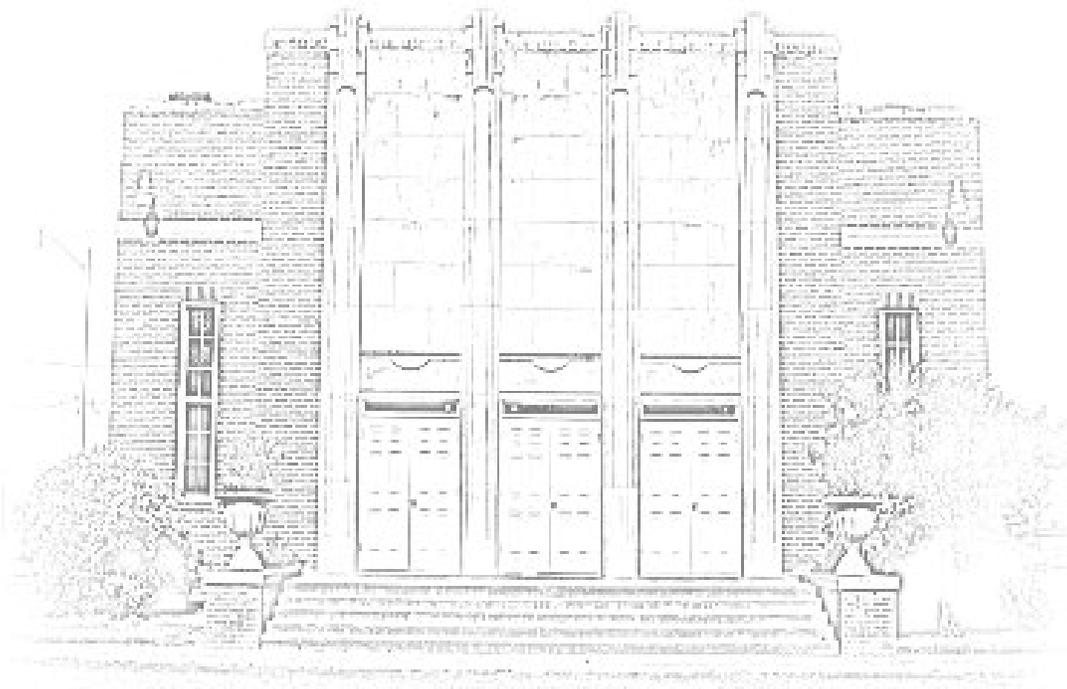


DEER CREEK SCHOOL



JUNIOR HIGH AND HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT HANDBOOK 2022-2023

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**DEER CREEK SCHOOL CALENDAR
2022-2023**

July 27	Senior sports banners
July 29	Pictures - Cheer/Football/Softball/Programs
Aug 1, 2, & 3	DCS Little Cheer Camp
August 3, 4	Teacher in Service
August 4	Meet the Creek 6:30 p.m.
August 5	Student Orientation 8:00 -11:30
August 8	First Full Day of School
August 11	DCS Jr. High Jamboree Location TBA
August 12	Varsity Football Jamboree Location TBA
September 5	Labor Day – NO SCHOOL
September 8	School Day Pictures
October 7	Homecoming- DCS vs. Lee, Ark.
October 7	End of 1 st nine weeks (45 days)
October 10	Fall Break
October 12	Report Cards
October 13	Senior Portraits/School Day Retakes/ Senior End Sheet
November 21-25	Thanksgiving Holidays
December 14-16	Mid-Term Exams for 7-12; dismissed at 10:30
December 14-16	Full days for K3-6; exams for grades 4-6
December 16	End of 2 nd nine weeks (44 days)
December 19-January 2	Christmas Holidays
January 3	Return to school – 2 nd semester begins
January 4	Report Cards
January 16	Martin L. King Day- NO SCHOOL
February 20	President’s Day- NO SCHOOL
February 24	Beauty Review
February 27	Who’s Who pictures in Greenwood
March 9	End of 3 rd nine weeks (47 days) Full Day
March 10, 13-17	Spring Break
March 22	Report Cards
March 24	Jr./Sr. Banquet at 7:00
April 7-10	Easter Holidays
May 11	May Day
May 12	HS Awards Day/Senior Class Day at 8:30 a.m.
May 12, 15, 16	Exams for grades 4-6
May 14	Baccalaureate 8:30 a.m.
May 18	Kindergarten Graduation – 8:30 a.m.
May 18	Elementary Awards Day at 10:30 a.m. Dismiss at 11:30
May 18	Last day for elementary
May 19	Graduation – 7:00 pm
May 22,23,24	Final Exams for grades 7-12; dismissed at 10:30
May 24	End of 4 th nine weeks (45 days)

PHILOSOPHY OF DEER CREEK SCHOOL

The Deer Creek Educational Institute, which operates the Deer Creek School, seeks to establish a philosophy of education that will best meet the needs of the communities it serves. It is the desire of the school to develop each student to the fullest of his abilities and thereby provide each student with the resources for leading a useful, productive, and rewarding life as a member of society.

Believing that academic priority is the school’s primary responsibility, Deer Creek School aims to employ the best qualified staff it can secure and to maintain high standards of academic achievement.

Recognizing the relationship between mental, physical, and emotional well-being, Deer Creek School strives to provide curricular and extra-curricular opportunities to develop each individual to his maximum potential.

In order to achieve these goals, Deer Creek School relies upon the effective cooperation between students, faculty, administration, parents, church, and the community as a whole.

CODE OF ETHICS

- | | | |
|------------------------|--------------------|---|
| D – Devotion to Duty | C – Cooperation | S – Sportsmanship above victory |
| E – Eagerness to learn | R – Responsibility | C – Courage |
| E – Empathy | E – Energy | H – Have Pride in school and self |
| R – Respect for all | E - Excellence | O – Obedience to teachers & supervisors |
| | K – Knowledge | O – Orderly in appearance and work |
| | | L – Loyalty |

ADMISSION POLICY

Deer Creek School is operated by Deer Creek Educational Institute, Inc.

- A. Parents of the applicant must file an application in the Administrator’s Office.
- B. A record of the applicant’s grades from the previous school year is to be filed in the Administrator’s office.
- C. The applicant should have achievement test scores that are in the thirtieth percentile or above. Deer Creek School believes that if a student is to progress satisfactorily at this institution, such achievement test scores should have been attained.
- D. The results of the applicant’s most recent achievement test scores and mental abilities test scores (preferably two of each) are to be received by either the Headmaster or Guidance Counselor.
- E. Both academic and character references for the applicant must be submitted.
- F. The applicant must be interviewed by the Headmaster or Guidance Counselor. (More than one interview may be required.)
- G. Applicants are either approved or approved on probation. If approved on probation, any serious infraction of school policy could lead to expulsion from Deer Creek School.
- H. Deer Creek Educational Institute, Inc. admits students of any race, color, national and ethnic origin to all the rights, privileges, programs, and activities generally accorded or made available to students at school. It does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national or ethnic origin in administration of its educational policies, admissions policies, scholarship and loan programs, and athletic and other school administered programs
- I. A student expelled from any public, private or parochial school will not be considered for admission to Deer Creek School.
- J. All student seeking to transfer from any school, public, private, or home school may, be required to take a test to determine the grade or class to which the pupil shall be assigned at the time of pupil transfer. The administrative head of the school shall administer the test or testing as deemed necessary for transfer to Deer Creek School. Students will be given at least 5 days notice prior to administration of the test. No transfer of a pupil shall be effective until the test has been given and the pupil is assigned according to the grade and class of which the test shows the pupil is best suited for.

