 3 points
- The number of college classes taken by the top 4 GPA seniors shall be determined at the end of the first semester of their senior year.
  - Each college class shall be awarded 1 point.
- ACT tests scores, earned no later than the February test date, of the 4 highest GPA seniors will be awarded the points of the following values.
  - 1st: 4 points, 2nd: 3 points, 3rd: 2 points and 4th: 1 point

The point totals from the above three categories will be used to determine Valedictorian and Salutarian.

## **DUAL ENROLLMENT**

SCS allows students to be dually enrolled with educational institutions on a limited individual basis. Students must pay all tuition, fees, textbooks, and costs for materials, as required by both SCS and the other institution. Classes must be limited to courses not offered at SCS unless an exemption is granted by administrative decision and the student must be on track (meeting all course requirements) to graduate from SCS. Course arrangements must be coordinated through SCS and approved by administration.

## **STUDENT TRANSFERS/WITHDRAWAL FROM SCHOOL**

Parents of students transferring or withdrawing from SCS are asked to schedule a conference with the Superintendent before making a final decision. Records are released for transfers only after all outstanding fees and fines have been paid, and a written request for the release of school records has been submitted to the office.

All withdrawal requirements must be completed before the first day of the month to avoid being charged a full month's tuition.

Administration may require the withdrawal of any student who in their opinion does not fit into the spirit of SCS. This is true regardless of whether or not the student complies with rules and regulations. As part of the withdrawal process students are required to:

1. Turn in textbooks, library books, etc.
2. Clean out locker and desk
3. Pay all fees and/or tuition
4. Complete any additional tasks requested by the Superintendent

## **GRADING SCALE FOR KINDERGARTEN**

E= Good, Steady Progress

S= Satisfactory Progress

N= Improvement Necessary

## **GRADING SCALE FOR GRADES 1-2**

1 = Very Good    2 = Satisfactory    3 = Needs Improvement

## **GRADING SCALE FOR GRADES 3-12**

A+	=	98 – 100
A	=	93 – 97
A-	=	90 – 92
B+	=	88 – 89
B	=	83 – 87
B-	=	80 – 82
C+	=	78 – 79
C	=	73 – 77
C-	=	70 – 72
D+	=	68 – 69
D	=	63 – 67
D-	=	60 – 62
F	=	59 and below

## **HONOR ROLL FOR GRADES 7-12**

In grades 7-12, an honor roll of all classes is compiled after each grading period as follows:

1. "A" Honor Roll – All "A's" with no incompletes
2. "B" Honor Roll – All "A's" and "B's" with no incompletes

**Note:** An incomplete at the time Honor Roll is computed disqualifies a student for Honor Roll recognition.

## **STANDARDIZED TESTING**

SCS administers the Iowa Assessments, soon to be Smarter Balance, in grades 2-11. Results are provided for parents/guardians and become part of students' permanent records.

SCS arranges for and requires Sophomores and Juniors to take the PSAT=NMSQT (Preliminary Scholastic Aptitude National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test) offered during the fall semester. SCS encourages students to begin taking the ACT by their junior year. All testing better prepares students for the senior year SAT and ACT college entrance exams.

## **SEMESTER EXAMS FOR GRADES 9-12**

Students in grades 9-12, and 8<sup>th</sup> graders taking courses for high school credit, are required to take first semester final exams. Students with a minimum grade of A- and no more than 4 absences (3 tardies = 1 absence) for the second semester will not be required to take their second semester final exam.

## **JMC**

JMC Online Registration should be completed before the start of each school year. Information should be kept current throughout the year to ensure successful communication, to include inclement weather, schedule changes and upcoming events, as well as provide for any student medical needs.

Parents can access *JMC Student Record Management* from the school website [siouxlandchristian.org](http://siouxlandchristian.org) to obtain information regarding teacher lesson plans, assignments, current grades, tardies, absences, and lunch balances. The SCS office will assign each family a password to access these records.

## **REPORT CARDS**

Every nine-week period students receive a report card. The averages become part of the student's permanent record. Parents of elementary students in kindergarten through second grade are to sign and return the report cards. Parents are encouraged to contact the teacher with any questions regarding grades. An incomplete is allowed only in cases of prolonged illness, emergency, or when prearranged with the teacher. An incomplete on a report card becomes an "F" two weeks from the date it is issued unless prior arrangements have been made with the Superintendent. Report cards are withheld when there are outstanding charges on a student's school account.

### **PERMANENT RECORDS**

Cumulative folders are kept in the school office for each student. They contain information on standardized test scores, health data, activity participation, grades, attendance, and teacher comments. These folders are maintained confidentially. Parents may review their child's folder in the presence of the child's teacher or the Superintendent. Upon written request of parents, other schools may have duplicate information forwarded to them.

### **COMMUNICATION WITH TEACHERS**

Teachers welcome and encourage frequent communication. So as not to conflict with teachers' regularly scheduled duties, appointments should be scheduled. Parents are asked to make arrangements prior to visiting classrooms during school hours. The office delivers lunches, supplies, messages, etc. on behalf of parents. During school hours, voicemail messages may be left with a teacher.

### **PARENT-TEACHER CONFERENCES**

Parent-Teacher conferences are held at the middle of the first and third quarter. The intent is to provide an opportunity to discuss each student's overall progress and to clarify academic requirements.

If a problem or concern arises, parents are urged to follow the problem resolution steps. It is always the desire of staff to work toward solving problems involving students.

### **CARE OF TEXTBOOKS**

Students are responsible to return textbooks in good condition and must pay for damages or loss. At the end of each school year the condition of books and subsequent fees are assessed.

### **PROBLEM RESOLUTION**

As Christians, problem resolution should be handled in a biblical fashion, as noted in the following passage from Matthew 18:15-17.

*"If your brother or sister sins, go and point out their fault, just between the two of you. If they listen to you, you have won them over. But if they will not listen, take one or two others along, so that 'every matter may be established by the testimony of two or three witnesses.' If they still refuse to listen, tell it to the church; and if they refuse to listen even to the church, treat them as you would a pagan or a tax collector."*

The steps to follow in problem resolution are as follows:

1. A conference with the individual involved is the first step if a problem arises. The teacher is usually able to answer questions and resolve most problems.
2. If the individual cannot resolve a particular problem, the next step is to meet with the individual and their direct supervisor.
3. Any issue that is not able to be resolved in step 2 should be addressed with individual involved, their direct supervisor and the Superintendent.
4. In extreme circumstances where parties cannot come to a resolution after meeting with the Superintendent, a request may be made for a Board Hearing.

### **LATE/UNFINISHED HOMEWORK**

Parents of students in grades 7-12 with unfinished homework can expect a phone call and/or email from the teacher informing the parents of the unfinished/late homework. Parents may also set up alerts in JMC to receive a notification if a student is missing an assignment. It can also be expected that there may be possible grading implications due to unfinished/late homework.

### **RETENTION DUE TO COURSE WORK FAILURE – ALL GRADES**

SCS operates with a well-structured curriculum, building increased proficiency in students as they pass through each grade level. Students who fail to achieve minimal proficiency standards may be required to repeat coursework or an entire grade level, at the discretion of administration. Should a student be absent from school for more than forty-five days (45), an automatic retention shall take place. Further, if a student has accumulated more than twenty unexcused days of absence, SCS reserves the right to retain the student at the same grade level. In high school, ten or more unexcused absences per semester in any course may result in loss of credit and a requirement that the course be repeated.

