



## Collective Commitments

### As members of the OJHS staff...

**We will** avoid being distracted by the things we cannot influence, but instead focus on what we can influence, to make a difference and create meaningful opportunities for our students.

**We will** model, through our own actions kindness, understanding, integrity, and respect towards students and staff.

**We will** create and maintain a safe and welcoming environment that will allow students to thrive academically, emotionally, and socially.

**We will** have high expectations, in all areas, for all students and staff.

**We will** respect and maximize instructional time for students and staff.

**We will** address issues that affect our students' abilities to learn and grow.

**We will** continually evaluate and adjust curriculum to meet the needs of all students through effective collaboration.

**We will** frequently and appropriately communicate with staff, students, and community members.

### **We will be R.E.A.L.**

**Respectful**

**Encouraging**

**Authentic**

*Life Long Learners*

## Orcutt Junior High School Behavior Matrix

### LOCATION(S)

MUSTANG	LOCATION(S)					
	Classrooms	Lunch Areas	Hallways	Blacktop/Fields	Bathrooms	Technology
<b>P</b> PREPARED	Have all supplies. Turn in your work. Be productive. Be organized.	Always eat in lunch areas. Bring lunch/supplies with you from class because you cannot go back.	Go directly to your destination. Must have a pass with you at lunch time.	Return basketballs, soccer balls, etc. Leave any set up PE equipment untouched.	Let someone know if there is no toilet paper, paper towels, clogs, etc.	Bring a charged Chromebook and a charger. Bring headphones or earbuds each day.
<b>R</b> RESPECTFUL	Listen to the teachers. Mindful of electronics policies. Respect others. Speak positively.	Clean up after yourself. Listen to the staff. Keep food to yourself. Always use appropriate language. Keep your hands to yourself.	Always walk. Be quiet when class is in session. Keep your hands to yourself. Be respectful of posters. Put trash in trash cans.	Keep your hands to yourself. Proper use of any equipment. Use proper language. Listen to the staff. Walk around games, not through them.	Always flush! Respect privacy. Respect electronics rules. Take your turn. Wash your hands.	Keep your eyes on your own computer. Carry with 2 hands. No food or drink with computers.
<b>I</b> INCLUSIVE	Cooperate with others. Be friendly. Use positive language. Speak one at a time.	Share tables with others. Use the share box.	Help new/lost students find their way. Walk on the right side. Be kind to others.	Be kind to people. Include others in games and conversations.	Use the facilities and leave so others can use them, too. Be courteous to others. Share the space.	Help others understand tech issues. Work cooperatively with others.
<b>D</b> DETERMINED	Work your hardest. Do your best. Complete tasks in a timely manner.	Keep calm, walk to lines.	Get to class on time. Stay on walkways.	Food belongs at table areas. Stay in designated areas.	Keep bathrooms clean. Report graffiti and vandalism.	Stay on assignment, keep all unnecessary tabs closed. No games or messaging during class. Ask for help!
<b>E</b> ENGAGED	Ask questions. Pay attention. Be on task. Use time wisely. Participate when asked to.	Participate in recycling. If you see litter, pick it up.	Watch where you are going. Keep hallways clean.	Keep areas clean, pick up trash, use trash cans. Always stay on campus.	Use bathrooms for bathroom things only. Report inappropriate behavior.	Stay on appropriate, teacher approved, websites. Follow along with designated websites for classroom activities.



## STUDENT HANDBOOK 2023/2024

Dear Students:

Welcome to Orcutt Junior High School. We are happy to have you as a member of the Orcutt family. Whether you are a 7th or 8th grader, we want you to experience the most exciting and successful year ever. While attending Orcutt Junior High you will encounter many changes. The academic workload and social adjustments will be great. You will be expected to attend school daily with school spirit, have pride in the assignments you complete, and accept responsibility for appropriate decisions and behavior.

Our goal is for you to be all you can possibly be. We need your cooperation as we move toward this goal. Both you and your parents need to read and discuss this handbook. This handbook will answer many questions you may have about rules and activities at your school. All students and parents are responsible for knowing the contents of this handbook.

Joe Schmidt, Principal

### VISION STATEMENT

Orcutt Junior High School will serve as an educational launch pad for our students; one that will prepare them well for their voyage to high school and beyond. Orcutt Junior High School will provide a stimulating, rewarding, and safe environment for all students to gain a sincere appreciation for life-long learning, as well as developing academic, social, and personal responsibility skills needed by all members of our society.

