



**DIMENSIONS**  
**A C A D E M Y**

*“Connecting Students to Their Future; Restoring Hope”*

**STUDENT HANDBOOK 2021-2022**  
**(grades 9-12)**

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## **TABLE OF CONTENTS:**

- PAGE 2 STAFF & EMAIL INFORMATION
- PAGE 3 CALENDAR
- PAGE 4 BELL SCHEDULE
- PAGE 4 GRADING PERIOD
- PAGE 4 CONFERENCES
- PAGE 5 STUDENT EXPECTATIONS
- PAGE 5 ATTENDANCE
- PAGE 6 DRESS CODE
- PAGE 6 DISCIPLINE OPTIONS
- PAGE 7 GENERAL SCHOOL INFORMATION
- PAGE 7 TOBACCO FREE ENVIRONMENT
- PAGE 7 DRIVING/STUDENT PARKING
- PAGE 7 SECURITY DRILLS
- PAGE 8/9/10 LIBRARY RESOURCES
- PAGE 10 PARENT PORTAL
- PAGE 10 PERSONAL PROPERTY
- PAGE 10 SEMESTER/CREDITS
- PAGE 10 STUDENT ARRIVING
- PAGE 10 STUDENT INTERNET AGREEMENT
- PAGE 10 SUPERVISION
- PAGE 11 TEXTBOOKS
- PAGE 11 THEFT
- PAGE 11 TRANSCRIPT
- PAGE 11 VISITORS

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2021-2022

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## SCHEDULE 2021-2022

### Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, & Friday

### ADVISORY Wednesday

8:50 TO 10:00	1st Period		8:50 TO 10:00	1st Period
10:05 to 11:10	2nd Period		10:05 to 11:00	2nd Period
11:15 to 12:25	3rd Period		11:05 to 11:55	3rd Period
12:25 to 1:05	lunch		12:00 to 12:25	Advisory
1:05 to 2:10	4th Period		12:25 to 1:05	lunch
2:15 to 3:20	5th Period		1:05 to 2:10	4th Period
			2:15 to 3:20	5th Period

### GRADING PERIODS

- Q1** August 24 – October 23 (42 Days)
- Q2** October 26 - December 18 (35 Days)
- Q3** January 6 - March 12 (47 Days)
- Q4** March 22 - May 27 (49 Days)

### PARENT/TEACHER CONFERENCES

- October 22 (Evening) 5:00 pm to 8:00 pm
- October 23 (No School) 8:00 am to Noon
- March 11 (Evening) 5:00 pm to 8:00 pm
- March 12 (No School) 8:00 am to Noon

## STUDENT EXPECTATIONS

Dimensions Academy strives to help students develop the life and academic skills necessary to be successful at school, home, and in the workplace. At Dimensions Academy we focus on the following expectations.

- SAFETY
- RESPECT
- RESPONSIBILITY

## ATTENDANCE

### ARRIVING LATE/LEAVING EARLY

A student who arrives late should report directly to Maryann Pierce. If they have a doctor's note or other documentation, they may turn it in at this time. Students who are late to class by more than 15 minutes will be counted absent (missing more than 15 minutes of any class is counted as an absence).

**If a student must leave school before the end of the school day, they must check out with the secretary.**

**A parent contact by phone or in person must happen for the student to check out. Any student who leaves school without checking out through the office will be considered truant. If a student needs to check out for the afternoon, they need to check out before leaving for lunch. If a student becomes ill during the lunch period and cannot return to school, the parent must call the school.**

### ATTENDANCE POLICY/PROCEDURE

Regular attendance is essential for students to be successful. For every day a student is absent, the parent or guardian must notify the secretary (*during office hours of 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.*) or leave a voicemail after hours. If parents do not notify the school of the absence, an attempt will be made by the school to contact the parent. When a student returns to school from an absence, they should check with the secretary to make sure the absence has been excused and cleared. Students may request a copy of their attendance from the secretary.

**Current attendance can be viewed online using Parent Portal.**

### EXCUSED ABSENCES

Excused absences may be granted to a student by the school attendance secretary or administrator upon request of the parent or guardian for the following reasons: *illness, accident, injury, medical and dental appointments, death in the family, religious holidays, and emergency situations*. These excused absences still count against the "District Approved Attendance Policy." A doctor's note must be provided within a week (five school days) of the absence in order for the excused absence not to count against the Attendance Policy. Students will be excused for participating in school sponsored activities which do not count against the Attendance Policy. When students miss a class, they may make up missed work.

### TARDY POLICY

Because it is important to instill the qualities of promptness and planning and to maximize classroom learning time, students are expected to be in the classroom and ready to work when class starts.