## **STUDY HALL**

To provide the proper atmosphere for learning, the rules are as follows:

1. Students must be in assigned seats and quiet when the bell rings.
2. Talking without permission is not allowed.
3. Students may not leave assigned seats without permission except to approach the teacher's desk or sharpen a pencil.
4. Sleeping is not allowed.
5. Students who misbehave may be removed from study hall and enrolled in an academic course (possibly on-line at an added expense to the parent).

## **ATTENDANCE**

### **School Hours (8:00 a.m. – 3:15 p.m.)**

#### *(Arrival)*

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| ● Arrival  | Students may enter the building after 7:30 a.m.    |
| ● 1 <sup>st</sup> Bell                             | 7:55 a.m.  |
| ● Tardy  | After 8:00 a.m. or the beginning of a class period |
| ● Absent ½ Day                                     | Absent 3 periods                                   |
| ● 1 day absent                                     | Absent 7 periods                                   |
| ● K-5 <sup>th</sup> Dismissal Bell                 | 3:05 p.m.  |
| ● 6 <sup>th</sup> -12 <sup>th</sup> Dismissal Bell | 3:15 p.m.  |

#### *(Departure)*

Students who are absent 3-6 periods will be counted absent for ½ day. Students who are absent for 7 periods will be counted as absent for a full day. If a student is late to class, they will be counted as tardy. Three tardies in a given period, during one quarter term, will result in an unexcused absence. Students must be present for more than half of a period to be counted as present.

### **Retention/Loss of Credit Due to Absence**

If a student has accumulated more than twenty unexcused days of absence, SCS reserves the right to retain the student at the same grade level. For grades 6-12, ten or more unexcused absences per semester in any course may result in loss of credit and a requirement that the course be repeated; every three tardies in any course will count as one unexcused absence.

### **Picking Up Students During School Hours**

Students must be signed out at the school office by a parent or school personnel in order to leave during school hours. Students who are absent 4-6 periods will be counted absent for ½ day.

### **Excused Absences**

Absences are excused for the following reasons:

1. Illness: Parents must contact the school office by 8:30 a.m. each day of illness.
2. Bereavement: Parents are asked to contact the school office as soon as possible.
3. Medical Appointments: Parents are to inform office personnel prior to the appointment. A note from the doctor's office or parent must be submitted to the office upon return. Repeated visits without a doctor's note may be unexcused.
4. Family Trips: Homework assignments must be obtained from teachers in advance of family trips by either the student or parent. All homework should be submitted upon returning to school or extended class will be served daily until all assignments are completed. At least one week prior to leaving, parents must provide the school office with written notification, to include the following:
  - a. Date(s) of absence
  - b. Reason for absence
  - c. Signature

Tests missed during an excused absence must be taken on the day of return, unless due to illness that is of a prolonged nature and/or the teacher believes an exception is warranted.

## **Suspension**

Students who are suspended receive an unexcused absence. Students are required to turn in work that is due during their suspension. These assignments will incur a 25% penalty, (i.e. A score of 100% will be marked as a 75% C). It is the student's responsibility to communicate with the teacher to obtain assignments.

## **TARDINESS**

Being punctual is a very important character quality. Students are to be in their seats and ready to work *before* the tardy bell rings, at 8:00 a.m. For every three unexcused tardies, one unexcused absence will be accumulated, possible grade implications may result, and possible detention if tardiness continues to be a problem. Parents may set up alerts in *JMC* to receive a notification when a student is marked tardy.

## **Procedure When Tardy For Grades K-12**

Students who arrive late for school must first go to the office, *preferably accompanied by a parent*, to obtain an "Admit To Class" form required for class admittance. This form provides written documentation of the reason for being tardy and helps to determine if the tardy is excused or unexcused.

## **Homework When Tardy**

When a student arrives late to school, homework due for any class missed must be turned in that same day. Teachers may require a student to remain after school to finish incomplete homework.

## **SCHOOL PROGRAM ATTENDANCE**

Special programs are scheduled periodically during the school year. All students scheduled to participate are expected to be in attendance. If a student is unable to attend, a parent must inform the teacher **in advance** of the performance date. Absence without prior notification will forfeit any awards given for the program or activity and may reduce a student's letter grade.

## **STUDENT HEALTH**

SCS is required to follow guidelines set forth by the State of Iowa including certain requirements during specific years. Parents must comply with the state rules.

Appropriate forms are provided by the school for each child. They are to be completed by a doctor and returned on the first day of school. Completed forms must be returned on time, otherwise a written explanation for delay must be given. Some children have no requirements for a particular year.

## **Communicable Diseases**

If a student shows signs of a communicable disease, it is recommended that his/her physician be consulted. Iowa law requires children with certain diseases to be excluded from school for a prescribed period of time. Parents are to notify the school if their child has a communicable disease. The diseases to which this policy applies include but are not limited to the following which have been declared by Iowa Public Health to be contagious, infectious, communicable and dangerous to the public: measles, meningitis, meningococemia, chicken pox, HIV infection, encephalitis, viral hepatitis, salmonellosis, shigellosis, tuberculosis, etc.

## **Entrance Requirements**

Students are required to be in good health as certified by their physician prior to admission to school. Appropriate *Certificate of Immunization* forms are provided by SCS for each child.

1. **Diphtheria-Tetanus-Pertussis (DTP or DTaP):** 5 doses required, at least 1 dose on or after age 4 if born on or after September 15, 2003 or 4 doses with 1 dose received on or after age 4 if born after September 15, 2000, but before September 15, 2003 or 3 doses, with 1 dose received on or after age 4 if born on or before September 15, 2000.
2. **Polio-** 4 doses required, at least 1 dose on or after age 4 if born on or after September 15, 2003 or 3 doses, with 1 dose received on or after age 4 if born on or before September 15, 2003
3. **Measles-Rubella:** 2 doses required; the first dose has to be received on or after 12 months of age; the second dose received on or after 28 days from the first.
4. **Hepatitis B:** 3 doses required if born on or after July 1, 1994
5. **Varicella (Chicken Pox):** 2 doses required on or after 12 months of age if born on or after September 15, 2003 or 1 dose received on or after 12 months of age if born on or after September 15, 1997 but before September 15 2003, unless the applicant has a reliable history of natural disease.
6. **Tetanus:** A tetanus vaccine is recommended every 10 years.

If there is uncertainty about a previous vaccination, re-immunization is recommended. If immunization is against religious beliefs, parents/guardians must write their reasons on the reverse side of the *Certificate of Immunization* card provided by the school and include a signature. Failure to provide needed information may delay or prevent your child's enrollment or attendance at SCS.

### **Illness**

**Any student who has a fever, cold, upset stomach, or any undue physical distress must be kept home.** This is for the protection of both the sick child and all others. SCS contacts parents immediately when a child becomes ill at school and is unable to attend class. Parents are expected to make arrangements for care for the child.

### **First Aid**

If an accident or illness occurs, first aid is administered. School personnel are not authorized to give care beyond first aid, which is defined as "immediate, temporary care of accident, or sudden illness." No medications are administered to students without parent approval, verified through the *Authorization/Permission for Administration of Medication* section on JMC.