### SCHOOL-WIDE GOAL

The goal of education at Orcutt Junior High School is teaching and learning about self-realization, human relationships, self-sufficiency, and civic responsibility while facilitating a smooth transition from elementary school into high school. You should feel confident in the fact that your student will move from an elementary environment into a welcoming and friendly seventh grade; then through articulation and preparation in eighth grade, students will feel prepared and comfortable about moving into the departmentalized high school environment.

### THIS HANDBOOK

The information that follows will help make the time at Orcutt Junior High School a successful and rewarding experience. Please read the information carefully and then sign the last page. Have your parent or guardian sign the form as well. Remove the last page of the handbook; keep the packet for future reference. **Bring the signed page as directed to your homeroom teacher.** If you have any questions, please ask a teacher or an administrator immediately. We know that this is a great place to go to school – together we can make it an awesome year.

## Academic/Attendance Requirements:

### **Seventh Grade:**

- Academic requirements – ALL subjects shall be passed with a “D” average or better.
- Attendance requirements – Classes must be attended greater than 80% of the time enrolled. Any student missing 20% or more of the days enrolled will be a candidate for truancy hearings unless medically excused.

### **Eighth Grade:**

- General requirements – Having shown acceptable attendance, behavior, and passing all prescribed classwork, eighth-grade students earn the privilege of receiving a diploma, attending the graduation ceremony, and all graduation activities.
- Academic requirements – ALL subjects shall be passed with a “D” average or better grade. In addition, in order to attend graduation/activities, students may not receive an “F”, “U”, or “I” in any course during the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter.
- Attendance requirements – Classes must be attended greater than 80% of the time enrolled. Any student missing 20% or more of the days enrolled will be a candidate for retention unless medically excused.
- Behavior requirements – Poor behavior in the eighth grade can lead to the loss of all graduation activities and possible loss of the student’s diploma. See the section on school rules for more information.

## Agenda/Assignment Book:

This useful resource should be purchased the first week of school and used daily by students throughout the year. Parents should check this book daily to ensure assignment completion.

## Attendance

It is the parent’s responsibility to call the school and state the reason for a student’s absence. **The school attendance line phone number is 938-8748.**

- **Excused** absences include: personal illness, medical appointments, dental appointments, optometric appointments, chiropractic appointments, religious holidays, religious retreat attendance, court appearances, quarantine, or funerals.
- All other absences are considered **unexcused** unless the student has signed an independent study agreement (see below).
- Failure to notify the school within (3) three days about any absence will result in your child being marked as unexcused on the date(s) in question. Three unexcused absences will result in truancy, will trigger truancy letters, other protocols related to truancy, and will be reported to the District Attorney’s Office and the District Superintendent. Habitual trancies will be investigated by the District Attorney and reported to the State of California.

## Awards:

Many awards are given out annually for exemplary performance by students. Many of these are given at graduation time. Student awards are given in following categories:

- Contests entered by departments (math, science, etc.)
- Honor Roll All 8 Quarters: (students attaining an average of 3.5 or higher GPA)
- Student of the Month
- Youth of the Month and Year
- Sports awards
- Teacher Appreciation Award is given to students with an appreciation for education
- American Legion Award given to a student with outstanding leadership qualities
- Sashes given at graduation for students achieving high academic success

**Books:**

Pupils shall take proper care of textbooks and library books. Do not mark or “dog-ear” pages. Please remember, you must pay for any books you lose or damage and books can cost in excess of \$75.00 each.

**Bus Transportation:**

Permission to ride the bus is a privilege and not a right. This privilege may be revoked if a student displays poor behavior at bus stops, while boarding, riding, or leaving the bus. All school rules apply, including being respectful and acting responsibly. If a student receives a bus citation they are to serve detention the following detention day.

**Class Changes:**

Requests for class or teacher changes are difficult to accommodate given the large number of students we have and the complexities of the master schedule. Obviously, errors made in scheduling will be dealt with immediately. All other requests will be addressed on a case-by-case basis by the Principal or Vice-Principal. These requests should be in writing and include the nature of the request and specific action to be taken. Please be aware that not all requests can be honored for a variety of reasons.