### FULL PARTICIPATION

Students are expected to fully participate in all coursework and activities while at Dimensions Academy.

## **DRESS CODE**

A Bulldog of Character represents themselves appropriately at all times. Clothing that may be fun or appropriate on the weekends may not be appropriate for school. We have found that how a student dresses for school affects their behavior. The dress code is based on the premise of recognizing fashion without sacrificing decency, safety, and appropriateness.

Clothing expectations for a students shall include, but are not limited to the following:

- Bra straps and other undergarments must never be visible.
- Clothing, jewelry, or piercing items that can be considered dangerous or promote vulgarity, violence, alcohol, or drugs. "Gang" related clothing--colors or gang paraphernalia including, but not limited to, dress that is made from bandana fabric, is predominantly red or predominantly blue, or that represents any group or logo identified with a gang (i.e. ICP) or gang behavior.
- Bike or animal chains, collars, or other paraphernalia containing spikes (will be confiscated and turned in).
- Clothing and symbols offensive to particular cultures.
- Sagging pants and visible undergarments including but not limited to boxers/shorts.
- Bandanas should not be worn.
- Shoes must be worn at all times.
- Clothing must promote cleanliness.

Exceptions may be made by the director for spirit days, religious purposes, or special activities. Violations of the dress code will result in administrative action. Failure to comply with the administrative action may result in an unexcused absence if the student must leave campus to change clothes.

**\*\*\*Additional modifications or exemptions to the dress code may be enacted as deemed necessary by the administration. Such modifications will be based on safety and/or other related factors.**

## **INAPPROPRIATE SCHOOL ATTIRE INCLUDES:**

Halter tops, off-the-shoulder tops, spaghetti straps, clothing that creates bare midriffs, tube tops, tops or dresses that do not have straps over both shoulders, or revealing clothing (e.g., short skirts, low-cut tops that expose cleavage, backless shirts, and "t-back shirts").

## **DISCIPLINE OPTIONS**

### **ON-CAMPUS LUNCH**

Students receiving on-campus lunch will be required to report to the cafeteria at 12:25pm and must stay in the cafeteria until 12:45pm. They can then move around campus but are not allowed to leave campus at any time during lunch. They are also not allowed to have food delivered from off-site on days they have on-campus lunch.

### **IN-SCHOOL SUSPENSION**

In-school suspension is an in-house program to which a student may be assigned for a short period of time in lieu of out-of-school suspension. It is designed to counteract many of the negative effects of out-of-school suspension. Instructional time can continue without interruption and special academic help can be provided.

### **OUT-OF-SCHOOL SUSPENSION**

Please refer to the Norman Public Schools Student/Parent Policy Guide.

## GENERAL SCHOOL INFORMATION

### 24/7 TOBACCO FREE SMOKING FREE ENVIRONMENT

Smoking, distribution, and use of tobacco or any device designed to deliver nicotine (i.e. electronic cigarettes or vapor products) is prohibited on district property. This prohibition includes school premises and school-owned vehicles. It is specifically directed that this ban on the use of tobacco products will be in effect 24 hours a day, seven days a week, and will apply to students, employees, visitors and anyone providing service to the school. Additionally, students are prohibited from possessing or distributing tobacco products, electronic cigarettes, vapor products, or simulated tobacco products(paraphernalia) in school buildings, on school grounds, in school-owned vehicles, and at all school-affiliated functions on or off school campus.

### CELL PHONES/USAGE

The ethical use of cell phones and electronic communication devices is a needed skill in the 21<sup>st</sup> century. Students need to keep phones put away during class time. Failure to do so may result in confiscation of the phone, lunch detention, in-school suspension, and/or out-of-school suspension.

### DRIVING/PARKING

- Students who are licensed may drive to school and need to obey all laws, rules, and drive safely at all times.
- Failure to abide by the following policy may result in loss of parking privileges.
- All students who drive a car or motorcycle to school must register to receive a parking permit. The parking permit must be visible.
- Both a car description and tag number are required for registration.
- Student parking spots are the spaces that are nearest to the north/front doors. Please do not park on the east side of the building or in the outer parking spots on the North end of the property, as these are reserved for faculty and staff.
- Be courteous and cautious. **Speed limit is 5 mph**
- Buses and pedestrians always have the right of way.
- Tire squealing, fast starts, “doughnuts,” or reckless driving will not be tolerated.
- No smoking/vaping in student parking lot.
- The number of passengers in a car should not exceed the number of seat belts in the car. Students are not to be transported in the back of an open pick-up truck.
- The school is not responsible for student vehicles and will not accept liability for damages or theft of any vehicle and/or its contents.