First aid supplies are available at the office for minor injuries (bumps, scrapes, etc.). Parents are notified of any injury of a questionable-to-serious nature. If a parent or someone else named on the student's emergency card cannot be reached, the student's physician is contacted and his/her instructions followed. If it is not possible to contact the physician, a faculty/staff member of the school makes whatever arrangements deemed necessary. In the event of a serious injury or illness that is deemed possible life threatening, 911 is called for treatment and/or transport to a hospital. Parents are notified as soon as possible.

### **Prescription Medication**

If a doctor prescribes medication to be given during the day, complete written instructions must be given to the school office along with the medication. A written order from a physician must be on file including student's name, medication name, diagnosis and reason for medication, time of administration, dosage and route of administration, possible side effects and precautions, and termination date for administration. All medications are to be properly labeled, including the student's name and address, and left in the school office. Students must report to the office at the prescribed times to take medication. Medication must be in pre-measured, single-dose quantities.

Under no circumstance is a student permitted to give any medication to another student. School personnel are not authorized to give prescription or non-prescription medication to any student, except in accordance with a parent's specific written or verbal instructions and the parent must supply the medication. Students are not allowed to have aspirins, cold pills, etc. in their possession during school.

### **LUNCH PROGRAM**

Hot lunches and milk or juice are available at SCS for all grades. Lunch accounts are set up under the JMC program where parents may put any amount into the account. The cost of milk, juice, or lunch will be deducted from the account each day a student orders. Students may opt to bring a sack lunch and purchase only milk or juice. All lunches, milk or juice taken from the lunchroom are on a cash basis only. Failure to pay for lunch will result in the student not being allowed to take a lunch. Students and parents will be informed when the lunch account has less than \$5.00.

Parents are welcome to eat lunch with their student(s) at the cost of a high school price. Adult lunches must be ordered before 9:00 a.m. by calling the school office. Menus are sent home monthly.

Students are not allowed to leave the school grounds for lunch without adult supervision and parental permission. Parental permission needs to be obtained ahead of time if a student plans to leave school with an adult other than a parent. Any student leaving the school for lunch must return on time for afternoon classes.

During lunch students are to:

1. Follow directions the first time given.
2. Talk in a normal tone.
3. Keep hands, feet, and all objects to themselves.
4. Clean their place at the table before leaving the lunchroom.



### **PLAYGROUND/OUTDOOR RULES**

1. While on the playground students are to obey all teachers and supervisors.
2. Throwing of any objects such as rocks, sticks, snowballs, or ice balls is prohibited.
3. In games, students must try to include all who want to play and allow everyone a fair turn.
4. Any student with a problem on the playground should talk to the teacher/supervisor on duty.
5. Students are not to play in or around parked cars.
6. Special permission must be sought from the teacher/supervisor before recovering a ball that has gone out of the play area.
7. Games involving tackle football, rough shoving, pushing, or pulling are not permitted.
8. Climbing on electrical boxes, equipment, dumpsters, fences, cars, trees, or the school building is prohibited.

### **AFTER-SCHOOL SUPERVISION**

Students who wait for rides after school may not leave the school grounds for any reason until picked up by a parent/guardian or carpool driver, unless the classroom teacher or office has received parental consent.

Due to liability, students are not allowed to be in the school or on school grounds after 3:25 p.m. unless attending an after school event under direct supervision of a designated agent of the school. After 3:25 p.m. SCS is not responsible for the safety of children for whom no prior arrangements for supervised care have been made. After-school care for Kindergarten through 6<sup>th</sup> grade students is available for a fee. Contact the school office for information on this service. Any student in Kindergarten through 6<sup>th</sup> Grade that is still on campus at 3:25 will be placed in after school care and the parent will be charged the appropriate fee. There is no supervision after school for grades 7-12 necessitating that students leave campus immediately unless involved in sports or a school event. Parents will be assessed \$20 right away and an additional \$20 for each hour thereafter that a student remains on campus.

### **AUTOMOBILE/STUDENT DRIVING PRIVILEGES**

It is a privilege to be able to drive a car to school. Students must abide by the following guidelines in order to retain this privilege:

1. All student-driven cars need to be registered in the school office.
2. Cars must remain parked in designated areas until students are dismissed for the day.
3. While on school property, students must not sit in parked cars before, during, or after the school day.
4. Playing loud music in vehicles while on school property is not permitted.
5. Only the student whose name the car is registered under in the school office may drive the car.
6. School driving privileges are dependent on the demonstration of safe practices. Driving recklessly, speeding, or not heeding warnings will lead to suspension of school driving privileges, in addition to other possible consequences.
7. Students may not transport other students to or from school without written permission on file in the school office, from a parent of both the driver and the passenger(s).
8. Students may not transport other students to any school sponsored activity (for example, field trips, outings, etc.)

### **CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT**

Iowa statutes define abuse and neglect, and statutory duties for mandatory reporters, including school personnel.

School employees who have reasonable cause to believe a child has been subjected to abuse or neglect have a statutory duty to report it. The name of any person reporting suspected child abuse or neglect remains confidential. Abuse or neglect means knowingly, intentionally, or negligently causing or permitting a minor child to be:

1. Placed in a situation that endangers his/her life or physical or mental health.
2. Cruelly confined or cruelly punished.
3. Deprived of necessary food, clothing, shelter, or care.
4. Left unattended in a motor vehicle, if such minor child is six years of age or younger.
5. Sexually abused.
6. Sexually exploited by allowing, encouraging, or forcing such person to solicit for or engage in prostitution, debauchery, public indecency, or obscene pornographic photography, films, or depictions.

### **NON-CUSTODIAL PARENTS**

The following guidelines have been adopted to assist the school in situations where a non-custodial parent wishes to become involved in school-related activities of a child, or wishes to have contact with or take custody of the child while the child is at school.

1. Ordinarily, the school will not resist or interfere with a non-custodial parent's involvement in school-related affairs, or access to the child's records, unless the school is presented with a court order, or comparable legal document, which restricts such involvement or access. The school will not otherwise "choose sides" between parents.
2. A non-custodial parent may not take custody of a child or remove the child from school premises, unless the non-custodial parent presents either a written court order, or a written authorization signed by the custodial parent, which permits such custody.
3. If the actions of parent(s), custodial or non-custodial, become disruptive to the operations of the school, the school has the right to restrict access by such parent(s) and to take other reasonable necessary action.
4. Concerning student activities which require parental consent, the school will accept consent only from the custodial parent, unless authority to grant consent is given to the non-custodial parent by a court order or comparable legal document, or the custodial parent gives written permission for such and presents such permission in person to school administration.

These guidelines will be applied so as to further the mission of the school and the best interests of its students.

### **INCLEMENT WEATHER**

SCS uses *JMC* Messaging for inclement weather announcements including school closing, early out, or late start. *JMC* contact information, including phone numbers and email addresses should be verified/updated at the beginning of the school year and updated as needed. Radio stations (103.3 FM, 91.3 FM, 1360 AM) and TV stations (NBC, ABC, CBS and KPTH) are all alerted to any change in the SCS class schedule due to inclement weather. "Snow days" are built into the SCS yearly calendar and will be used if school is closed due to weather or an unexpected emergency.