HOMESCHOOL ADMISSION POLICY

In order to enroll at Deer Creek School after having been homeschooled, the following items:

- 1) a copy of the signed certificate of enrollment form with the local school attendance officer
- 2) a portfolio of student work in all subject areas
- 3) a copy of student grades
- 4) the name and address of the curriculum or online program student was enrolled in

*Student may be subject to testing to determine appropriate grade level upon reenrollment.

It may be determined after evaluating student work and testing results that student may not be academically skilled in the grade level deemed by homeschool records. The student may be required to repeat a grade or course for credit.

SCHOOL HOURS- ARRIVAL AND DISMISSAL

Students should not arrive at school prior to 7:30 A.M. Supervision by duty teachers does not begin until this time. Supervision is not provided for students who remain on campus after 3:15 P.M. and who are not involved in a supervised school-sanctioned activity. After-school care is provided for those who need to stay after 3:15 p.m. No student is allowed in the building without special permission and supervision after 3:15 p.m. each day.

ABSENCES FROM SCHOOL AND CLASSES

When a student in grades 7 -12 is absent from school, a parent/guardian must call the office (827-5165) before 8:00 a.m. The secretary will call the parent/guardian of students who are absent and whose parent/guardian has not called by 8:30 am. Absences from school are classified as EXCUSED or UNEXCUSED. Absences due to personal illness, serious illness in the family, death in the family, or special permission from the headmaster (obtained in advance by parent/guardian) are considered excused. Students will not be allowed to make-up class work in the event of an unexcused absence. If a student is caught skipping class, the parent/guardians will be notified immediately. **Students missing a class more than 20 times (or 10 times in a one semester class) will not receive credit for that class.** Parents/guardians may meet with the School Board and explain why their child should receive credit for a class missed more than the allowable number of absences. The decision to grant or deny class credit will remain with the Board.

Students must attend four class periods or have a doctor's excuse to participate in any school sport, event, or practice. Students in grades 7 -12 shall obtain an admission slip from the office upon returning to school. A written excuse from a parent/guardian is needed by the office before an excused admittance slip can be issued. Students should bring an excuse from the doctor, dentist, etc. whenever possible. Do not allow students to consistently miss the same class for routine appointments

TARDIES:

Tardies will be recorded and totaled throughout the school year.

Each semester a student may accumulate a total of three (3) tardies without any action being taken.

This does not mean three (3) tardies per class, but three(3) tardies total.

Students not in their classroom before the tardy bell rings will be considered tardy. The penalty for tardiness will be administered according to the following guidelines:

- 4th - one-hour detention before school or corporal punishment
- 5th - two-hour detention - one hour before school and one hour after school or corporal punishment
- 6th - four-hour Saturday detention at the expense of parents (\$40.00)
- 7th - one day suspension

MAKE-UP WORK

1. Make-up work is the student's responsibility.
2. A day's absence will not excuse a student from the responsibility for all assignments or tests given that day. The student/parent should contact the school for assignments or have someone pick up books and/or assignments. Assignments and tests will be made up on the day the child returns to school.
3. If a student checks in late and misses a class, he/she must see the teacher that day to turn in assignments, get new assignments, and take any tests missed.
4. If a student is checking out of school or leaving for a sporting event, he/she must turn in assignments for the classes he/she will miss and get assignments for the next day.
5. When a student is absent for more than one day, the student will be allowed one day to make up work for each day absent.

EARLY DISMISSALS FROM SCHOOL

A student who wishes to be dismissed during the school day must bring a note from his/her parent/guardian stating the reason and time for dismissal. This request must be turned in to the office at the beginning of the day (before 8:00 a.m.). **Non-medical dismissals will be limited to 10 dismissals a year.**

In case of illness, students must come to the office for the parents/guardians to be called. The student must get assignments for the rest of the day and turn in dismissal slip to the office before leaving.

Students will not be allowed to go home to get books, uniforms, medicine, etc.

After obtaining permission, the student must sign out and shall indicate on the 'sign out book' the departure time and his/her destination. He/She will 'sign in' with the correct time when returning to school.

EARLY DISMISSALS FROM SCHOOL FOR SENIORS

Seniors with an overall C average may be dismissed at the conclusion of their class schedule. Students must maintain an overall C average each nine weeks to continue to receive this privilege.

CLOSURE OF SCHOOL DUE TO WEATHER CONDITIONS

To prevent any misunderstanding concerning school closures due to weather, the following steps will be taken to provide the official information:

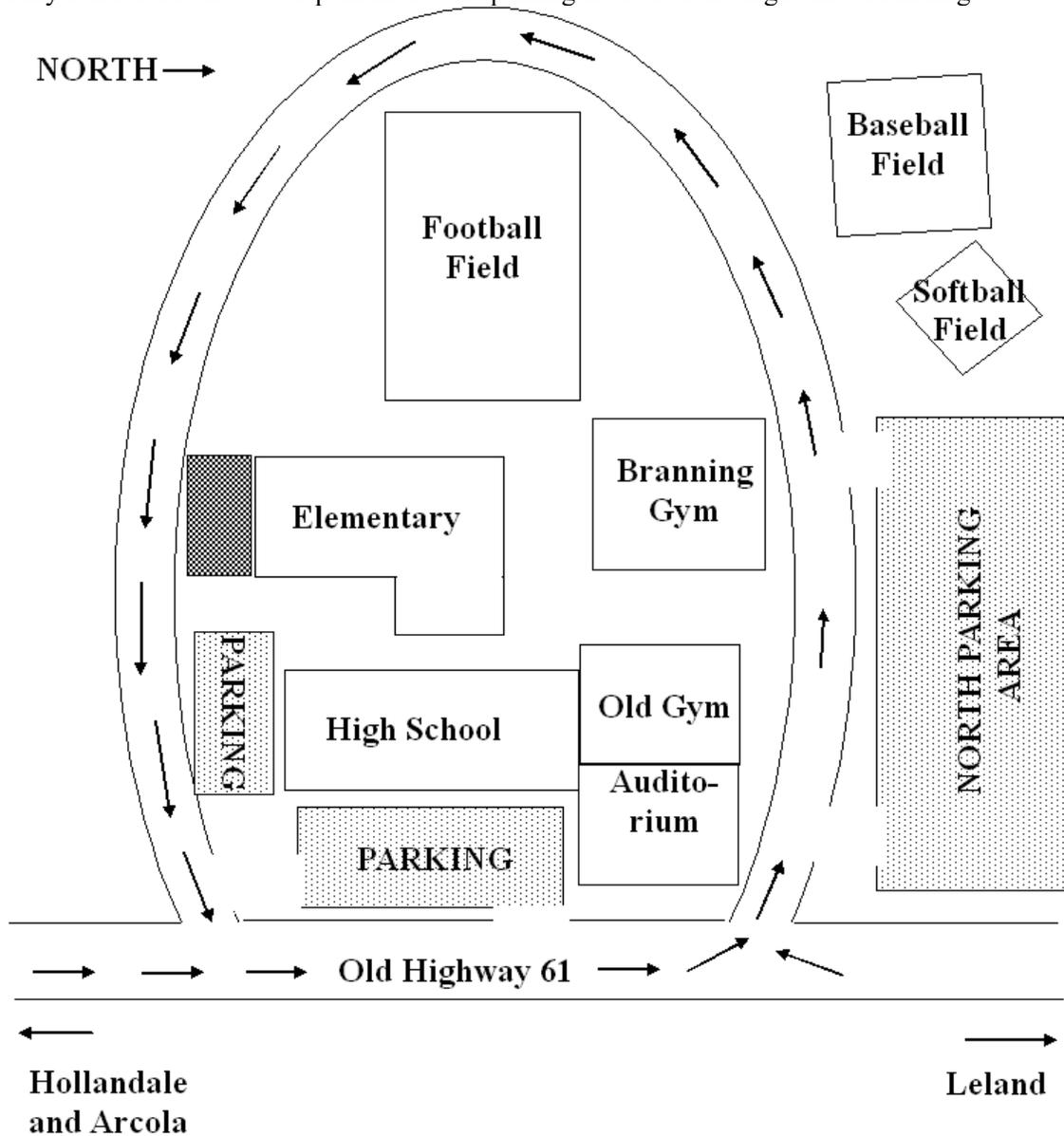
1. School will be closed because of inclement weather only when there is a danger to the safety of the students in traveling to and/or from school.
2. The decision as to whether school will be opened or closed will be made as early as possible – hopefully before 6:00 am.
3. Parents will be notified through SMART SEND. We must have correct cell phone numbers on file in the office for all parents to receive the text messages when the information is sent out.
4. Do not call the headmaster or secretary at home for this information.