**Closed Campus/School:**

All students are expected to stay within the designed boundaries at all times. Students are not permitted to leave school grounds except when properly signed out through the office. In addition, students are to come to school directly from home with no detours or unauthorized stops. After students arrive at school, they are to **stay on campus** until released at the end of the day. For example, students are not allowed to leave to go to the market, local restaurants, etc after they have set foot on campus. Upon dismissal, students are to go directly home or to a location known by parents without detours or unauthorized stops.

**Counseling Requests:**

Counseling service is available to all students. Many problems concerning school can be helped by counseling. The Principal, Vice-Principal, Counselor, or a teacher will be happy to try to help students with any problems. Students/parents may request an appointment to see the school counselor by contacting the Principal or Vice-Principal. An appointment will be arranged with you as soon as possible. Emergencies will be taken care of immediately on a “drop-in” basis.

**Detention:**

When a student is given detention from a staff member, a copy of the detention is given to the student to be taken home for the parent’s or guardian’s signature. A student who is absent on the day of an assigned detention must serve that detention immediately upon return to school. Students serving detention are expected to read or work on other schoolwork or complete the designated reflection sheets. Failure to show up for detention, will result in an additional detention.

**Distance/Blended Learning**

In the event that we are in distance or blended learning, many school rules still apply. Attire must be school appropriate and adhere to the dress code. This holds true for anything on the walls behind a student or on their background while they are on Zoom. For example, students are not allowed to wear shirts/sweatshirts with weapons (guns, knives, etc.) on them. The same holds true for anything in or on a student’s background. It must be school appropriate as students are considered to be *in school* even if they are remote. Students are expected to be on time to their Zoom meetings and stay until they are dismissed by their teachers. Students are expected to be ready with their materials and devices charged. Behavior expectations are the same as they are when students are on campus. Students will be held accountable for their behavior during Zooms, in chats, and in break-out rooms. Not only are students responsible for their work on their core class days, but they are also responsible for any asynchronous assignments assigned by their core teachers.

**Dress Code:**

The staff of Orcutt Junior High School is concerned with the appearance of its students. We feel that each student should be dressed in such a manner as to reflect credit to himself or herself, his or her family, and to his or her school. Indecent or extreme dress, which may interrupt learning, has no place in any educational institution. (California Education Code 35183 and OUSD Board Policy 5132)

## **OUSD Student Dress Guidelines Effective for 2023-2024 School Year**

**Preface**

Students attending school must be clean and presentable. All clothing must fit; shall be neat, clean, and acceptable in repair and appearance; and shall be worn within the bounds of decency and good taste as appropriate for school. Clothes shall be sufficient to conceal undergarments at all times. Each school principal reserves the right to determine and enforce appropriate dress at school and at school sponsored events. School principals or designees may prohibit any apparel, accessory, hairstyle, or cosmetic, even if not specifically mentioned below, that

1. Creates a safety concern
2. Draws undue attention to the wearer
3. Detracts from the learning process
4. Causes disturbances among other students
5. Is considered gang-related
6. Includes hate speech or vulgarity
7. Promotes illegal activity including drug, alcohol, and tobacco use

The dress guidelines may be modified as appropriate to accommodate a student's religious or cultural observance, health condition, or other circumstance deemed necessary by the school administrator. In addition, the school principal may impose dress requirements to accommodate the needs of special school activities, physical education classes, athletic activities, and other extracurricular and cocurricular activities.

Bona fide religious objections or medical reasons, when verified, may be grounds for an exemption to a specific portion of the dress guidelines. A written request for an exemption from enforcement of a specified portion of the district's dress guidelines must be submitted to the school principal.

Please note: The State of California has determined that "A pupil who goes to school without proper attention having been given to personal cleanliness or neatness of dress, may be sent home to be properly prepared for school, or shall be required to prepare himself/herself for the classroom before entering." (California Administrative Code, Title V, Section 302, 1994.)

**Specific Dress Guidelines****Clothing:**

- Students must wear appropriately sized clothing that protects and covers personal body parts including midriff
- Sleeveless shirts are permitted provided that they have straps of at least 1 inch
- Students' lower garment (pants, shorts, skirts, dress) must be worn at the waist and extend to mid-thigh
- Lower garment should feature no rips above mid-thigh area

**Shoes/footwear:**

- Students should wear closed-toe footwear with closed heel or strap (grades TK-8); slippers are not permitted
- For physical education activities, students must wear appropriate shoes for their safety and comfort