### **NEWS AND NOTES**

Weekly communication, *Eagle Pride*, is sent via e-mail to each SCS household, with a hard copy available in the office upon request. *Eagle Pride* can also be accessed/viewed on the SCS web site [siouxlandchristian.org](http://siouxlandchristian.org). This is the main avenue of communication between SCS and parents.

### **PARTY INVITATIONS IN ELEMENTARY GRADES**

When planning private parties, student and parents are to be courteous and sensitive toward all others. In an attempt to avoid hurt feelings, unless inviting all classmates, party invitations are not to be handed out at school. Inviting all classmates is encouraged.

### **SCHOOL BOARD MEETINGS**

The School Board meets a minimum of one time per month. Parents are welcome to observe monthly board meetings. Items of specific interest to parents may be placed on the agenda by obtaining approval at least one week in advance of a regularly scheduled meeting. Forms to obtain prior approval are available in the office. Approved board meeting highlights are regularly posted on the SCS website.

### **TEACHER APPRECIATION WEEK**

SCS sets aside a special week during which appreciation is shown to our teachers. Gratitude for their service is demonstrated in a variety of ways such as cleaning classrooms, and providing special treats and favors from students and parents.

### **PARENTS IN PRAYER**

Parents-in-Prayer is an important prayer ministry of our school. SCS parents meet weekly to pray for students, faculty, staff, and administration. Information on meeting times and how to become involved is available at the school office.

### **EQUAL OPPORTUNITY**

Siouxland Christian School provides equal opportunity (i.e. access) in its admission policy, education policy, scholarship and loan programs, athletic programs, and other school administered programs regardless of race, color, national and ethnic origin, gender or disability.

As a non-public school of a bona fide religious nature, SCS does require agreement with its *Tenets of Faith* and acceptance of its philosophy of Christian education as a prerequisite to admission.

Students who believe that their rights to equal opportunity in education have been withheld due to any of the above reasons may file a student grievance form with school administration. If after meeting with school administration the issue is not considered resolved, a hearing with the school board may be requested. A decision by the board is final.



-(Reference: Board Policy 320.10)

### **HUMAN DIGNITY – NON-BULLYING / NON-HARASSMENT POLICY**

The Board of Siouxland Christian School intends to provide its employees, students, and volunteers with an environment that is safe, civil, free of offensive behaviors, and treats people with dignity and respect. Conduct, whether intentional or unintentional, that subjects another person to unwanted attention, comments or actions is contrary to our beliefs that we are all created in the image of God and is against policy. Specifically, the board prohibits harassment, bullying, hazing, or any other victimization of students as well as harassment of employees based on any of the following actual or perceived traits or characteristics: age, color, creed, national origin, race, marital status, gender, physical attributes, physical or mental ability or disability, ancestry, political party preference, political belief, socioeconomic status, or family status.

SCS does not condone or allow harassment or bullying of others, whether by employees to other employees, supervisors to employees, staff to students, student to staff, or by students to other students. All students and employees are expected to conduct themselves at activities provided by the school with respect for the dignity of others. This includes in school, on the school grounds, at any school function, at any school sponsored activity regardless of location.

When looking at the totality of the circumstances, harassment and bullying means any electronic, written, verbal, or physical act or conduct toward a student which is based on any actual or perceived trait or characteristic of the student and which creates an objectively hostile school environment that meets one of more of the following conditions:

- Places the student in reasonable fear of harm to the student's person or property
- Has a substantially detrimental effect on the student's physical or mental health
- Has the effect of substantially interfering with the student's academic performance
- Has the effect of substantially interfering with the student's ability to participate in or benefit from the services.

Harassment and bullying may include, but are not limited to, the following behaviors and circumstances:

1. Verbal, nonverbal, physical, or written harassment
2. Repeated remarks of a demeaning nature
3. Implied or explicit threats concerning one's grades, achievements, property, etc.
4. Demeaning jokes, stories, or activities directed at the student
5. Unreasonable interference with a student's performance

Sexual harassment, one of the forms of harassment prohibited by this policy, is defined as follows:

1. Unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors, verbal or physical conduct of a sexual nature, or otherwise creating an intimidating, uncomfortable, bothersome, hostile, or offensive working or learning environment and / or
2. Making submission to, or rejection of, such conduct the basis for employment or educational decisions affecting any person.
3. The conduct has the purpose or effect of substantially interfering with the student's academic performance by creating an intimidating, hostile, or offensive education environment.

In situations between students and school officials, faculty, staff, or volunteers who have direct contact with students, bullying and harassment may also include the following behaviors:

- Requiring that a student submit to bullying and harassment by another student, either explicitly or implicitly, as a term or condition of the targeted student's education or participation in school programs or activities
- Requiring submission to or rejection of such conduct as a basis for decisions affecting the student

Individuals who feel they have been harassed should:

- Communicate to the harasser that he/she expects the behavior to stop, if the individual is comfortable doing so. If the individual wants assistance communicating with the harasser, the individual should ask a teacher or administrator to help.
- If the harassment does not stop, or the individual does not feel comfortable confronting the harasser, the individual should report to a teacher, counselor, administrator, or school board member as well as discussing the harassment with the student's parent or guardian. Employees may report to the administrator or a school board member. In addition, the person being harassed should write down exactly what happened and provide a copy to a teacher or administrator. The description should include what, when, and where it happened, who

was involved, exactly what was said or done, any witnesses to the harassment, what the student (or employee) said or did, either at that time or later, how the student felt, and how the harasser responded.

Each report will be given serious consideration and investigated thoroughly. All reports of harassment will be investigated immediately by school authorities. The investigator will interview the complainant and the alleged harasser. The alleged harasser may file a written statement in response to the complaint. The interviewer will also interview witnesses, where deemed appropriate. Subsequent investigations will be handled discreetly to avoid embarrassment of the person making the report. Criminal charges will be handled by civil authorities.

Any person who is determined to have violated this policy will be subject to corrective action and discipline, including the possibility of termination (for employees), expulsion (for students), or criminal charges if they are filed.

It is against policy to retaliate against any person filing a harassment claim. It is also against policy to knowingly file a false harassment claim or give false statements regarding harassment. Those in violation will be subject to corrective action and discipline, including the possibility of termination (for employees), expulsion (for students), or criminal charges if they are filed.