CHANGES IN ADDRESS AND/OR PHONE NUMBER/ EMAIL ADDRESS

If at any time during the year a change of address or telephone number is made, please report it to the office. Updated emails, telephone numbers and addresses are vital for effective communication between school and parents.

CAMPUS MAP

For safety purposes, the drive around the campus is designated as 'one-way' for traffic from 7:00 a.m. until 8:15 a.m. and from 2:30 p.m. until 3:30 p.m. Traffic should enter on the north end (drive closest to the parking lot across from the gym) and circle around the football field to drop off elementary students underneath the awning. Junior high and Senior high students are to be dropped off at the north gate between the gymnasium and the old gym. All traffic should exit back onto the highway near the front entrance of the school. Students bringing automobiles to school should park in the north parking lot, as designated on the map. Only seniors are allowed to park in the east parking lot next to the high school building.



CELL PHONES/ ELECTRONIC DEVICES

At Deer Creek School we understand the need for cell phones because of the convenience and the safety they provide your child. Therefore, cell phones may be brought to school with the following guidelines:

1. The use of cellular phones or any electronic signaling device by students is prohibited from the time of arrival on campus until 2:50 p.m.
2. Under no circumstance (unless instructed by a DCS staff member) is photographing or audio/ video recording allowed anywhere on the school premises; violators will face disciplinary actions, including but not limited to the loss of cell phones privileges or other disciplinary consequences as deemed appropriate. In Mississippi, the law makes it a felony to invade the privacy of another person by photographing or video recording without that person's consent.
3. Phones, laptops, and/or any electronic devices will only be used at instructional time and ONLY under the supervision of a teacher.
4. If a device is observed or heard by school staff, it will be confiscated, and the student will be referred for insubordination, and the following disciplinary action will occur:
 - a. First Offense: Device will be turned into the headmaster and can be picked up at 2:50 p.m. that same day. The Headmaster will determine the appropriate punishment.
 - b. Second Offense and all subsequent offenses will result in a \$25.00 fine.
5. Deer Creek School reserves the right to take away phones or other electronic devices at any time for inappropriate use.
6. Deer Creek School is not responsible for lost, damaged, or stolen electronic devices or telephones.

The use of cell phones in restrooms, locker rooms, and weight rooms is not allowed. Cell phone communications of a threatening, illegal, or sexual nature will be referred to local law enforcement authorities.

DEER CREEK SCHOOL ELECTRONIC MEDIA POLICY

Staff members may use electronic communications with students when done professionally and appropriately. This would include school related business or any communication that would be acceptable in the presence of a student's parents or the school administration.

Any communication between a staff member and student that may be viewed as derogatory, sexual, or lewd in content, threatening or harassing, discriminatory, or suggestive in nature is inappropriate. It is the staff member's responsibility to ensure that such relationships continue along with appropriate boundaries. All students must adhere to the policies of decency as well. Any student who engages in inappropriate communication with faculty or other students will be subject to suspension or expulsion.

It is mandated by the Deer Creek Board of Directors that all its employees keep relationships with students on a strictly professional basis. Staff members who engage in inappropriate communications with students will be subject to reprimand or termination at the discretion of the Administration or Board of Directors.

The Board of Directors reserves the right to make modifications or additions to this policy at any time and has discretionary authority to interpret terms and provisions.

SOCIAL MEDIA POLICY

The purpose of social media is to encourage safe, positive, and engaging social contacts with people locally and throughout the world. Any messages or posting that runs contrary to this purpose (whether intentionally or not) will be subject to disciplinary scrutiny, even if such a case has not been specifically outlined in our school handbook.

We at Deer Creek School, want to be fair to students, school employees, and parents, but we simply can not turn our heads when individuals flagrantly post embarrassing and detrimental statements on the internet for the world to see. Employees, students, and parents must understand that material posted on Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, Snapchat, or similar public online sources may be viewed by virtually anyone, including parents, school administrators, teachers, college officials, potential employers, and people with harmful intentions.

Parents or students who post pictures or comments that cast Deer Creek School, its teachers or its students in a negative, scandalous way will be subject to disciplinary action and/or removal from school.

STUDENT INTERNET USE POLICY

The Internet is a worldwide network that consists of thousands of smaller networks. When connected to the Internet, you are part of this global network. It is an enormous resource of information. With access to a global network also comes the availability of material that may not be considered to be of educational value in the content of the school setting. However, we believe that the advantages of providing access to valuable information and interactions available on this worldwide network far outweigh the possible disadvantages of users procuring material that is not consistent with our mission.

Access to the internet is a privilege, not a right. Each user has the responsibility to behave in an ethical, moral, and legal manner. Users must not access, upload, download, or distribute pornographic, obscene, sexually explicit material, or other areas that may be offensive to any student, teacher, or parent because of sexual, racial, ethnic, or minority disparagement, the avocation of violence, or illicit/illegal content.

Violating any of the above guidelines and/or procedures can result in:

- Restricted network access.
- Loss of user account or access for a period of time as determined by the headmaster based on the nature of the offense.
- Disciplinary or legal action, including but not limited to, suspension, expulsion, or dismissal from school in accordance with appropriate state and federal law. Deer Creek School will report all violations of legal requirements to the appropriate authorities.

GUIDELINES FOR PERSONAL USE OF STUDENT-OWNED DEVICES

Deer Creek School will provide students access to a wireless network and the option of bringing in a personal laptop to enhance their education. The purpose of these guidelines are to assure that students recognize the limitations that the school imposes on their use of personal laptops. In addition to these guidelines, the use of any computer in school, including laptop computers requires students to abide by the following guidelines.

ACCEPTABLE USE OF COMPUTER NETWORK/COMPUTERS AND RESOURCES

1. Use of laptops and iPads will be at teacher discretion.
2. Students must obtain teacher permission before using a personal laptop during classroom instruction. Students using laptops will be allowed access to the Internet and note taking or word processing at the teacher's discretion.
3. Student use of a personal laptop must support the instructional activities currently occurring in each classroom and lab.
4. Students must turn off and put away a personal laptop when requested by a teacher.
5. Students may use their personal laptop in adult supervised areas only, such as the classroom when a teacher present. The laptop should be used for educational purposes during these times; playing games or other non-instructional activities is prohibited.
6. Failure to comply with these guidelines may result in confiscation of the laptop for the remainder of the day and/or loss of laptop use privileges for the year.
7. If a student's laptop is believed to have been involved in any activity that is not acceptable (as outlined in the Acceptable Use Policy), school personnel have the right to check the laptop for such activity and follow with disciplinary action.