**Hats/headwear:**

- Students may wear hats, including religious headwear
- Helmets, hoods or other headgear that obscures a student's identity (except as a religious observance) may not be worn; hoods that obscure a student's ears may not be worn in class
- For identification purposes, a student's face must be clearly visible, including when taking school photos; this may require removal of a hood and/or hat

**Hair:**

- Hair must be clean and show evidence of having been neatly groomed for school
- Hair may not be sprayed by any temporary hair dye or coloring that would drip when wet

**Any questionable grooming or dress that affects the learning process, could be a distraction to the learning of others or endangers student safety will be dealt with by the administration.**

*Consequences for not following the dress code include but are not limited to: changing into student's PE clothes, changing into office-provided attire, calling home if there aren't any suitable replacements at school, and/or detention.*

**Grades, Report Cards, Progress Notices:**

Progress reports will be made available mid-quarter on Aeries. Report cards are made available on Aeries a few days after the end of each quarter. Teachers will be available one afternoon and one evening for conferences during the first quarter progress report periods, and for one evening conference during the second and third quarter. Letters will be sent home each quarter to students who are at risk of not graduating on stage.

**Eighth graders who fail a course, with less than a "D" average and don't make up for it in subsequent quarters, may forfeit all end-of-the-year activities and diplomas.**

**Graduation Requirements:**

Graduation on Stage – 8<sup>th</sup> Grade

The formal exercise of graduation on stage is an honor and privilege. To **earn** this privilege, a student must meet the following criteria:

1. A passing grade in each class.
2. No academic "F" or citizenship "U" during the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter of the 8<sup>th</sup> grade.
3. No more than 20% of the enrolled days were missed (36 days).
4. No more than 24 demerits.

**Homework:**

Homework is assigned when a teacher feels it will be beneficial and productive. Every student is expected to complete the assignment and turn it in, on time, as directed. Homework can be expected Monday through Thursday and sometimes on the weekend. When students are absent, it is their responsibility to check with each of their teachers for all missing assignments and to complete them on time as directed by the teacher.

**Identification:**

When you are asked for your name by any adult employee of the school or district, even if you don't know that person's name, you are expected to give your first and last name immediately. You may be requested to show some form of identification. Our Student Body Cards are picture I.D.'s which are required for attendance at dances. It is always a good idea to have your ASB card when you come to any athletic event – they might even give you a discount!

### **Leaving school:**

Once a student arrives at school, they may not leave campus until released at the end of the school day. Students may be checked out of school early by a parent or guardian (adults must be listed in Aeries). A student can be released from school early with another adult if the parent sends a note or calls the school. Students may NOT leave an extra-curricular activity (dance, athletic event, performance, etc.) after school hours without a parent to pick them up. Students are not to walk home, to a friend's house, etc. after such an event. Exceptions to this rule will only be made by the administration of the school. Students who violate this rule are subject to disciplinary action, including exclusion from future events.

### **Lost and Found:**

Students who find lost articles are asked to take them to the office. Lost articles will be kept for a reasonable time period. When appropriate, or at the end of the year, the unclaimed items will be given to charity. If you lose something, check with the office and/or the custodian immediately before or after school. Students are responsible for their own belongings and all school property that is issued to them.

### **Make-up and Independent Study Agreements (ISAs):**

- For anticipated absences of three or more days, parents may call the office for a homework request. Teachers will send the missed work to the office and someone from the office will call when the packet may be picked up after school.
- Homework and other assignments are posted on Google Classroom.
- For one or two day absences, students may request missed homework from their teachers upon return.
- If a student plans to be away from school for three or more days, parents may request an **Independent Study Agreement**. Parents are requested to come to school **at least** one week in advance of the absence to request the **ISA**. The work will be assigned to the student before the anticipated absence. All work is due the day the student returns to school.

### **Parent Visitations:**

All adult community members are welcome to visit classrooms provided they check in through the office first. All visitors must follow Board Policy 1250(a) in addition to giving at least 24-hour notice prior to the visit. This is to insure the security and safety of all individuals on campus. Parents are invited to a Back to School Night in the fall and an Open House in the spring. Students should not attend the Back to School Night, but are encouraged to attend the Open House night.

### **Passes for leaving the classroom:**

To leave a classroom, a teacher will either issue a written pass with a stated destination, time and date or have students sign out with their name and time when they leave and sign back in when they return. Students being called out of a classroom by the office will be issued a pass to return to the classroom.