### **COMPUTER AND INTERNET POLICY**

Computers are to be used only for assigned school purposes under the supervision of school personnel. SCS is committed to providing students and staff with a safe, orderly, and productive working environment. Students must adhere to the following:

1. Prior to computer usage, all students and parents and/or guardians must read the SCS computer and Internet policy and submit a signed *Computer and Internet Permission Form* to the school office, as well as the Chromebook Loaner Policy form(s).
2. Students who violate network policy or who otherwise misuse a computer shall, at the discretion of the Superintendent, lose access privileges and may be subject to additional disciplinary and/or legal action.
3. All e-mail messages, data files, cell phone messages, electronic data, or other information originating from, received by, or stored on SCS computers are subject to search, just as lockers are subject to search. Laptops, personal computers, hand-held devices, and cellular phones are subject to the same. Administration may view any communication or data file on SCS premises at any time.
4. School personnel, or an adult designated by school personnel, must be physically present and monitor all student activity whenever students are accessing the internet.
5. Students must get permission from school personnel before downloading or permanently storing any material from the internet on the SCS network.
6. User ID's and passwords are keys to accessing data at SCS. Accordingly, with the exception of authorized school employees, it is against school policy for anyone to disclose any user ID or password, including their own. Students who believe that someone else may have learned their user ID or password are expected to inform a teacher and have their user ID and/or password changed.
7. Students are not to give out personal information online, such as name, age, phone number, address, etc.
8. The Superintendent is in charge of deciding when and how the SCS name and logo are used. Therefore, nothing should be posted to the internet or sent via electronic communication in the name of SCS without the Superintendent's written permission.
9. It is against SCS policy, and may also be in violation of civil or criminal law to transmit threatening, intimidating, or discriminatory communication. Communication that provides private facts about another person without that person's permission, as well as communication intended to harass, intimidate, or annoy another person is also prohibited. SCS has the right to review all materials sent or received at SCS and does so periodically. If a student receives threatening information, he/she is to save the data and report it immediately to a staff member.
10. It is a violation of SCS policy to utilize computer facilities and/or network to access any of the following:
  - a. Chat rooms
  - b. Personal e-mail (unless given permission by a teacher)
  - c. Any site/service that provides unpaid usage of copyrighted material (i.e. music, videos, or software)
  - d. Any site displaying sexually explicit or pornographic content of any kind
  - e. Any site promoting violence, the use of drugs or alcohol, or any other illegal activity
  - f. On-line games, except assigned, educational games
  - g. Sites promoting multi-level marketing, home-based business, or any other money making scheme
  - h. Spam of any kind, chain letters, or other similar communications
11. Students will be responsible to pay for repairs/replacement of any laptop, Chromebook, Smartboard device or clicker, etc. damaged by blatant misuse.

\*Please see the Chromebook Policy, Procedures, and Information packet for a complete listing of rules and policy.

## **STUDENT CODE OF CONDUCT**

Students are expected to know and obey the SCS Code of Conduct. Rules and procedures are important for smooth operations, and for fostering an atmosphere conducive to learning opportunities presented during school time and at school functions. Moreover, SCS students represent Christ to the community, and their behavior should be exemplary, **both in and out of school**.

### **G.I.V.E. Respect School Code of Conduct**

Jesus replied: “Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.’ This is the first and greatest commandment. And the second is like it: ‘Love your neighbor as yourself.’ Matthew 22:37-39

**Glorify** God by loving Him and loving others  
**Invest** in making our school a positive place  
**Value** others above yourself  
**Extend** Grace

GLORIFY - As followers of Christ our first priority is to bring glory to God through our lives and the second priority is to love people, this is the 'G' of G.I.V.E and our highest priority.

INVEST - We all need to invest in our school to make it a place that promotes learning, is safe, that models respect and is a fun place to learn and grow.

VALUE - God calls us as His follower to put others first. The Gospel message is seen clearly when we show a world the importance of people and live a life of sacrifice as Christ made the ultimate sacrifice for us.

EXTEND- We all need grace in our lives. Our school needs to be a place where the grace of Christ is lived out. We all make mistakes, we need to admit those mistakes and then we need to extend grace and receive grace in our lives.

**RESPECT FOR SELF, RESPECT FOR OTHERS, AND RESPECT FOR THE PROPERTY OF OTHERS ARE KEY** to accomplishing the mission of Siouxland Christian School. Students are expected to exhibit high standards of morality and be respectful at all times, remembering the Word of God which says, “Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you” (Eph. 4:32). Courtesy, respect, honesty, and gracious behavior not only apply to treatment of school personnel and guests visiting SCS, but also to fellow students. Students are expected to respectfully follow directives of any and all school personnel the first time given. When addressing authority always using their proper title.

**As such, SCS does not condone or allow harassment or bullying of others. Harassment and bullying may include, but are not limited to, the following behaviors and circumstances:**

1. Verbal, nonverbal, physical, or written harassment
2. Repeated remarks of a demeaning nature
3. Implied or explicit threats concerning another student’s grades, achievements, property, etc.
4. Demeaning jokes, stories, or activities directed at another student
5. Unreasonable interference with another student’s performance
6. Unwelcome sexual advances
7. Creating an intimidating, uncomfortable, bothersome, hostile, or offensive learning environment.

**Alcohol/Drugs** – The possession, use, or distribution of alcohol, tobacco, or illegal drugs are absolutely prohibited, **in and out of school**.

**Cheating/Plagiarism** – Cheating on assignments or tests, or helping another student to cheat in any way is not tolerated. Passing off another’s ideas as one’s own is considered a serious form of cheating at SCS and no credit will be given for that assignment. The assignments or tests will receive a grade of “0”.

**Disruptive Behavior** – Writing and passing notes is not allowed. Students are to refrain from horseplay and speaking loudly in hallways, restrooms, and the chapel area. Even in jest, hands and feet are to be kept off others. No one is allowed to run in the school building, except as directed by staff. Profanity, offensive language, and vulgarity in speech and action are not permitted.

**Electronic Devices/Cell Phones** – All cell phones and all electronic devices will be turned off and left in lockers from the beginning of the school day (first bell) to the end of the school day (dismissal) unless used as part of instruction/classroom work under the direct supervision of the instructor.

**Hallway Passes** – Students in grades K-6 are required to carry a valid pass whenever in hallways while classes are in session. No hall passes are given to students in grades 7-12. Sick students are to be sent immediately to the office.

**Lockers** – SCS is co-tenant with students where lockers are concerned. As co-tenant, the school reserves the right to search lockers without notice. Students are not allowed to open/enter the locker of another. Personal padlocks are not allowed; however, SCS will provide locks for each student's locker. SCS is not responsible for any loss due to theft. No open containers of food or drink may be kept inside lockers nor consumed in the hallways. Hanging vulgar or suggestive materials inside lockers is not tolerated. The Superintendent's approval is required for all signs and banners placed on the outside of lockers.

**Relationships** – Associations among students of the opposite sex must be of a wholesome, Christ-centered nature. Casual, God-directed interest in someone of the opposite sex that does not detract from school objectives is acceptable. Open displays of inappropriate affection with any student are prohibited.

**Respect for Property** – Everyone is expected to keep hallways, restrooms, locker rooms, classrooms, and school grounds neat and orderly. Gum chewing is not allowed on school premises. Sitting on desk tops, tables, or bookshelves is not allowed. When seated, feet as well as chair legs are to be kept on the floor. Purposely damaging school property or equipment is not tolerated, and all costs for repairs and/or replacement for damages are charged to the student who is responsible and his/her parents.

**Theft** – Stealing/theft is considered a grave form of dishonesty and lack of respect for others. Students are held financially responsible for any loss due to theft, in addition to other disciplinary action.

**Weapons** – Weapons on school property and all school-related events are prohibited. All devices that are designed or intended to incapacitate, threaten, or inflict bodily injury are prohibited at SCS.

### **DISCIPLINARY CODE**

Teachers, supported by administration, are responsible for handling the majority of behavioral problems within the classroom. As a disciplinary tool, they may require students to spend time in their room before or after school, complete special jobs or assignments, remain in class during lunch break, and/or establish a range of other consequences aimed at shaping positive behavior. Formal detention may also be assigned by teachers (see Discipline Guidelines).