Deer Creek School accepts no responsibility for personal property brought to the school by students. Students who choose to bring a laptop or iPad to school assume total responsibility for the device. Any devices that are stolen or damaged are the responsibility of the student and their parents or guardians. It is recommended that, when not in use, the laptop be in the student's locked locker.

BULLYING OR HARASSING BEHAVIOR IS PROHIBITED

1. "Bullying or harassing behavior" is any pattern of gestures or written, electronic or verbal communications, or any physical act or any threatening communication, or any act reasonably perceived as being motivated by any actual or perceived differentiating characteristic, that takes place on school property, at any school-sponsored function, or on a school bus, and that:

- a) Places a student or school employee in actual and reasonable fear of harm to his or her person or damage to his or her property; or
- b) Creates or is certain to create a hostile environment by substantially interfering with or impairing a student's educational performance, opportunities or benefits. For purposes of this section, "hostile environment" means that the victim subjectively views the conduct as bullying or harassing behavior and the conduct is objectively severe or pervasive enough that a reasonable person would agree that it is bullying or harassing behavior.

2. No student or school employee shall be subjected to bullying or harassing behavior by school employees or students.

3. No person shall engage in any act of reprisal or retaliation against a victim, witness or a person with reliable information about an act of bullying or harassing behavior.

4. A school employee who has witnessed or has reliable information that a student or school employee has been subject to any act of bullying or harassing behavior shall report the incident to the appropriate school official.

5. A student or volunteer who has reliable information that a student or school employee has been subject to any act of bullying or harassing behavior should report the incident to the appropriate school official.

6. Conduct described in subsection (1) of this section is considered bullying if that conduct interferes with a student's education or substantially disrupts the operation of a school.

STUDENT PHOTO/VIDEO USAGE

Deer Creek School will, on occasion, use photos or video of students for promotional use. This can include, but not be limited to:

- DCS website
- School Brochures
- DCS Yearbook
- Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, and other social media outlets
- Advertising extracurricular activities such as sports or band

Please be aware that the spirit of DCS promotional use of student photos/video is celebrating our students and our school. Video is used for student projects, chapels, teacher professional development (in school), and promotions. All media generated from or about the school will be closely monitored.

If a parent or guardian is concerned about their child's photo usage, please be sure to complete Parental/Guardian Photo Usage Consent Form.

COMMUNITY SERVICE

Students in grades 9-12 will be required to obtain a specific number of community service hours each year. Service must be documented in Gradelink and a supervising teacher must sign-off on the hours. Work done in the community or at church will require documentation by the supervisor and may be turned in to the school office. The calendar for community service runs from June 1- May 31 each year.

9th & 10th grade- 15 hours per year required

11th & 12th grade- 25 hours per year required

VISITORS

Visitors are welcomed at DCS. The school doors are always open to parents/guardians and others interested in the school. ALL visitors are required to come by the Headmaster's office upon entering the building and are not to go directly to any classroom. The office will assist with any requests.

PARENT-TEACHER CONFERENCES

Conferences with teachers may be arranged by calling the secretary for an appointment.

SAFETY DRILLS

Students will practice safety drills throughout the school year in order to be prepared for emergency situations. The office will notify students in case of a hazardous materials emergency, fire, or tornado warning. In case of emergency, the following steps will be taken:

Hazardous materials /Fire: indicated by one continuous ringing of the bell. Students are to follow teachers to the designated area.

Tornado: indicated by short continuous rings of the bell. Students are to follow teachers to designated areas in the hall and will sit facing the wall and with heads covered.

AUTOMOBILES ON CAMPUS

The cars which students bring to school will be parked in the north parking lot. Students are not to sit in cars after arriving on campus or return to their cars during the day.

Students who leave school without permission from the office will receive a Level 2 suspension.

DISPENSING OF MEDICATIONS

A physician's letter with directions will be necessary for Deer Creek School to dispense medicine.

Students who take daily medication of any kind must provide a copy of the prescription for the student's record. A picture of the medication bottle with the child's name, name of medication, strength and dosage will suffice.

TOBACCO & NICOTINE POLICY

It is the policy of the school that students will not smoke, chew, or have tobacco and/or nicotine products in their possession during school hours while on school property. Students in violation of this policy will be subject to disciplinary action to protect the best interests of all students and the school. The school buildings are tobacco and nicotine free.

CHEATING AND STEALING

CHEATING AND STEALING are expressly forbidden at Deer Creek School. Students who are guilty of cheating will receive a **ZERO** in that class for that test or assignment. Incidents of stealing will be handled by the Headmaster. If cheating or stealing persists, the student may be expelled from school.

FACILITY USE POLICY

In order to use Deer Creek School facilities after regular school hours or on the weekend, you must have permission from a DCS coach for each individual occasion. Students under the 10th grade must be accompanied by an adult. In order to use the gym, you must be a current student, alumni or invited guest.

Invited guests must be accompanied by a student who received permission to use the facility.

Students given permission by a coach must ensure that no one remains inside the building when they leave, and all facilities are locked.

The person obtaining permission from the coach is responsible for any damages that may occur.

The use of the school facilities is a privilege and can be revoked at any time by the school administration

MARRIED STUDENTS

Married Students may attend DCS. No married student may participate in any sport or extra-curricular activities.

UNMARRIED/MARRIED PREGNANT STUDENTS

In the event of unmarried/married student pregnancy, when the fact becomes known, the student will be allowed to continue her education at home until after delivery; upon which time with doctor's approval, she will be allowed to return to school.

When applicable, the above criteria shall also apply to the father if he is a student at Deer Creek School.

The student may retain all academic and athletic honors; however, she/he will not be eligible for any elected honors or positions, such as Who's Who, Mr. or Ms. Deer Creek School, Homecoming Queen, Prom Queen or King, Class Officer, Honor Society Officer, Student Council Member or Officer, Annual Editor or Co-Editor, FCA Officer, etc.

When applicable, the above criteria shall also apply to the father if he is a student of Deer Creek School.

During the period that the student(s) are working at home, athletic participation is denied.

GRADING SYSTEM

The grade scale will be a modified 10-Point Scale for grades 7th -12th. The Elementary students will remain on a 7-point scale.

The Modified 10-Point Scale

A = 90-100
B = 80-89
C = 73-79
D = 70-72
F = 69 and below

The 7 Point Scale(Elementary)

A = 94 - 100
B = 85 - 93
C = 76 - 84
D = 70 - 75
F = 69 - and below

HONOR ROLL AND HEADMASTER'S LIST

Honor Roll: A student must have a 90 average in each subject, each 9 weeks and semester

Headmaster's List: A student must have a 94 average in each subject, each 9 weeks and semester

EXEMPTION FROM EXAMINATIONS

DCS allows students in grades 7-12 the privileges of earning exemptions for 2nd semester exams for a one credit course. To become exempt, a student in grades 7-11 must have a 94 average or above for the first semester and have earned a 94 or above for the second semester. They also must have no more than five (5) tardies for the second semester.

A student in grades 7-11 may be exempt in a one semester course if his/her average is a 94 at the end of the semester. The student can have no more than five (5) tardies in that class.

Seniors taking a one credit course must have a 90 or above average for the first semester and a 90 or above average for the second semester with no more than five (5) tardies for the second semester. They must have a 90 average for a one semester course with no more than five (5) tardies for that semester.

PROGRESS REPORTS: Student's progress may be followed by viewing grades, assignments, and conduct reports through Gradelink(www.gradelink.com). Students will be issued a sign on code.

If you need assistance, please contact the office 662-827-5165. Progress reports will be sent upon written request by parents/guardians who do not have access to a computer with internet.