### **Physical Education:**

All students are expected to "dress-out" for physical education each day. The only exceptions are with a written medical excuse from the student's doctor or by prior agreement with the physical education teacher. Information about what is required to be purchased and where it can be purchased will be given to students during the first week of class. Students needing assistance in obtaining these items should speak directly to their P.E. teacher as soon as possible. Students must take home their gym clothes each Friday to be laundered and return them each Monday. "I forgot my P.E. clothes" is NOT a valid excuse and teachers may impose an appropriate consequence for each violation. Students must use a Master-type combination lock (A 0-39) and locker each day. **THE STUDENT IS RESPONSIBLE FOR HIS/HER OWN PERSONAL BELONGINGS AND MUST LEARN TO LOCK THEIR OWN LOCKERS.**



### SCIENCE LABS:

Proper attire is required for participation in Science labs. Students need to wear shoes that properly cover their feet and appropriate pants on Science Lab days. Crocs and Pajama pants are not considered appropriate attire for Science Labs. If students do not have alternate attire to change into, they will not be able to participate in the Science Lab and will be given an alternate assignment.

### School Rules / Conduct / Discipline:

Proper behavior and discipline are necessary for the safe and efficient operation of a school as well as to protect the rights of all students and staff on campus. Students are expected to follow school and classroom rules at all times. Parents may be contacted at any time for infractions of the rules.

- Don't engage in "gossip", "messaging around", "horseplay", or other inappropriate behavior.
- Keep your hands and feet to yourself.
- Gang-related material and behavior is prohibited at Orcutt Junior High School. "Throwing signs" or any gang-related gesture, posturing, or other behavior which intimidates, poses a threat to others, causes, attempts to cause physical harm to others, or which may disrupt the educational process are prohibited. Any student in violation of these rules will be referred to the principal or designee for appropriate action which may include suspension or expulsion from school.
- Gum is prohibited at all times.
- Food and drinks may be consumed only in the designated eating areas. Food and drinks are not allowed in the classroom.
- Incendiaries and weapons: Matches, lighters, fireworks, laser pointers, knives, chains, and other weapons are not allowed at school. State law prohibits them. Possession, even concealed, will result in disciplinary action including suspension or expulsion. **Do not bring these items to school at any time.**
- Lunchtime conduct – Each pupil is expected to maintain good eating habits. Students may be asked to raise their hand to be dismissed by a noon-time supervisor. You must pick up all dropped or left-over paper, food particles, etc. when you finish eating and place items in trash cans. Students may be asked to assist in table clean-up as needed.
- Bikes, skates, skateboards, or scooters are allowed on campus but must be locked up in the bike rack area upon entering campus and may not be ridden around.
- Any item that distracts from the learning process or is a possible danger, distraction, or invasion of the privacy of others may be confiscated and the parent/guardian will have to claim it. ***Laser pens, aerosol sprays or body sprays of any kind, Sharpie-type markers, electronic equipment, toys, blankets, are to be left home. They are not allowed on campus at all.***
- Cell phones, electronic devices, and other items that MAY cause a distraction in class will be confiscated without warning if seen or heard before the final bell of the day. **Cell phones must be off and out of sight when they are on campus.** They may be turned on only **after** school is dismissed. If a cell phone goes off or is used on campus, a student will be given detention and a parent/guardian must pick it up. Text messaging during school hours and picture taking is **never** allowed. Cell phones, electronic devices may not be used on a school bus. **Using a cell phone while in a bathroom or locker room will result in an automatic suspension.** In accordance with the Board's policy and administrative regulation on search and seizure, a school official may search a student's mobile communications device, including, but not limited to, reviewing messages or viewing pictures. Consistent refusal to acknowledge cell phone policies will result in the loss of privilege of having a phone on campus.

- Public Displays of Affection (P.D.A.) – includes, but is not limited to, hugging, embracing other students, kissing, holding hands, and other displays of affection that are not connected directly to the instruction of curriculum, are prohibited at all times between students. Appropriate dancing at organized events is an exception. Public displays of affection may result in suspension.
- **Maintaining or posting material to a website, app, or blog that threatens a likelihood of substantial disruption in school, including harming or interfering with the rights of other students to participate fully in school or extracurricular activities, is a violation of the student disciplinary code and subject to appropriate penalties herein.**
- Harassment of students or staff, such as bullying, including cyberbullying, intimidation, extortion, or any other verbal, written, or physical conduct that causes or threatens to cause bodily harm or emotional suffering is prohibited. Cyberbullying includes the transmission of communications, posting of harassing messages, direct threats, social cruelty, or other harmful texts, sounds, or images on the Internet, social networking sites, or other digital technologies using a telephone, computer, or any wireless communication device. Cyberbullying also includes breaking into another person’s electronic accounts and assuming that person’s identity in order to damage that person’s reputation or friendships.
- Deliveries such as balloons, flowers, etc. are **not** allowed to go to the classroom and will be kept in the office.
- Hoverboards and/or motorized bicycles or scooters are not allowed on campus.
- Cutting other students' hair at school/on campus is not allowed.