The Superintendent, with the full support of the School Board, holds the authority for discipline on behalf of all SCS students. Disciplinary decisions are made in accordance with biblical principles and dependence on the Holy Spirit's guidance. The main goal in discipline is to instill positive behavior that will increase the likelihood of success for all students. SCS strives to be firm, fair, and consistent in meeting the needs of each student. All students are clearly and repeatedly taught the rules, and therefore have the opportunity to avoid disciplinary consequences by simply adhering to what is expected.

Student self-reporting may be taken into consideration by the Superintendent in determining disciplinary action, particularly when a student self-reports at a time when it is unlikely that his/her misbehavior will be reported by another party.

When necessary, a disciplinary council may be convened by the Superintendent to assist in examining unacceptable student behavior and determine appropriate consequences, especially when the potential for expulsion is apparent. The disciplinary council consists of administrators, teachers, staff members or board members directly involved.

In establishing the SCS Code of Conduct it is impossible to list every unacceptable behavior. **Therefore, students must be aware that teachers and/or administrators determine the appropriate level of discipline for any misbehavior not listed herein.** The seriousness of the offense and what is believed to be in the best interest of each student are key determinants.



# Siouxland Christian School

## General Discipline Guidelines (Grades 7-12)

**\*\*Please be advised that infractions occurring at athletic contests and other school related activities (even off campus) are subject to the consequences below. This includes electronic communication/insubordinate behavior deemed detrimental to SCS. Depending on past behavior and the severity of the infraction, steps may be skipped. The most severe consequence (expulsion) may be recommended for the first offense. Parents will be notified of each occurrence.**

<u>TYPE OF INFRACTION</u>	<u>CONSEQUENCES</u>				
	<b>First Offense</b>	<b>Second Offense</b>	<b>Third Offense</b>	<b>Fourth Offense</b>	<b>Fifth Offense</b>
<b>Alcohol/Drugs (Possession, Use, Sale)</b>	10 Day Suspension/ Recommend Expulsion/ Law Enforcement Notified Zero Tolerance For Drugs/ Alcohol on Campus				
<b>Assault -board, staff, volunteer, coach, etc. (intentional and/or unintentional) -student not in self defense</b>	10 Day Suspension/ Recommend Expulsion/ Law Enforcement Notified				
<b>Bomb Threat</b>	10 Day Suspension/ Recommend Expulsion/ Law Enforcement Notified				
<b>Bullying/Threat/ Intimidation/Harassment/ Sexual Harassment</b>	3-5 Day Suspension	5 Day Suspension/ Parent Conference/ Possible Expulsion	10 Day Suspension/ Recommendation for Expulsion		
<b>Bus/Transportation Misconduct</b>	Warning – Admin/Teacher Consequences Suspension Depending on severity	1-5 Day Suspension/ Parent required to attend next trip	3-5 Day Suspension/ Parent pick-up/ No more Transportation		
<b>Cheating/Plagiarism (receiving/giving/using unauthorized info/material)</b>	Warning and redo assignment	Zero on Assignment	Zero on Assignment/ Parent Conference/ up to 3 Day Suspension	Zero on Assignment/ up to 5 Day Suspension/ Possible Expulsion	
<b>Defacing/Damaging School and/or Church Property (lockers, desks Athletic equipment, etc.)</b>	Warning – Admin/Teacher Consequences Possible Suspension Financial Responsibility Parent Contact	Clean/Repair/ Financial Responsibility/ Possible Suspension/ Parent Conference	Parent Conference/ Up to 5 Day Suspension/ Clean/Repair Financial Responsibility	Same as 3 <sup>rd</sup> Offense and Possible Expulsion	
<b>Defiance of School Authority (insubordinate/failure to comply/disrespectful to staff/board/etc.)</b>	Warning – Admin/Teacher Consequences/ Possible Suspension/Parent Notified	Admin/Teacher Consequences/ Up to 3 Day Suspension/ Parent Conference	Up to 5 Day Suspension/ Parent Conference	Up to 5 Day Suspension/ Possible Expulsion Recommend ation	
<b>Disruptive Behavior Classroom (talking, gum, out of seat, sleeping, not doing work, etc.)</b>	Warning/Teacher Consequences	Teacher Conference/ Parent Contact	1 Day Suspension	Up to 3 Day Suspension/ Parent Conference	Up to 5 Day Suspension/ Possible Recommendation for Expulsion

<b>Disruptive Behavior Halls (horseplay, loud, etc.)</b>	Warning/Teacher/ Admin Consequences	Teacher Conference/ Parent Contact	1 Day Suspension	Up to 3 Day Suspension/ Parent Conference	Up to 5 Day Suspension/ Possible Recommendation for Expulsion
<b>Dress Code (Inappropriate Dress)</b>	Change Clothes or Parent Pick-Up	Teacher Conference/ Parent Contact	1 Day Suspension/ Parent Notified	Up to 3 Day Suspension/ Parent Conference	Up to 5 Day Suspension/ Possible Expulsion Recommendation
<b>Electronic Devices/Cell Phones</b> **Be advised that staff/board may read devices. Refusal to cooperate will be considered defiance and/or possible guilt in a given situation.	Item Confiscated/Student Pick-Up at End of School Day/Parent Notified	Item Confiscated/ Fine of \$5/Student Pick-Up End of Day Paid	Same as 2nd/ \$10 Fine	Same as 3rd/ \$20 Fine/ Up to 3 Day Suspension	Same As 4th/ Up to 5 Day Suspension/ Possible Expulsion Recommendation
<b>Fighting/Mutual Combat</b> -Mutual if not walk away/help	Up to 5 Day Suspension/Parent Conference	Up to 5 Day Suspension/ Possible Expulsion	Recommend Expulsion		
<b>Forgery</b>	Admin/Teacher Consequences/ Parent Contact	Up to 3 Day Suspension/Parent Conference	Up to 5 Day Suspension/Parent Conference	Expulsion Recommendation	
<b>Gambling</b>	Admin/Teacher Consequences/ Parent Contact	Up to 3 Day Suspension/Parent Conference	Up to 5 Day Suspension/Parent Conference	Expulsion Recommendation	
<b>Inappropriate Displays Affection</b>	Depending on Severity: Admin/Teacher Consequences/ Parent Contact/ Up to 5 Day Suspension	Depending on Severity: Admin/Teacher Consequences/ Parent Contact/ Up to 5 Day Suspension	Up to 5 Day Suspension/ Possible Expulsion Recommendation		
<b>Leaving Campus W/O Permission Cutting Class</b>	Admin/Teacher Consequences/ Parent Contact	1 Day Suspension/Parent Conference	Up to 3 Day Suspension/Parent Conference	Up to 5 Day Suspension/ Parent Conference/ Possible Expulsion	
<b>Littering/Failing to Clean-Up</b>	Warning/Clean-Up	After School Cleaning Detail	Possible Suspension/Parent Conference	Progressive Suspension for 4th and future offenses	
<b>Possession of Stolen Property (and/or stealing)</b>	Depending on Severity: Up to 3 Day Suspension/Parent Conference/May Notify Law Enforcement/Restitution	Up to 5 Day Suspension/Notify Law Enforcement/ Restitution/ Possible Expulsion			
<b>Possession of Tobacco</b>	Confiscated/Not Returned/Parent Conference	Confiscated/Not Returned/ 1 Day Suspension/Parent Conference	Up to 3 Day Suspension/Parent Conference	Up to 5 Day Suspension/ Possible Expulsion Recommendation	
<b>Profanity/Foul Language</b>	Depending on severity: Teacher/Admin Consequence/ Parent Contact/ Possible Suspension up to 3 days	Depending on severity: Teacher/Admin Consequence/ Parent Contact/ Possible Suspension up to 5 days	Depending on severity: Teacher/Admin Consequence/ Parent Contact/ Possible Suspension up to 5 days		