TERM REPORTS: Report cards will be sent home four (4) times a school year. These reports do not specify credit for a particular term but do indicate the quality of work being done. Parents/Guardians should anticipate these reports since they are indicative of what final accomplishments at the end of the year are likely to be.

For the 2020-2021 school session, term reports will be sent home on the following dates:

1st term: October 12, 2022
2nd term: January 4, 2023
3rd term: March 22, 2023
4th term: May 24, 2023

Promotion Requirements:

For a student to be promoted to the next grade he/she must adhere to the following rules.

- Jr. High Promotion: to the 7th Grade – must pass 6th grade,
to the 8th Grade – must pass English, Math, Social Studies, Science, & Literature
to the 9th Grade- must pass English, Math, Social Studies, Science, & Literature
- High School classification: Freshman- must pass all subjects in the 8th grade
Sophomore-earned 5 units/credits
Junior – earned 11 units/credits
Senior- earned 16 units/credits

*Students who fail a subject must meet with the counselor and headmaster. For grades 7 & 8, the course must be retaken in order to be promoted. No more than two courses per year can be taken during summer school.

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

1. Twenty-one (21) Carnegie units are required for graduation.
2. Twenty (20) of the above twenty-one (21) units must be academic units.
3. All students in grades 9 -12 must be scheduled for five (5) periods; excluding study hall.
4. Minimum requirements for graduation:

Subject	Carnegie Units	Content/Remarks
English	4	Compensatory Reading & Writing may not be included.
Mathematics	4	Includes Pre-Algebra, Algebra I, and any two Carnegie Units of comparable rigor & content (Algebra II, Advanced Algebra, Geometry, Trig. Pre-Calculus, Calculus, General Math II and General Math III)
Science	4	Includes Biology I, and any three Carnegie Units of comparable rigor & content (Biology II, A & P, Chemistry I, Chemistry II, Physics, Physical Science, Ag-Science)
Social Science	4	Includes World History, U. S. History, Introduction to World Geography, U. S. Government, Economics, & Mississippi Studies (Credit earned in other state/local government course will stand in lieu of MS Studies)
Arts	1	Includes one unit of visual or performing arts course meeting graduation requirements
Advanced Electives	2	Includes any two Carnegie Units of Foreign Language (I & II) OR Foreign Language I and Advanced World Geography, OR Foreign Language I and a 5 th year unit in English, mathematics, or lab-based science of comparable rigor and content to those required above
Computer Applications	½	Course should emphasize the computer as a productivity tool. Instruction should include the use of application packages, such as word processing & spreadsheets, basic computer terminology, & hardware operation

HALL OF FAME

Induction into the Hall of Fame will be based on a point system. These points will be awarded for outstanding performance while participating as a student at Deer Creek School. Students will begin earning points toward induction once they enter the ninth grade. Hall of Fame candidates can only earn academic points in college prep courses. A total of 70 points or more is needed for induction. Points can be removed for disciplinary reasons just as they can be awarded for other reasons. The Headmaster, counselor, and senior sponsor(s) will serve as a Hall of Fame committee and will be the final authority. The following list below indicates the number of points to be earned or lost: (Points per year)

1. Grades

College prep courses only, electives do not count. Honors courses include Chem.II, Advanced Math, Physics, and other advanced courses. Any Dual Enrollment class will count as an honors class.

PREP	HONORS/ DUAL ENROLLMENT CLASSES
A= +2	A= +2
B= +1	B= +1
C= +0	C= + ½
F= -2	

2. Memberships

Honor Society	+ 1
Athletic Teams (High School)	+ ½
Extracurricular Clubs	+ ½
Cheerleader	+ ½
Office Monitor	+ ½
Student Aide/Peer Tutor	+ ½

3. Honors

Office Held	+ 1
Honors Won (Elected by classmates)	+ 1
MAIS Recognition (Sports, Academic, etc.)	+2
Other Recognition (Ex.-Eagle Scouts, etc.)	+2

4. Community Service

Hours must be documented & submitted on Gradelink.

1 to 25 Hours	+ ¼
26 to 50 Hours	+ ½
51 to 75 Hours	+ ¾
76 to 100 + Hours	+ 1
100 + Hours	+ 2

VALEDICTORIAN AND SALUTATORIAN REQUIREMENTS

1. The student shall have earned credits to include at least:

- 4 units of English
 - 4 units of Math (Algebra I, Geometry, Algebra II, and Advanced Math)
 - 4 units of Science (Biology, Advanced Biology, Chemistry, Physics, or Advanced Chemistry)
 - 4 units of Social Studies
- A fourth (4th) unit of Math may be substituted for a fifth (5th) year of Advanced Science. A fourth (4th) unit of Science may be substituted for a fifth (5th) year of Advanced Math.

2. The students must attend Deer Creek School both their Junior and Senior years.

3. To be named Valedictorian, a student must achieve the highest overall numerical average during grades 9 through 12.

4. To be named Salutatorian, a student must achieve the second highest overall numerical average during grades 9 through 12.

HONOR GRADUATE REQUIREMENTS

An honor graduate of Deer Creek School will be any graduating senior who meets the following requirements:

1. The student shall have a 94 or above accumulative yearly average from grades 9 through 12.
2. The student shall have earned credits to include at least:
 - 4 units of English
 - 4 units of Math (Algebra I, Geometry, Algebra II, and Advanced Math)
 - 4 units of Science (Biology, Advanced Biology, Chemistry, Physics, or Advanced Chemistry)
 - 4 units of Social StudiesA fourth (4th) unit of Math may be substituted for a fifth (5th) year of Advanced Science. A fourth (4th) unit of Science may be substituted for a fifth (5th) year of Advanced Math.
3. A student may not have failed any subject.

DUAL ENROLLMENT

All students taking dual enrollment must meet the requirements: minimum overall 3.0 GPA on a 4.0 scale on all high school courses and with successful completion 14 core high school units. Students who have not completed 14 core high school units may be admitted to dual enrollment/credit program with a minimum of an overall 3.0 GPA on all high school courses and a minimum composite ACT score of 30 or the equivalent SAT score. An English sub score 17 on the ACT is required to take Comp I and 19 math sub score in order to take college algebra. Enrollment must be approved by Headmaster.

HONOR SOCIETY

The purpose of Deer Creek Honor Society is to promote academic achievement, to create an enthusiasm for scholarship, to stimulate a desire to render service, to promote worthy leadership, and to encourage the development of character in all students attending Deer Creek. Students in grades 10 - 12 will be eligible for membership. Eligibility is determined for all students in grades 10th – 12th on a yearly basis.

To be eligible, a student must have an overall yearly average of 90, Eligibility will be determined after checking the student's yearly averages from the ninth grade. Induction will take place the fall semester of his/her tenth-grade year. It is possible for a student to be inducted in his/her 11th through 12th grade year if his/her grades are up to standards. Once inducted into DCS Honor Society, the student must maintain the required overall 90 average.

If a DCS Honor Society Member is disciplined for cheating, he/she will immediately lose membership privileges and be dismissed from the MSAIS/DCS Honor Society Roster. He/She will not be re-instated as a member while attending Deer Creek School.

CHANGES IN CLASS SCHEDULES

No student will be permitted to change his/her schedule without first having a conference with the counselor. Permission must be given by parents of the student for changes to take place. All students must drop or change classes within the **FIRST FULL WEEK OF CLASSES**. A student that withdraws or is dismissed from a class may remain enrolled in school only if he/she is meeting five other classes.

TESTING PROGRAMS

The following schedule lists the testing performed by grade for students in grades 7 -12. It is also recommended that students consider taking the ACT beginning in the 10th grade.