The following table includes most of the infractions and possible consequences, but is not all-inclusive:

Minor infractions include	Consequences (in no particular order)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Littering</li> <li>▪ Running in inappropriate areas</li> <li>▪ Riding bikes on campus</li> <li>▪ Inappropriate behavior at extracurricular activities</li> <li>▪ Being in “off-limit” areas</li> <li>▪ “Ditching” a class or classes</li> <li>▪ Minor inappropriate bus behavior</li> <li>▪ Toys and other unauthorized devices</li> <li>▪ Failure to return notices, homework referral slips, detention notices, etc.</li> <li>▪ Making inappropriate noises in class</li> <li>▪ Not being respectful to others (gossip, etc.)</li> <li>▪ Using profanity or vulgarity</li> <li>▪ Forgery, cheating, and other forms of deception</li> <li>▪ Public Displays of Affection</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Warning</li> <li>▪ Counseling</li> <li>▪ Confiscation</li> <li>▪ Parent notification</li> <li>▪ Clean-up duties</li> <li>▪ Denial of privileges</li> <li>▪ Exclusion from extra-curricular events</li> <li>▪ Detention</li> <li>▪ Teacher suspension from a class for up to two periods (48910 E.C)</li> <li>▪ Suspension</li> </ul>

Major infractions include	Consequences (in no particular order)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Alcohol, tobacco, vape, drug use, etc.</li> <li>▪ Fighting and attempting harm of others</li> <li>▪ “Ditching” all classes for one or more days</li> <li>▪ Threatened to cause, attempted to cause, cause, or participate in an act of hate violence</li> <li>▪ Sexual harassment</li> <li>▪ False alarm (fire, 9-1-1, etc.)</li> <li>▪ Major infractions of bus rules</li> <li>▪ As well as any of the reasons listed in 48900 of the California Education Code (See the Annual Notification of Parent &amp; Student Rights &amp; Responsibilities of O.U.S.D.)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Any of the consequences listed in the above section.</li> <li>▪ Written parental notification</li> <li>▪ Suspension of bus privileges</li> <li>▪ Restitution</li> <li>▪ Suspension</li> <li>▪ Recommendation for expulsion</li> <li>▪ Sheriff notified/investigation/arrest</li> </ul>

Offenses related to a school activity or attendance may occur at any time, including, but not limited to: 1) While on school grounds, 2) While going to/coming from school (door to door), 3) During lunch period, 4) During, or while going to or coming from a school co-curricular or extra-curricular activity.

Loss of privileges – One demerit is assigned for each detention received and 3 demerits for each day of suspension received. Students who receive 5 or more demerits in the first quarter will lose their privileges for the remainder of that quarter. In the second quarter, the number becomes 10 (including the demerits accumulated during the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter), in the third quarter, the accumulated number becomes 15, and the fourth 20. The loss of privileges includes, but is not limited to, the loss of dances, games, assemblies, pep rallies, special activities, etc. In addition, students who earn 25 or more demerits at any time will have **ALL** privileges removed for the remainder of the school year **INCLUDING GRADUATION** and all related activities for eighth-graders.

**The principal may, at his/her discretion, add, delete, or modify any school rule when necessary.**

**Sports/Extracurricular Activities:**

Grade checks will be conducted every week on Thursday to determine eligibility for the following week. This includes tryouts. If a student has an F on their qualifying grade check, they are **not** eligible to try out. If a student has less than a 2.0 overall GPA on their qualifying grade check, they are not eligible to try out. Pre-try out “clinics” are not considered tryouts.

Each teacher will assign a percentage or a letter grade for the class. A student may not have more than one D in any class. Two or more D’s will result in a week probation from the activity while the student works on bringing up their grades. Each student must maintain a “C” average (2.0 GPA) and must not have an "F" in any class in order to be eligible to participate in extracurricular activities.