<b>Tardies</b>	Teacher Consequence (may impact grade) 3 Tardies = 1 Absence 10 Absences May Result in No Course Credit				
<b>Technology Use Violation</b>	Removed from Computer/Depending on severity Parent Contact/ Possible Suspension	Removed from Computer/Depending on severity Parent Contact/ Possible Suspension/ Possible loss of privilege			
<b>Weapons (Possession) (Gun/Knife/Chemical/Etc.)</b>	Zero Tolerance. 10 Day Suspension/Recommendation for Expulsion/ Law Enforcement Notified **Look-alikes treated as a weapon (i.e. gun)				
<b>Insubordination</b>	Students/Families attend SCS voluntarily. As such, Verbal/Written/Electronic communication that is unbiblical/divisive/disruptive to the functioning of SCS as an education/para-church ministry whose mission is to “assist parents in raising godly children by providing academic excellence in a Christ-honoring environment” will not be tolerated. Students/families exhibiting such behavior may be immediately prohibited from attending SCS. A formal meeting with the board and superintendent, and restoration/restitution will be required should a family have a change of heart and desire to seek to be re-admitted/continue with SCS.				
<b>Criminal Activity</b>	The state of Iowa poses consequences for any student/athlete involved in criminal activity (inside and outside of school). Siouxland Christian School may also impose sanctions up to and including expulsion/dismissal from SCS.				

### Suspension

Students who are suspended receive an unexcused absence. Students are required to turn in work that is due during their suspension. These assignments will incur a 25% penalty, (i.e. A score of 100% will be marked as a 75% C). It is the student’s responsibility to communicate with the teacher to obtain assignments.

### Weapons Policy

Students bringing a dangerous weapon to school or knowingly possessing a dangerous weapon shall be expelled for not less than twelve months. A "dangerous weapon" is any instrument or device designed primarily for use in inflicting death or injury upon a human being or animal, and which is capable of inflicting death upon a human being when used in the manner for which it was designed. Any student who is subject to disciplinary action relating to any dangerous weapon infraction will be referred to the authorities.

## **DRESS CODE FOR GRADES K-12**

*“If then you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth. For you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God.” Colossians 3:1-3*

As we all know the culture around us is one that is stepping further away from Christ-like character and conduct. The pressures of the world can push hard for us to conform, and it is easy for us to settle on the things of this earth. At Siouxland Christian School our desire for our staff and students is for their appearance to display modesty, professionalism, and respect for themselves and others. In this, we should be careful not to be captured by this world, but strive to set our minds on things above and to live in a way that honors God. The following dress code rules and guidelines were established to foster an environment of learning and respect, in alignment with Biblical principles, so that we honor Christ at SCS. As staff at SCS partner with you, the families, we greatly value and appreciate your assistance in checking your children’s attire before they leave for school or any school sponsored event. We have no desire to be “clothes police”. It is a very difficult situation when students or staff are distracted from the educational process due to someone failing in his or her commitment to follow the dress code. It is also important that parents, family members, and guests follow the dress code when they are spending time on the SCS campus. Thank you for allowing us to partner with you in raising godly children by providing academic excellence in a Christ-honoring environment.

### **General Guidelines for Everyone**

#### **CLOTHING**

- Hoods, winter coats, or accessories (hats, scarves, gloves) may not be worn unless permission is granted by a staff member
- *All clothing* may not have inappropriate or suggestive designs, phrases, or symbols
- *All clothing* may not have tears or holes or be excessively tight
- Pajama pants or pants of similar style may not be worn
- When wearing school gear, only SCS or associated athletic teams should be worn. Gear from other middle schools, high schools, etc. is not to be worn. College and professional apparel are fully approved.

#### **SHOES**

- Shoes that make black marks are not permitted
- Athletic shoes must be worn during P.E. classes

#### **MISCELLANEOUS**

- Hats, sunglasses, earbuds, or headphones may not be worn during the school day unless permission is granted by a staff member
- Extreme hairstyles are not permitted
- Ears may be pierced, with the exception of gauges, but no other visible body piercing is allowed
- Additional dress code guidelines may need to be issued for specific school events

### **Girls**

#### **SHIRTS/BLOUSES**

- Tops may not show cleavage or midriff *at any time*, or be open below the shoulder blades
- Tops with less than 1 ½” wide shoulder straps (approx. 2 adult finger-widths) must be worn under a shirt or sweater
- No strapless or racerbacks may be worn; Sheer tops may only be worn with a tank top underneath
- Bras *of any type*, including straps, should not be visible

#### **PANTS and SHORTS**

- All shorts, including athletic shorts, must be at least a hands-width below the bottom of the buttocks (for secondary that equals approx. 3-4 in. inseam)
- Leggings, yoga pants, or jeggings may only be worn with a shirt that is *at least* a hands-width below the buttocks and all the way around; no mesh or cut-out style leggings are permitted
- No words on the buttocks of pants or shorts are permitted
- Spandex Shorts are not allowed to be worn, unless they are under a dress and/or skirt

#### **SKIRTS and DRESSES**

- All skirts, dresses, and dress slits must not exceed about a hands-width above the top of the knee (for secondary that equals approx. 3 inches).

- Skirts and dresses should be modest, even while student is seated, and fit loosely (not tuck under the buttocks)
- Dresses must follow the guidelines listed above for tops
- Shorts/spandex under skirts and dresses are REQUIRED

## Boys

### SHIRTS

- Sleeveless shirts are not permitted

### PANTS/SHORTS

- Shorts should not exceed approx. 3 inches above the top of the knee
- Jeans should sit on the hips

### GENERAL

- Make-up is not permitted on boys
- Facial hair is permitted, but must be well-groomed and maintained

## HOMECOMING/PROM Dress Code

### LADIES

- Thin-strapped or strapless dresses are permitted; however, no low-cut dresses front or back (no cleavage and the back of the dress must not be lower than the bottom of the shoulder blades, including cut-outs or mesh.)
- Shorter dresses and dress slits must be below mid-thigh (approx. 4 inches from the top of the knee)
- Dresses may not be excessively tight or tuck under the buttocks, forming to the butt.
- No midriff may show *at any time*

### GENTLEMEN

- Clothing should be neat in appearance and in good taste
- Slacks (dress or khaki)
- Button-up shirt and tie
- Jacket or vest suggested, but not required
- Dress shoes with socks (no tennis shoes, flip-flops or sandals)

***Please note: invited guests from outside the school are required to follow the Homecoming/Prom Dress Code***

## DRESS CODE VIOLATION CONSEQUENCES

### ELEMENTARY

- Parents will be notified via phone call or email if a dress code violation has occurred. Parents may be required to bring a change of clothing if this is deemed necessary. Continued violations of the dress code may warrant a parent conference.