8 th Grade	-	PreACT
10 th Grade	-	PreACT
11 th Grade	-	ASVAB, ACT
12 th Grade	-	ACT

ACCOMMODATIONS/ MODIFICATIONS POLICY

Our staff of responsible and caring educators is prepared to provide accommodations or modifications for students. Students who have current tests on file administered by a physician or licensed psychologist or psychometrist, may be eligible for reasonable classroom accommodations or modifications as determined by the administration. Parental consent must be given, and the student's report card and cumulative record must reflect the areas in which the modifications are made. Any tutoring outside the classroom will be at the expense of the parent.

Due to the lack of specialized programs, the school is unable to serve students with severe learning or behavioral difficulties that require more extreme accommodations or modifications. Deer Creek School reserves the right to monitor and assess both current and incoming students before accommodations or modifications are made. Attendance, class participation, and work habits are areas that will be evaluated.

STUDENT LIFE AND ACTIVITIES

Students are encouraged to participate in activities outside the classroom. Listed below are some of the activities that are available at Deer Creek School:

Football	Junior High and High School
Fastpitch Softball	Junior High and High School Girls
Cheerleading	Junior High and High School Girls
Basketball	Boys and Girls -- Junior High and High School
Track	Boys and Girls -- Junior High and High School
Tennis	Boys and Girls -- Junior High and High School
Baseball	Junior High and High School Boys
Student Council	
STEM	
Honor Society	
Mississippi Scholars	
Rho Kappa	
Fellowship of Christian Athletes	

Poor attendance and inappropriate conduct could result in a student being dismissed from any activity by the headmaster. Other clubs or student organizations will be provided if interest is shown. Organization of new clubs must have the approval of the headmaster.

PARTICIPATION POLICY

Enrollment and participation in activities at Deer Creek School will be determined based on gender assigned at birth. This is applicable to students, staff, and faculty.

The participation policy is applicable to all student athletes and cheerleaders enrolled at Deer Creek School in grades 7 – 12. Deer Creek School will adhere to MAIS guidelines for academic standards in establishing eligibility. Once eligibility is established, it will be valid for the remainder of the school term.

Each student participating in athletics or cheerleading ***MUST*** provide a record of a physical examination to the office clearing them for participation in Deer Creek Athletics.

All students attending Deer Creek School must be current with tuition, book fees, cafeteria fees, bus fees, and daycare charges and other charges incurred while attending school to be eligible to participate in any extracurricular activities. This includes clubs, sports, and cheerleading.

SPECIAL RULES FOR END OF YEAR: Four major academic courses must be passed for the year for the student to be eligible to participate starting the next school year. Summer school/correspondence courses will be passed before fall classes begin to attain eligibility in accordance with MAIS guidelines.

CHEERLEADER REQUIREMENTS

All rules from the Eligibility for Participation in Athletics and Extra-Curricular Activities (next section) apply to cheerleaders. Young ladies must be attending Deer Creek School or be registered for the following year to tryout. Cheerleaders must attend camp if the squad goes and attend summer practice sessions unless excused by the headmaster. Cheerleaders must have a record of a physical on file in the office. Cheerleaders must maintain good moral character. Upon the first major discipline action, the cheerleader is warned and counseled by the Headmaster and Sponsor; a second offense will result in being suspended from cheering for one week. The third offense results in removal from the cheering squad.

STUDENT COUNCIL

1. Four (4) student council officers: President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer are to be elected by the student body the year before the year to be served.
2. Six (6) class presidents from each grade 7-12 shall represent his class. Should the president of the class be an officer of the student council, then the vice president of that class shall also be on the student council.
3. Twelve (12) student council representatives, two (2) from each grade 7-12, shall represent their classes.

REQUIREMENTS FOR MEMBERSHIP

1. Members of the student council must maintain an average of 80.
2. All members of the student council must be individuals in good standing with the school.
3. All members of the student council should not have any major disciplinary record.
4. A current member of the student council must have an overall average of 85 to run for office.
5. Any member must attempt to be present at all student council meetings or functions. Should a member miss two (2) meeting or functions without an excuse than he/she is subject to dismissal requiring only a majority vote by the current membership.
6. Should a member of the student council be dismissed for any reason, then his/her class shall elect a replacement who will be subject to the same requirements as original members. Should the member be an officer of the student council, then the entire student body shall elect a replacement.
7. Candidates for office in the student council should also meet requirements by class. The new president should be, at the time of the election, a junior, the vice-president, a sophomore; the secretary, a freshman; and the treasurer, a member of the 8th grade.

DUTIES AND REQUIREMENTS OF OFFICERS

President	Must be a senior. Leads student body in prayer and pledge before each school assembly. Responsible for helping organize Homecoming Festivities, May Day, and other events.
Vice-President	Should be a junior. Must be prepared to fulfill the duties of the President should he/she not be present Must support student council events.
Secretary	Keeps minutes of the meetings and records all matters of business presented to Student Council.
Treasurer	Helps keep records of Student Council funds.

The Student Council operates by the authority and according to the provisions of the Deer Creek Student Council Constitution. The Student Council may propose or ask for rule changes. These changes will be brought to the Headmaster for approval or disapproval.

Each teacher should encourage his/her homeroom to elect competent student officers who can assume the role of homeroom leadership and provide good representation on the council.

Each homeroom will be represented at every meeting of the student council.

Specific purposes of the student council are to:

1. Provide citizenship training and encourage the practice of good citizenship.
2. Stimulate and develop a healthy school spirit.
3. Promote democratic relationships between teachers and students, and among students themselves.
4. Co-ordinate and promote student activities and encourage students to accept and discharge their responsibilities.
5. Provide opportunities for developing leadership abilities.

CLASS OFFICER GUIDELINES

1. Each class will elect the following officers: President, 2(two) Student Council representatives, Vice-President, Secretary, and Treasurer in the above stated order.
2. The Class President and the 2 (two) Student Council Representatives will serve on Student Council and be required to attend meetings of Student Council.
3. Each officer elected must have and maintain an 80-overall average.

FAMILY VOLUNTEER POLICY

Each family is asked to provide a minimum of 10 family service hours. The family service hours will include activities for Booster Club and PTA. The service hour calendar will begin August 1, 2022 and ends on May 30, 2023. Any work done in June and July will count towards the next year. Families who do not earn the the required hours will be assessed \$10 per hour for each hour not reported.

Students in grades 9-12 may volunteer to help parents with family responsibility. They may NOT, however, record family hours and their personal volunteer hours for the same duty. Students must designate whether they are working for the family or for themselves.

The obvious volunteer opportunities are concession stand and gate workers for ballgames as well as Harvest festival activities. Emails will be sent to all patron for sign up opportunities. Other projects and scheduled workdays will be posted as needed.

You will not receive service hours for donations that produce tax-deductible donation letters and service hours cannot be given for events that are not school sanctioned or for private purchases at fundraisers.

STUDENT APPEARANCE AND CONDUCT

PERSONAL APPEARANCE

The way a student dresses reflects his/her pride in Deer Creek School and in themselves. Keep in mind that certain types of clothing are appropriate for certain places and occasions. Extremes in dress and hairstyles have **NO** place in school. Be sure to exercise your good judgment along these lines. The dress code is as follows and applies to all school sponsored activities:

Pants, shorts, and skirts:

1. Hemmed pants worn at the waist. Low-rise, just below the waist, will be acceptable. No pants that are ultra low-rise, hip huggers, bell bottoms, oversized cargo, distressed, or have holes in them may be worn.