In addition to the letter grade, each teacher will assign a “S” (satisfactory), “N” (needs improvement), or “U” (unsatisfactory) for effort and conduct. Each student must not have a “U” in any class, and have no more than one “N” in conduct or effort in order to be eligible to participate in extracurricular activities.

In addition to grades and conduct, students must not accumulate more than 6 demerits per quarter to remain eligible. Any suspension for a serious school offense will be grounds for removal from an activity.

If a student becomes ineligible to participate due to a Grade Check during the season, they will be placed on probation for one week. If a student forgets or fails to turn in a completed grade check into the coach or advisor by the end of school on Thursday, they will be placed on probation for one week. If the student has another disqualifying Grade Check during the season, they will be removed from the activity at that time.

A student will be ineligible to participate in an athletic event (game, practice, etc) if they are absent for 3 or more class periods during that school day.

The coordinator/coach of any extra-curricular activity may impose more stringent rules and/or regulations in the form of a contract that the student and parent will sign. Administration reserves the right, in consultation with the coordinator/coach, to make final determinations regarding ineligibility or removal from an activity.

### **Leadership/ ASB**

Students participating in the Leadership Class must maintain a 2.0 or better in **ALL** subjects with no more than five demerits in the school year. In the case of Spirit Leaders and Student Body officers, who have a year-long commitment, students will be given *two* probationary periods and be ineligible for the activity until after a third disqualifying Grade Check.

### **Student Body Cards (ASB):**

Student body cards will be sold and distributed during the first quarter. Certain privileges are extended to students purchasing student body cards, including admission to dances, sporting events, and other student activities at a reduced price, and provide a positive means of identification for safety reasons.

### **Tardies:**

Students are expected to develop their ability to be on time for class. A student will be considered “tardy” if not in his or her seat and ready to begin class at the sound of the tardy bell. If you know you are going to be late to class, be sure to get a pass from the adult you are speaking with. This is the student’s responsibility! A student, late to school in the morning, must report to the office to obtain a tardy slip and pass to class. Please be sure students report to the office when required. Students may sign themselves in.

### **Truancy:**

Any absence without parental permission is classified as truancy. For truancy, a student receives an “F” for the work missed for each period, and make-ups are not allowed. Truancy is a violation of state law.

### **Valuables:**

Students and parents must be aware that *the school cannot protect valuable or expensive items brought to school by students*. Students should **not** bring electronic devices, large sums of money, or other expensive items to school. Students who do so are doing so **at their OWN** risk and responsibility and parents are asked to help us in keeping these items at home.

**Visitors:**

All adult visitors must sign in and scan their ID at the office prior to entering any part of our campus. Friends and relatives of students are not to come to “visit” – this includes high school friends as well. Safety and security are important to us – and the student.

**Yearbook:**

Our yearbook features individual pictures of students, special activity groups, and candid snapshots. Yearbooks are usually pre-sold in the fall and distributed in the spring. The yearbook is produced by the eighth-graders in the yearbook class. Yearbooks may be withheld if a student owes for damaged or lost textbooks or other school property.

*The Board of Trustees desires to provide a safe school environment that allows all students equal access and opportunities in the district's academic, extracurricular, and other educational support programs, services, and activities. The Board prohibits, at any district school or school activity, unlawful discrimination, including discriminatory harassment, intimidation, and bullying targeted at any student by anyone, based on the student's actual or perceived race, color, ancestry, national origin, nationality, ethnicity, ethnic group identification, age, religion, marital or parental status, physical or mental disability, sex, sexual orientation, gender, gender identity, or gender expression, or association with a person or group with one or more of these actual or perceived characteristics.*

*La Mesa Directiva desea proveer un ambiente escolar seguro que permite a todos los alumnos la igualdad de acceso y oportunidades en los programas del distrito académicos, extracurriculares, y otros programas de educación, servicios y actividades. La Mesa Directiva prohíbe, en cualquier escuela o actividad escolar, la discriminación ilegal, incluyendo acoso discriminatorio, intimidación, y hostigamiento, dirigido a cualquier estudiante por parte de cualquiera, por motivos actual o percibida de raza, color, ascendencia, origen nacional, nacionalidad, etnicidad, identidad de grupo étnico, edad, religión, estado civil o de paternidad, incapacidad física o mental, sexo, orientación sexual, género, identidad de género, o expresión de género del estudiante o asociación con una persona o grupo con una o más de estas características reales o percibidas.*