### SECONDARY

- Please see the General Discipline Guidelines (Grades 6-12)

## **ATHLETICS/EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES**

Members of extracurricular squads must remember that being a leader demands sacrifice, much devoted effort, and Christian conduct above reproach. Parents and participants must be willing to spend extra time and effort if the extracurricular program is to be a success. Outstanding sportsmanship is expected from all those participating and all spectators who are representing SCS.

Students must be enrolled in at least four core classes in order to seek athletic eligibility at SCS. College courses for which students are earning concurrent credit will count towards eligibility. All students are academically eligible upon entering the 9<sup>th</sup> grade (8<sup>th</sup> grade courses not factored for initial eligibility).

Students with primary enrollment (on track to graduate) at an educational institution other than SCS are ineligible to participate in extracurricular programs at SCS.

Tuition must be current (if not paid in full by August 1) and all fees paid in order for students to participate in athletics, band, winter formal, homecoming, prom, final exams, etc. Unpaid fees to include mission trips and other events will result in the student being ineligible for participation until such financial obligations are met.

### **Elementary Sports/Fine Arts**

A wide variety of organized sport and fine art opportunities are available in the Siouxland area. As flyers and other information regarding these activities are received in the school office they are distributed to students.

### **Junior and Senior High Extracurricular Activity and Sports may include:**

Band (B/G)	Cross Country (B/G)	Theatre (B/G)
Basketball (B/G)	Football (B)	Track (B/G)
Cheerleading (G)	Golf (B)	Volleyball (G)
Choir (B/G)	Soccer (B/G)	

### **Checkpoints For Grades After A Sport/Extracurricular Activity Has Begun**

In accordance with the State of Iowa, students must “pass all” courses (no F’s) in order to be eligible for athletic competition. Students with a “D” grade in any course will have their athletic participation reviewed by administration and coaches, possibly impacting playing time. Grades are calculated at the semester (the point in time when students received high school credit on their transcripts). First semester grades will determine eligibility for the second semester. Second semester grades will determine eligibility for the first semester of the following year. Summer school grades cannot be calculated to earn eligibility.

### **Ineligibility Example**

Students who do not meet the standard of a 2.0 GPA with no F’s will be ruled ineligible for a period of 30 calendar days which begins at the first day of competition for that sport in accordance with policy in the state of Iowa. Provided grades improve to a minimum 2.0 GPA, the student-athlete regains eligibility on the 31<sup>st</sup> day. Students must be “bona fide” contestants in their respective sport in order for the ineligibility period to count.

For example, a student who plays basketball only and fails to meet eligibility requirements at the end of the second semester his/her sophomore year will not begin the ineligibility period until the first competition date his/her junior year (i.e. November 18 girls, November 28 boys). If grades improve, meeting the eligibility requirements of Siouxland Christian, student-athletes would regain eligibility December 18 and December 28 at 12:01 a.m. respectively. In the case of a female student-athlete who plays both basketball and volleyball, the period of ineligibility would begin August 22 and resume September 21, meaning the student-athlete could finish volleyball and play basketball. Please remember that these are examples and that competition dates will possibly change yearly.

### **Eligibility for Summer Sports**

In order for any student to participate in summer sport activities including camps, conditioning, weights, gym, etc. they must be officially enrolled in SCS for the upcoming year. Coaches, facilities and equipment/resources are to be utilized and for the benefit of SCS students only.

**Additional Information**

If a student receives a deficient grade in more than one class at a checkpoint, a separate form and corrective process for each class must be completed.

Athletes who are ineligible must practice and participate in other activities with the team, but will not be allowed to suit-up for games or sit on the bench with the team. They must sit in the stands as any other spectator attending the game.

To be eligible to suit up, sit with the team, play, or go to away athletic or extracurricular events, a student must have attended a full day of school the day of the event unless prior approval by administration.

Any student suspended from school for disciplinary reasons will not be able to participate in any team activities (contests, practice, or events) during the course of the suspension. Suspended students will not be allowed to attend any contest (or other school sponsored activity) during the course of the suspension as well.

Disciplinary consequences other than suspension may also result in ineligibility depending on the accumulation, previous counseling, and progressive discipline set-up and implemented by administration discretion.

No SCS athletic events/games will be scheduled or played on Sunday.

## **USE OF ELECTRONIC DEVICES ON ATHLETIC/EXTRACURRICULAR TRIPS POLICY**

As participants in extra-curricular events, students have the opportunity and responsibility to represent SCS and more importantly our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Extracurricular events often provide a platform for which our students can be witnesses to the community and other teams and as such behaviors at such events should be Christ-honoring in all aspects, including the use of electronic devices and interactions with classmates and competitors.

### **Music listening devices may be used by students on athletic/extracurricular trips with the following stipulation:**

1. All music listening devices must be used with headphones.
2. All music is subject to approval/inspection by coaches, directors, and administration.
3. General guidelines below also apply.

### **Electronic devices may be used by a student on athletic/extracurricular trips with the following stipulation:**

1. All movies, electronic games and electronic communication devices are subject to approval/inspection by coaches, directors, and administration.
2. General guidelines below also apply.

### **General guidelines for the Use of Electronic Devices on Athletic/Extracurricular Trips**

**Cellular Phones** – Students are allowed to bring and use cell phones on athletic trips to make calls to parents or caregivers. Volunteer drivers, coaches, and faculty may ask the student to leave the cell phone with them. If cell phones are used for any purpose other than making phone calls (texting, taking pictures, watching movies, etc.) they fall under the same guidelines as other electronic devices for each respective purpose.

**Driver Override** – For safety purposes, without cause or explanation, the driver of any vehicle transporting SCS students on a school related trip has the right to disallow the use of any or all electronic devices. Coaches, chaperones, and students are expected to yield to the authority of the driver without questions and adhere to his/her request.

**Authority of Coaches** – Coaches, for a number of reasons, may disallow electronic (excluding cell phones used exclusively for making calls) on an athletic trip, or require students to put them away at certain times. Students are to respectfully comply.

**Disciplinary Action** – Without warning, students who do not comply with the stipulations of this policy will, at a minimum, lose the privilege to use electronic devices on school trips for a minimum of twelve (12) school weeks.

**Coaches, chaperones, and bus drivers are the disciplinary authority on athletic trips, operating on behalf of SCS administration;** therefore, they have the right to confiscate any questionable music, movies, electronic games, and any electronic device. They also have the right to revoke the use of any or all electronics for the remainder of any trip.

**Movie, Music, and Electronic Game Approval** – The final approval (and process for approval) of all allowable movies, music, and electronic games falls under the ultimate authority of the SCS Superintendent. No music or videos promoting theological differences from the *SCS Doctrine and Tenets of Faith*, and no material promoting witchcraft or the occult are ever allowed. Materials that are wholesome and promote valuable understanding are encouraged.

If a coach wishes to show a video to a group of students as entertainment during an athletic trip, prior approval must be obtained from administration, allowing sufficient time for adequate review.

**Damage, Theft, Loss** – SCS and all agents of SCS assume no responsibility, financial or otherwise, for the theft, loss, or damage of any electronic or related device brought by a student on an athletic trip. The risk of theft, loss, or damage is solely that of the student or owner. Further, if theft, loss, or damage should occur, SCS will not be accountable for discovery (how, where, when, why, who, etc.) of the details regarding the occurrence.