2. Girls may wear dresses, skirts, shorts or pants with no holes. All dresses, skirts and shorts must be approaching knee length. If measurement is required, they are to be no shorter than 5 inches from the floor when kneeling. If the skirt is designed with a split, the top of the split must be within 5 inches of the floor when kneeling. Shorts must come to the knee in length, with no frayed hems. Leggings worn must have a top that comes to mid-thigh. No oversized sweatshirts, fleeces, or jackets may be worn as a top in class with leggings.

3. Boys may wear shorts approaching knee length. No athletic shorts will be allowed.

Shirts:

All shirts that are made to be tucked in shall be tucked in at **ALL** times. Girls shirts/blouses/tunics must completely cover the waistband of pants, shorts and skirts when arms are raised above the head.

Sweaters, shirts or tunics being worn with leggings must come to mid-thigh.

Students may not wear any type of clothing that advertises alcoholic beverages or cigarettes or any shirt which may be deemed offensive.

No tank tops, low cut tops, halter tops, or revealing garments shall be worn. No excessively tight clothing shall be worn. Sleeveless shirts must have wide straps that go to the shoulder. No tops may be worn with exposed skin in the back-- no deep "V" back, no racer back, no cut-outs, no deep scooped backs.

Boys shall wear socks and belt.

Sweatsuits or sweatpants are NOT allowed.

Sunglasses and hats are not to be worn inside the buildings.

Boys may not wear earrings.

PERSONAL GROOMING:

Boys must be clean shaven and wear their hair in a neat and suitable style. Hair must be above the ear and collar. Bangs shall be above the eyebrow. No corn rows, braids or plaits, or extreme hairstyles for boys will be allowed.

Girls must also avoid extreme hairstyles, colors, and hair accessories. Be sure to exercise good judgment along these limits. We are aware of the current styles and trends. Within the current styles we expect our students to choose styles that are appropriate for school.

DRESS CODE VIOLATIONS

Students in violation of the dress code will be asked to change clothes so they can remain at school. If they do not have a change of clothes, they will be sent home to change after their parent/guardian has been contacted. A second offense of dress code violation will be considered a Level One violation.

DISCIPLINARY VIOLATIONS

When a student is sent to the headmaster's office, the following actions will be taken:

LEVEL 1

- ◆ Being in unauthorized areas, including the parking lot and library
- ◆ Dress code violations
- ◆ Disruptive behavior
- ◆ Gum chewing
- ◆ Tardiness
- ◆ Use of cell phones during class hours. The use of cell phones in restrooms, locker rooms and weight rooms.
- ◆ Profanity or obscenity –spoken, written, or by gesture

ACTION: May be corrected by corporal punishment, one hour before school detention, or what is deemed necessary by the Headmaster.

LEVEL 2

- ◆ Leaving campus without authorization
- ◆ Destruction of school property
- ◆ Disrespectful of a school official, teacher or faculty
- ◆ Intimate physical contact
- ◆ Fighting and/ or assault
- ◆ Initiation or participation in a disturbance at school sponsored activities
- ◆ Possession, use, or attempted use of fireworks or other minor explosives
- ◆ Gambling
- ◆ Possession of and/or use of tobacco products including vaping and vaping devices.
- ◆ Possession of pornographic material
- ◆ False pretense – forging notes, excuses, cheating on tests or other assignments
- ◆ Threatening a member of the faculty or staff
- ◆ Repeated Level 1 offenses

ACTION: Out of school suspension for a period deemed appropriate by the Headmaster.

LEVEL 3

- ◆ Bomb threats or vocalizing a false emergency
- ◆ Computer sabotage or misuse of computer technology (hacking, placing viruses, removing programs, or accessing inappropriate web sites)
- ◆ Harassing, intimidating, or threatening fellow students
- ◆ Stealing, larceny, or extortion (restitution required)

ACTION: Results in the student being suspended out of school a minimum of three (3) days and subject to further disciplinary action by the Headmaster.

LEVEL 4

- ◆ Arrest for infractions in or on school property, including while at a school sponsored event
- ◆ Open defiance of school personnel, threatening or implying serious threat, or assault on any school employee.
- ◆ Possession, use, transfer, or sale of any controlled substance (drugs/alcohol) or paraphernalia, or being under the influence of such
- ◆ Weapons (possession of any weapons such as Mace, Pepper Spray, knives, guns or any item used as a weapon) on school grounds, including in vehicles
- ◆ Sexual assault, battery, rape, or engaging in a sexual act at school.
- ◆ Bullying

ACTION: Minimum of five (5) days out of school suspension, suspension for the remainder of the semester, or expulsion for the remainder of the school year, at the discretion of the headmaster.

CORPORAL PUNISHMENT:

The following procedures are to be followed when corporal punishment is used. There should never be any intent involved other than emphasizing that a serious violation of school rules has occurred. Discretion is urged in all instances.

1. Student is to be given the reason for “paddling” before punishment.
2. A witness is required to observe the paddling.
3. No more than three (3) licks are to be given. The paddles to be used are only those provided by the school. No other instruments are to be used for corporal punishment.
4. Sex, age, and physical size of student will be considered in application of punishment.
5. Punishment is not to be given in the presence of students not involved.
6. Student is to be reminded of the reason of paddling after punishment.

SCHOOL SUSPENSIONS

Deer Creek School uses two types of school suspensions: In-School Suspension(ISS) and Out-of-School Suspension(OSS).

In-School Suspension-Students will report to a designated area during the school day. Any tests or assigned classwork will be done during the school day. The suspended student will receive no grade higher than an 80 for any work assignments/tests given on day/days of suspension. The student will not be eligible for exam exemptions.

Out-of-School Suspensions-This is the school’s most serious disciplinary action short of expulsion. Students will not report to campus for class or any extracurricular activities for the day or days of the suspension. All work and tests missed will be made up. Parents can make arrangements to get assignments for the student. The suspended student can receive a grade no higher than 70 for work missed while out of school. If no test during suspension is given the teacher will record a test grade of 70 or the equivalent of the student’s highest test score up to a 70 in each subject area. The student will not be eligible for exam exemptions.

*Students who receive an in-school suspension WILL be able to participate in co-curricular activities (athletics, clubs, etc.) upon approval of the administration. Students who receive an out-of-school suspension WILL BE INELIGIBLE to participate in any co-curricular activities (athletics, clubs, etc.) for the time of the suspension.

STUDENT CONDUCT AT SCHOOL SPONSORED EVENTS

Students are expected to follow the same code of conduct that applies during the regular school day when attending school sponsored events. Dress code and conduct will be monitored. If a student is found to be in violation of these rules, disciplinary actions will result. This applies to any sporting events, entertainment events, etc.

SCHOOL SPONSORED DANCES

In order for the school to continue the tradition of school dances, student behavior and adherence to school policies must be strictly followed. The assurance that all school and dance policies are abided by is the sole responsibility of our students and their guests that attend these events. Students are reminded that they are responsible for the behavior of their guests and all school policies are in effect at these events including the right to search any vehicle on the school campus. We reserve the right to search students and their belongings and to administer an accepted form of alcohol or controlled substance detection methodology to all or individual students attending the dance. Testing will occur upon entering and leaving the dance and any other time deemed needed.

SUBSTANCE AND DRUG ABUSE

Substance Abuse Statement:

The Board of Directors is committed to providing a zero-tolerance environment for our students.

Definition of Substance Abuse: Substance abuse may include, but is not limited to alcoholic drinks, marijuana, narcotic drugs, hallucinogens, stimulants, depressants, and anything else covered by the Drug Control Act, as well as any abusable glue, paint, and similar materials, anabolic steroids, and both prescription and non-prescription drugs if they are not taken according to the prescription or directions on the package, and including anything that a student represents to be a restricted/abusable substance or which is believed to be a restricted/abusable substance.

DRUG TESTING POLICY

The Drug Testing Policy applies to all students in grades 7-12.