### FIRE/TORNADO/INTRUDER DRILLS

Fire, tornado, and intruder drills will occur periodically throughout the school year. This is for student safety and welfare and should be taken seriously. A fire or tornado signal during a drill will come over the intercom. An intruder drill signal will be a staff making an announcement. When the fire signal is given, students should exit the building in a quiet and orderly manner. Specific exit instructions will be given by teachers and posted in each room. Once outside the building, students must remain with their class in a designated area until instructed to return to the building. Tornado drill instructions will also be given by teachers and posted in each room.

## **LIBRARY/INSTRUCTIONAL RESOURCES**

The mission of the Norman Public School Library Program is to create lifelong readers who are effective and efficient consumers of information and knowledge.

### **To accomplish this mission:**

- Librarians work collaboratively with teachers and others to integrate information literacy skills with classroom content.
- Library programs provide intellectual and physical access to materials in a variety of formats.
- A partnership is essential to the success of this mission. It requires the active involvement and support of the administration, teachers, and school community.

This comes from POLICY 5002 INSTRUCTIONAL RESOURCES (Revised 1/25/10; 5/10/2010; 6/18/12; 6/10/13)

### **Using Technological and Internet-based Instructional Resources**

Norman Public Schools recognizes the advantages and opportunities associated with using internet-based instructional resources. The District also acknowledges that misuse of such resources can be harmful to students and their educational endeavors. All individuals using the computer-based resources of Norman Public Schools will be expected to do so responsibly and legally. Each student who uses the internet must sign an agreement to follow the Norman Public Schools rules for internet use. Students will be asked to sign a new agreement each school year before they are given access to the Internet. Students, and if appropriate, students' parents/guardians, may be asked from time to time to sign a new policy, for example, to reflect developments in the law or technology. Such new policy must be signed before internet use is continued.

#### **A. Internet Uses and Behavior**

The District provides access to its computer network and the internet for educational purposes only. Students should consult their teacher or librarian if they question the appropriateness of an internet activity, site, or resource. The District recognizes that online based instruction can expand course offerings not currently available in the District, for recovery of credit, or in certain cases to fulfill graduation requirements. Credit will be granted only for courses that have been approved by the District and for students who have met requirements outlined in regulation. Prerequisites for online courses are the same as for regular courses. The Principal or designee shall determine the appropriateness of course/s for each student.

#### **B. Netiquette**

1. All students must abide by rules of network etiquette, which include the following:

- Being polite.
- Using appropriate language.

No swearing, vulgarities, suggestive, obscene, belligerent, or threatening language. Avoid language that is offensive to other users. Distributing jokes, stories, or other material which is based upon slurs or stereotypes relating to race, gender, ethnicity, nationality, religion, or sexual orientation is prohibited.

2. Asking permission.

- Forwarding email or materials without permission of the sender is prohibited. Being considerate when sending attachments. Be sure that a file is not too large to be accommodated by the recipient's system and is in a format that the recipient can open.

#### **C. Unacceptable Uses of the Internet**

The following are among the uses considered unacceptable and a violation of this policy.

1. Uses that violate the law or encourage others to violate the law. Students may not:
  - plagiarize works found on the Internet;
  - transmit offensive or harassing messages;



- offer for sale or use any substance the possession or use of which is prohibited by the District's Student Discipline Policy;
- view, transmit or download pornographic materials or materials that encourage others to violate the law; intrude into the networks or computers of others; or, download or transmit confidential, trade secret information, or copyright materials. students should assume that all materials are copyrighted unless explicit permission is given to use them.

**2. Uses that cause harm to others or damage to their property.**

- engaging in defamation (harming another's reputation by lies) using another's password or some other user
- identifier that misleads message recipients into believing that someone other than the student is communicating or otherwise using his/her access to the network or the Internet; uploading a worm, virus, "Trojan horse," "time bomb" or other harmful form of programming or vandalism; participate in "hacking" activities or any form of unauthorized access other computers, networks, or information systems.

**3. Uses that jeopardize the security of student access and of the computer network or other networks on the Internet.**

- Disclosing or sharing their password with others;
- impersonating another student or member of the District Staff.
- Uses that are commercial transactions.
  - a. selling or buying anything over the Internet.
  - b. Disclosing private information about themselves or others, including credit card numbers and social security numbers.
  - c. Uses for the purposes of campaigning and/or lobbying.

**D. Internet Safety**

Students and their parents/guardians are advised that access to the electronic network may include the potential for access to materials inappropriate for school-aged pupils. Every student must take responsibility for his or her use of the computer network and Internet and avoid these sites. Parents of minors are the best guides concerning inappropriate materials. If a student finds that other students are visiting offensive or harmful sites, he or she should report such use to the appropriate staff member.

Students should be safe. In using the computer network and Internet, students should not reveal personal information such as home address or telephone number. Students should not use their real last name or any other information that might allow a person to locate them without first obtaining the permission of a supervising teacher. Students should not arrange a face-to-face meeting with someone they "meet" on the computer network or Internet without their parent's permission. Students should never agree to meet a person they have only communicated with on the Internet in a secluded place or in a private setting.

The District-provided Internet access utilizes filtering software or other technologies to prevent students from accessing visual depictions that are (1) obscene, (2) child pornography, or (3) harmful to minors. The school will also monitor the online activities of students, through direct observation and/or technological means, to ensure that students are not accessing such depictions or any other material, which is inappropriate for minors.

Internet filtering software or other technology based protection systems may be disabled by a supervising teacher or school administrator, as necessary, for purposes of bona fide research or other educational projects being conducted by students age seventeen (17) and older.

The term "harmful to minors" is defined by the Communications Act of 1934 (47 USC Section 254 [h](7)), as meaning any picture, image, graphic image file, or other visual depiction that taken as a whole and with respect to minors, appeals to a prurient interest in nudity, sex, or excretion; depicts, describes, or represents, in a patently offensive way with respect to what is suitable for minors, an actual or simulated sexual act or sexual contact, actual or simulated normal or perverted sexual acts, or a lewd exhibition of the genitals; taken as a whole, lacks serious literary, artistic, political, or scientific value as to minors.

**E. Privacy**

Network and Internet access is provided as a tool for educational purposes. The District reserves the right to monitor, inspect, copy, review and store at any time and without prior notice any and all usage of the computer network and Internet access and any and all information transmitted or received in connection with such usage. All such information files shall be and remain the property of the District and no student shall have any expectation of privacy regarding such materials.

**F. Compliance**

A student who violates the District's internet policy will be subject to disciplinary action.

**Food and Drinks**

No food from local restaurants is allowed into the building at lunch. Please throw away trash and drinks before entering the building. Students may bring a refillable water bottle with them to classes.

**PARENT AND STUDENT PORTAL**

Norman Public Schools is making it possible for parents and students to view student's grades, assignments, attendance, and school information online. Parents and students can register by going to the website at [www.norman.k12.ok.us/](http://www.norman.k12.ok.us/) and clicking on the Parent/Student Portal link under Main Menu. Click on Parent Portal Activation Key Request for first time users.

**PERSONAL PROPERTY**

Please be advised that the school will not be responsible for theft or loss of personal property. Each student is responsible for securing his or her own property.

**SEMESTER**

Each 9 weeks is a new semester at Dimensions Academy. A full-time student is enrolled in 5 classes which gives students the opportunity to complete 2.5 credits each 9 weeks.

Grade Classification	Credits Required	How to earn credits at Dimensions High School			
		Term 1 (1st 9 weeks)	Term 2 (2nd 9 weeks)	Term 3 (3rd 9 weeks)	Term 4 (4th 9 weeks)
Freshman	0-4.5				
Sophomore	5-10.5	5 classes = 2.5 credits	5 classes = 2.5 credits	5 classes = 2.5 credits	5 classes = 2.5 credits
Junior	11-16.5	August to December = 5 credits		January to May = 5 credits	
Senior	17-23	1 year at Dimensions = 10 credits			

### **STUDENTS ARRIVING IN THE MORNING**

Once students arrive in the morning they need to stay on campus.

### **STUDENT INTERNET AGREEMENT**

"I understand and agree that I will comply with the terms of the District's Internet and Internet Safety for the Computer Network Policy for the student's access to the District's computer network and the Internet. I understand that access is being provided to the students for educational purposes only. However, I also understand that it is impossible for the school to restrict access to all offensive and controversial materials and understand it is my responsibility for abiding by the policy. "

### **SUPERVISION**

Students are expected to stay in areas where there is staff supervision.

### **TEXTBOOKS**

Students need to return their textbooks and library books to Norman High or Norman North before enrolling at Dimensions Academy.

### **THEFT**

Any student who steals personal or school property will be subject to school-assigned consequences and will be responsible for payment for damages and loss of property that cannot be recovered. A student who is found in possession of a reported stolen item is guilty of theft. Any "found" item should be immediately turned into the office.

### **TRANSCRIPTS**

Students who are needing an official transcript need to request one from the registrar at their home high school.

### **VISITORS**

Visitors to campus must check in with the secretary. They must wear a visitor's badge if they go beyond the secretary's office area. Visitors to the campus must abide by the same rules of conduct that are expected of the students. Students wanting to have lunch with a visitor, including a family member, need to do so off campus.