A. Purpose of the Program:

The purpose of the drug testing program is as follows:

1. To educate the student concerning the dangers of drug use and abuse.
2. To help prevent drug use or abuse by the students of Deer Creek School.
3. To identify any student who may be using drugs and to identify the drug.
4. To see that any chronic dependency is addressed and treated properly.
5. To provide reasonable safeguards so that every student who attends Deer Creek School is medically competent.
6. To remove the stigma of drugs from those students who are not users.
7. To reassure students, parents/guardians and the community that the health and academic progress of each student is the primary goal of Deer Creek School.
8. To re-emphasize to the student his/her responsibility as a positive role model and to aid students in the development of healthy and responsible lifestyles.

B. Testing Procedure:

1. The parent/guardian of each student has signed an agreement to follow all rules, regulations, and policies by signing the Educational Contract and the Student Handbook Statement.
2. All students will sign a form and provide their social security number during registration.
3. Administrators, teachers, employees, and Board members will be tested at random.
4. Each student will be tested during the school year and will be subject to random testing at any time thereafter.
5. The method of testing is at the discretion of a designated administrator. Any positive drug result will be confirmed by an additional test.
6. The collection and coding of samples are executed in a manner ensuring total confidentiality and identification.
7. The samples will be analyzed by a private laboratory using the most up-to-date methods. If a student is taking medications, these medications must be revealed to the tester on the date of the test.
8. If an urine sample is cold, or a sample cannot be provided within thirty minutes, a hair sample will be taken.
9. Drug screening results will be reported only to a designated administrator

C. First Incident of a Positive Result:

A positive result will automatically be re-tested by the testing laboratory immediately to ensure that no error has occurred. The second test will be a more specific test. If the positive result is verified and confirmed, then the following steps will be taken:

1. The administrator will be advised of the result.
2. The student and parents/guardians will be advised. The student will be evaluated and assessed by a professional consultant at the expense of the parent. The professional may include one of the following: Certified Alcohol and Drug Abuse Counselor, Student Assistant Professional, Licensed Social Worker, Medical Review Officer, or other designated appropriate agency.
3. At the expense of the parent/guardian, the student will then be required to attend a drug-counseling program that shall be approved by the health care professional and the school

administrator.

4. If a parent/guardian refuses a complete counseling program for his/her child, the student will be dismissed from school.
5. After a first positive test, the student will take every test administered during the year at the expense of the parent/guardian.
6. If an administrator, teacher, employee, or Board member tests positive, he/she will be required to attend a drug counseling program at his/her own expense and will follow steps 3, 4, 5, and 6.

D. A second incident of a student testing positive while enrolled at Deer Creek will result in immediate dismissal. A student may re-apply to Deer Creek School for the next school year, subject to Board approval. Testing results will carry over from grades 7 – 12.

E. Refusal to be tested will result in contract termination.

F. If case of a cold sample, or not providing a sample in a reasonable amount of time, a hair sample will be taken

SEARCH AND SEIZURE

Deer Creek School reserves the right to search lockers, automobiles, and gym bags, without the student's knowledge or presence. Reasonable search of students may be necessary for the safety and welfare of our students and faculty. Any means practical may be exercised by Deer Creek School to ensure a drug-free environment including the use of specially trained drug dogs.

LEGAL AND FINANCIAL INFORMATION

TUITION PAYMENT POLICY

Tuition Payment Options:

Due in the office for 12-month plan by May 25, 2022 or for 10 month plan July 25, 2022.

Semester payments due on August 1, 2022 and January 1, 2023.

Payment in full at time of registration.

All progress reports, final grades, transcripts, and diploma will be withheld while tuition is in arrears. Students will not be allowed to take examinations while tuition is in arrears.

RETURNED CHECKS OR DENIED BANK DRAFTS

Any payment (tuition/fees or other) that is returned to the school or denied by the bank will result in a service charge of \$30.00 or the amount of any fees charged to the school for the refusal of the payment, whichever is greater. Checks returned or bank drafts may be resubmitted without notifying the drawer. Should any family have two payments returned unpaid or denied by their bank, the school may opt to no longer accept personal checks or bank drafts for any reason from that family for the remainder of the school year. Following such a determination, the affected parents/guardians must use cash, money orders, or cashier's checks to pay all accounts.

DELINQUENT ACCOUNTS

If two consecutive monthly educational contract payments are missed or returned, Deer Creek School may prevent the affected child from attending school until such time as the entire balance due for that student is paid in full. Deer Creek School reserves the right to withhold report cards, completed transcripts, school records, and/or diplomas for any child whose educational contract is in default.

The school reserves the right to prohibit the right of the child to participate in any school activities or camps in which all tuition/fees have not been paid.

FUNDRAISING

All activities designed to raise money for the school or school sponsored groups must be approved by the Head of School and the Board of Directors. All money must be turned in to the office for a receipt.

CHILD CUSTODY

To ensure the safety of our students, the custodial parent or guardian must provide the school with a copy of the appropriate documents regarding a child's custody. This is to prevent a child from being released to a non-custodial parent or guardian. Deer Creek School will work to ensure that no student will be released to anyone other than a custodial parent or guardian unless the school has been notified in writing by the custodial parent or guardian.

SEXUAL HARASSMENT POLICY

In accordance with Title VII of the Civil Rights Acts of 1964, Section 703, no employee, parent or students in the (school) shall be subject to sexual harassment. It is the intent of (school) to maintain an environment free from sexual harassment of any kind. Therefore, unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors, and other verbal or physical conduct of a sexual nature amounting to or constituting harassment are prohibited. Complaints of violation of this policy may be made to the Headmaster, or other persons designated by the Headmaster, without fear of reprisal. All complaints will be investigated thoroughly and promptly. Should complaints prove to be legitimate, the offending employee, parent or student will be subject to disciplinary action, including involuntary termination.

The policy is no way limits or precludes any employee, parent or student from pursuing any relief afforded by state or federal law.

PUBLIC NOTICE OF ASBESTOS

The Deer Creek School wishes to inform the faculty, students, parents and the general public as to the status of its asbestos management program. The school has on file with the Mississippi Department of Education an approved asbestos management plan. Asbestos containing building materials remain in school facilities and do not present a health risk to our students or the public.

Anyone wishing to review the school's asbestos management plans may do so at the Headmaster's office.

OCR STATEMENT

Deer Creek School complies with all applicable laws regarding affirmative action and equal opportunity in all its activities and programs and does not discriminate against anyone protected by law because of age, color, disability, national origin, race, religion, sex, handicap, or status as a veteran or disabled veteran.

Required Signature Page

Your signature on this page acknowledges that you have read the 2022-2023 Deer Creek School handbook and accept responsibility regarding all rules in the document.

Also, by signing, you agree to the statements below:

- 1) Deer Creek School may disclose directory information such as student's name, address, telephone number, date and place of birth, honors and awards, and dates of attendance.
- 2) Deer Creek School may use pictures and works of its students on its website and/or in advertising.

3) **Notice of Risk for COVID 19:**

We have taken enhanced health and safety measures for those who come to our campus- students, employees, and visitors. While on campus you must follow all posted instructions. An inherent risk of exposure to COVID-19 exists in any public space where people are present. COVID-19 is a contagious disease. If infected, you may exhibit no symptoms or mild symptoms, or become severely ill or die. According to the Center for Disease Control and Prevention, senior citizens and persons with underlying health conditions are especially vulnerable.

By visiting our campus, you voluntarily assume all risks related to the possible exposure to COVID-19.

Student name & grade:

Parent name:

Student signature
Required for grades 3-12:

Parent signature:
