

Yeshiva Tzvi Dov V'Ephraim Menlo Family Boys Division

# **Student Handbook**

2025 - 2026

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#### **Mission Statement**

Our mission at Valley Torah High School is to provide an excellent Torah and college preparatory program that inspires our students to lead lives dedicated to Torah values, as well as the pursuit of higher education and personal growth, resulting in a successful interface with an ever changing world.

# **Purpose of this Handbook**

This Handbook is designed to provide parents and students with information regarding the school's policies, rules, and procedures. All shareholders must embrace these standards to create an orderly and productive learning environment. Our goal is to maximize each student's education in a rich and exciting atmosphere.

This Handbook serves as a congruent partnership between parents and the school. Such a partnership is integral for the successful education of your Valley Torah student.

# **Academic Policies**

# **Scheduling**

VTHS prides itself in providing a comprehensive and personalized academic program for each student. We offer AP, honors and regular academic sections, as well as a variety of innovative electives, clubs and intervention courses. We work with each student to meet their goals and learning abilities to tailor the best course schedule to prepare them for graduation.

# **Graduation Requirements**

Torah Studies & General Studies

Torah courses:	Requirement:
Talmud	4 years
Davening	4 years
Chumash / B'kiyus	4 years
Halacha	4 years

General Studies Course:	Requirement:
English	4 years
Social Studies/ Humanities	4 years (Geography, World History, US History, Gov & Econ)
Math	3 years (including Algebra 1, Algebra 2, Geometry; 4 years recommended)
Science	3 years (Biology, Chemistry, Science Elective; 4 years recommended)
Visual and Performing Arts	1 year

Electives	2 years
Physical Education	2 years
Foreign Language	2 years

Should a student desire to add or switch classes, the change may be arranged after the instructor's consent and principal permission is given. An Add/Switch form must be submitted. Add/switch may not be made after the first three weeks of a class. A student is responsible for all coursework missed prior to his change.

## **Graduation Ceremony Requirements**

Students who do not meet graduation requirements will not be eligible to participate in the graduation ceremony; this includes grades in both Torah and General Studies.

## **Advanced Placement/ Honors courses**

The University of California characterizes Advanced Placement/ Honors courses in the following manner:

- i. "VTHS" credits: These classes are offered on the 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> grade levels. While UC does not assign specific weight in the calculation of the GPA for these courses, the VTHS GPA reflects the weighing of these courses as honors, and many private universities also recognize these courses as honors.
- ii. Bona Fide Honors Courses: These classes may be offered on the  $10^{th}$ ,  $11^{th}$  and  $12^{th}$  grade levels. They are recognized by UC as bonafide honors classes. Special weight is assigned in the calculation of the GPA (A = 5 points; B = 4 points; C = 3 points).
- iii. Advanced Placement Courses: These classes may be offered 9th 12<sup>th</sup> grade levels. They are college level courses with content determined by the College Board and recognized by UC and other universities as college level.

#### **AP Contract**

By enrolling in AP courses students agree to the following:

- I. Maintain a cumulative GPA of 3.0 in all subjects
- II. Maintain a B or above in each AP course.
- III. Fulfill all prerequisite coursework

- IV. Strong commitment to required work load for the course including additional school days as indicated in calendar
- V. Registration payment for AP Test must be submitted prior to November 1st.
- VI. Failure to meet the AP contract requirements will put your standing in the AP course under review and you may be required to drop the course.

#### **Academic honors**

The following students are eligible for the VTHS Honor Roll and High Honor Roll:

*Honor Roll:* Students who have achieved a cumulative GPA of 3.5, with no grades lower than "B" at the semester reporting period.

*High Honor Roll*: Students who have achieved a cumulative GPA of 4.0, with no grades lower than "A" at the semester reporting period.

#### Valedictorian & Salutatorian Awards

Fulfillment of the following guidelines will play a major role towards Valley Torah's final selection of a Valedictorian and Salutatorian: Final designation will be determined by the VTHS administration.

- i. Candidate must have been a student at VTHS for at least 3 years.
- ii. Candidates must have attended and received a standard passing grade for all classes.
- iii. Candidate must adhere to the high standard of religious observance expected of an exemplary VTHS student.
- iv. Candidate must have attended Sunday and Mishmar classes and electives throughout high school.
- v. Candidate may not have been suspended more than once.
- vi. Candidate must have one of the highest GPA averages of the graduating classes.

#### **Grades, Report Cards, & Transcripts**

# **Web Based Grading**

VTHS uses Jupiter Grades, a secure and efficient web based grading system that allows students and parents to log in and monitor grades from any computer or mobile device at any time. Jupiter Grades updates automatically and saves changes automatically, so the information you see is always the most current. Each parent, student, teacher, and administrator creates their own individual account, so academic records are always kept private.

Jupiter Grades is also an all access interface for students to view, store, and track homework assignments and receive class announcements. Parents can set alerts to notify them of their child's attendance and performance issues, or when report cards are available.

#### **Class Tests**

A student who misses a test due to an *excused absence* will be able to take the test upon return to school, unless other arrangements have been made by the instructor and approved by an administrator. In all cases, it remains the student's responsibility to arrange a make-up exam and complete any missing work. The teacher may choose to give a different exam for make-up or assign a paper/project instead. VTHS teachers make every effort not to give students more than two major tests in one day. Quizzes requiring less than fifteen minutes are not considered tests and may be given at any time.

#### **Final Exams**

Finals will be given for both Torah and General Studies courses during the last weeks of the Fall and Spring semesters. Finals may be cumulative for each semester and may count for as much as 20% of the class grade. During finals, dress code, Tefilla, and Torah studies attendance are mandatory. Students who arrive more than 15 minutes late during finals week will have a grade deduction applied to the day's finals for both Torah and General studies. All school regulations and policies will be enforced during finals week. All students must take their final exams at their scheduled time.

# **Report Cards**

The Valley Torah school year consists of two semesters. Semester reports are issued after final exams in January and June and **do** count on a student's permanent record. These cumulative records are reviewed by colleges during the admissions process.

Letter grades (A - F) are used on final grade reports. An "I" (incomplete) grade may be given for academic or disciplinary reasons (see attendance policy).

## **Transcripts**

In order to graduate from Valley Torah, a student must satisfactorily complete all prescribed Torah and General studies classes. Transcripts include course grades for a student's entire academic program. Transcripts are sent directly to Yeshivas, colleges, universities, and businesses upon student request. All transcripts and college related materials must be requested at least 10 days in advance of deadlines to be prepared by the office registrar.

## **Credit Recovery**

If a student fails a course they will be required to retake the course in the summer at another approved institution or with an approved online provider. **This is for both Torah and General studies courses.** If a student receives an (I) "incomplete" they will need to complete the work or additional assignments (with possible grade reduction on incomplete assignments) prior to the next school year. If not completed by then the "incomplete" will remain and students will be required to retake the course.

# **Grade changes**

In the event a student feels his grade is inaccurate or unjustified, he has up to three months from the end of the semester to contest it.

If the concern is not raised within this timeframe—or by the beginning of the next school year, whichever comes first—the grade will be considered final. After this window, even legitimate concerns will not be addressed. Students may not go back and challenge grades from previous semesters beyond this three-month limit.

# Yeshiva & College Guidance

#### **Yeshivas**

Aligning with our mission, we prepare all of our students to pursue lifelong Torah learning starting with at least one year at a post high school Yeshiva. This process begins in ninth grade where students have the opportunity to hear from alumni and sometimes meet Bais HaMedrash Bochurim and continues throughout their high school experience culminating in choosing a Yeshiva in Israel for their post high school learning. The year in Israel has enabled many of our students to reevaluate their spiritual and material goals. The goals of the Yeshivas is to teach authentic Torah studies in a warm, caring atmosphere that engages and develops the full inner world of each student. The learning program is usually balanced by Kumzitzes, Tiyulim and Shabbatonim.

In twelfth grade we arrange campus visits by representatives of various Yeshivas allowing the students to get a sense of the different options they have. Our staff offers counseling to help place students in the most suitable program. Our familiarity with the Yeshivas and our students allows us to make recommendations that best optimize our students' personal Torah growth.

# **Colleges**

The college guidance counselor is an important part of the educational process at VTHS. Each student meets with the counselor early in their high school career to explore possible options for higher education upon graduation. Regular reviews are held throughout the school year to ensure that each student is fulfilling the necessary requirements needed for entrance into the college or university of their choice. During the junior and senior years, the college counselor is available to guide each student through the college application process. Films, literature, workshops, and speakers are used to inform students and parents of the steps required in admissions. Individual attention is given to helping students select colleges that match the abilities, interests, and talents of the students.

#### **Absences**

A student's record of absences and late arrivals are part of his permanent file. Significant absences, repeated unexcused absences or tardiness could lead to academic and disciplinary consequences.

Students who are absent will not be allowed to participate in extracurricular activities or sports for the duration of the absence. (includes Sundays)

VTHS requests that families consult our academic calendar (http://vthsboys.org/calendar) prior to scheduling vacations and special events. The final two weeks of any semester are especially critical, as they culminate in student presentations, projects, review and exams upon which faculty base their final assessments.

#### Unexcused absences are:

- 1. Not verified by a student's parent/guardian or school administrator
- 2. Not reported via the proper procedure, an email to <a href="mailto:boysattendance@vths.org">boysattendance@vths.org</a>

#### Excused absences are: :

- Illness. A doctor's note is required for extended illnesses (more than 2 days).
- Medical appointments or treatments (parents/guardians are discouraged from making medical appointments during the school day).
- Personal or family emergency requiring the student's absence. These absences must be verified by a parent/guardian written note.
- Administrative summons or when a student is delayed by other school personnel.
- Family simchas for immediate family only.
- Taking the SAT, ACT (not prep courses)

If your absence does not fall into one of these categories please be in contact with the principals for approval. For an excused absence a note must be provided within 3 days of the students return. Otherwise it will be marked as an unexcused absence.

# Academic and disciplinary action due to excessive absences

#### **Attendance Policy:**

Students are allowed a total of **six (6) absences per class per semester**.

- **Excused absences** are included in this total.
- However, **excused**, **consecutive full-day absences** will count as **only one absence** per class for each full day missed.

Once a student exceeds the six-absence limit, **each additional absence** will result in:

• a **one-third letter grade reduction** in that class (e.g., a **B-** would drop to a **C+**)

In addition, any student who accumulates 20 or more absences in a single class (Including consecutive absences)—regardless of whether they are excused or unexcused —will receive a grade of "No Credit" for that course.

# **Davening Program/Attendance**

As B'nei Torah, we try to make our Tefillah meaningful, we work together to create the right atmosphere where we can experience Davening in the presence of Hashem.

A Davening grade will be given based on each student's attendance.

Daily attendance is valued at 10 points. Each unexcused absence will incur a "0" for the day. Absences are defined as students arriving after 8:15 AM or unauthorized departures from the davening room. Tefillin must be on in order to be marked present for Davening.

Please see the attendance grading details below:

Before 7:45 AM 11/10 (extra credit)

7:45 AM- 7:50 AM 10/10

7:50 AM- 7:55 AM 9/10

7:55 AM - 8:00 AM 8/10

8:00 AM - 8:15AM 7/10

Excessive time in Hallway or leaving without a hall pass may result in a deduction of citizenship grade.

## **Tardies/Cut Off Time**

Students arriving at school after 8:30 AM must either have a doctor's note or have informed the school one day in advance by emailing the office <a href="mailto:boysattendance@vths.org">boysattendance@vths.org</a>. Failure to do so will result in an inability to remain on campus or participate in any school activities for that day.

Students with a failing grade in davening will face an earlier cutoff time of 8:00AM.

All students are expected to be in class at the designated time with the required books and learning materials. Students who develop a consistent pattern of tardiness show a lack of respect for learning. Any student who is more than 10 minutes late to class may be admitted at the discretion of the teacher/Rebbe and receive an absence for the day.

#### **Attendance & Behavior Policies**

To report any absences, excused absences, or tardies, or for any inquiries about your child's attendance, please email <a href="mailto:boysattendance@vths.org">boysattendance@vths.org</a> for the fastest service.

<u>Please keep in mind that for an excused absence, the office must be notified within three weeks of the absence.</u>

School hours for Valley Torah High School Boys Campus are:

**Sunday:** 8:00am -11:15am

**Monday, Wednesday, Thursday:** 7:45am – 5:00pm (5:15 during winter to accommodate Maariv)

**Tuesday**: 7:45am - 6:15pm (6:30 during winter to accommodate Maariv)

Friday: 7:45 AM-1:30 PM

Students must remain on campus during these hours. See off campus policy below for details.

#### **Student Policies**

# **Off-Campus Policy**

Due to a variety of reasons including safety and security concerns, we have adopted the following policy regarding students going off campus. Violations will result in immediate consequences (including suspension) and a phone call home.

9th and 10th	Students are required to remain on campus during school hours.
11th	Students are required to remain on campus during school hours with the exception of <i>walking</i> off campus during lunch on Tuesday
12th	Students are required to remain on campus during school hours with the exception of <i>walking</i> off campus during breakfast. Seniors may drive off campus during lunch.

Upperclassmen that leave campus without permission during non-designated times listed above or do not return will forfeit their off campus privileges

#### **Early Dismissal**

Students who must leave campus for an appointment must submit a note in writing or email (<a href="mailto:boysattendance@vths.org">boysattendance@vths.org</a>) prior to student leaving. An early dismissal slip will be given to the student enabling him to leave class and school. In addition, we ask that parents please provide us with a doctor's note when the student returns.

# **Homework When Absent**

Absent (excused and unexcused) students are responsible for completing all classroom assignments. A student has as many days as they were absent to submit late work to the instructor. **Only excused absences will receive extra time to complete assignments.** 

# Citizenship Grade

The dignity, respect and refinement that we demonstrate directly affects the amount of success we achieve in our studies. That is part of what Chazal indicate when they say Derech Eretz precedes Torah.

Students are expected to behave as B'nei Torah and to act with due regard for the

authority of the rebbeim, teachers, staff, and administrators. Students are required to respect the shared use of school property, and the rights and welfare of other students and adults. A citizenship grade reflecting a student's general conduct will be given by the Principal for each semester.

Students with a citizenship grade blow a "C" may be ineligible to participate in school activities, sports, and outings. Parents and students will be notified by the administration.

If a student drops to an "F" in citizenship, they will be suspended from school for two weeks and require an in-person parent meeting with the administration to discuss requirements for return. A second instance of receiving an "F" in citizenship will result in the student being asked to leave the school for the remainder of the semester, with the option to reapply for the following term pending demonstrated improvement.

Factors that affect citizenship grades include:

- Complying with the dress code
- Davening conduct
- Demonstrating respect and maintaining proper decorum at all times while in and out of school
- Class attendance (Cuts, Tardies, etc.)
- Cell phone policy compliance
- Good character and integrity in all aspects of student life in and outside of school.
- Positive and negative referrals

#### **Citizenship Points**

- Students can earn citizenship points by receiving a positive referral or by being awarded points based on exceptional school performance.
- Students may lose citizenship points by receiving a negative referral or a daily citizenship adjustment. A more severe referral will result in a larger point deduction.

A VTHS student represents the school and is expected to uphold moral standards beyond the school day and outside school walls.

#### **Dress Code**

Students are expected to exhibit an overall appearance consistent with the Torah values of Tznius (modesty). In addition, it is critical that all students dress in a manner reflecting positive self-esteem and respect for the Yeshiva as a Makom Torah (a place of Torah

learning).

Any student found in violation of this code is not permitted to enter any classes until the necessary correction in attire is made (please see above for citizenship consequences).

When necessary, parents will be called. All absences and tardies as a result of a dress code violation are considered unexcused. Subsequent violations may result in detention, suspension or expulsion.

Please see the Valley Torah Boys High School Dress Code guidance chart on the last page.

#### Students are required to be in Dress Code in all areas of our campus.

**Shirts:** Must be fully buttoned down dress shirts with standard collars and sleeves (short sleeves are permitted) and should be made up of light colors; No large, flashy logos, graphics, or Hawaiian-themed shirts.

**Sweatshirts:** May not have any print on them except small logos (no larger than the size of a credit card) on the front top corner. Any Valley Torah sweatshirts may be worn in school. Hoods may not be worn at any time in the building.

A collared and buttoned-down shirt must be worn and visible underneath sweatshirts.

**Pants:** Must be dress, khaki, or cotton slacks. All pants must contain belt loops. Pants must be navy blue or black.

The following pants styles are **not** permitted:

- Cargo or Carpenter Pants with side pockets
- Corduroy Pants
- Baggy pants
- Any pants with patch pockets (stitching visible from the outside)
- Denim jeans
- Jogging and sweatpants material
- Faded or ripped material
- Tan or light colored
- Elastic bottoms (joggers pants)
- Pants with drawstrings

**Tzitzis**: As mandated by Halacha, every student is to wear Tzitzis throughout the day.

**Sports Court / Activity Guidelines:** Students must wear a chest covering material (tzitzis, undershirt, etc) at all times on the Sports Court. Any student in violation of this expectation will result in the student being asked to go home for the day.

**Hair Guidelines:** Hair should be conservative in both length and style; Peyos must be kept at the appropriate length.

The following styles are not permitted, though this is not an exhaustive list:

- Fades
- Cut off Peyos
- Mullets
- Broccoli Cuts
- Long bangs
- Unkempt hair
- Dye or highlights
- Short sides or back

Any student in violation of our hair guidelines that is determined by administration, including inappropriate Peyos length will be sent home until hair grows back or the haircut is fixed.

**Facial Hair:** All students are expected to be clean-shaven, except during Sefira. No goatees, mustaches, beards (except for religious reasons), or exaggerated sideburns are permitted.

- 1. No caps of any kind are permitted on school grounds.
- 2. Students are expected to be dressed appropriately at all school functions, on or off campus.
- 3. All forms of jewelry (gold, silver, plastic, or string) including necklaces, bracelets, rings, pocket chains, etc. are not permitted. **They will be confiscated and kept in the office until the end of the school year.**
- 4. Earrings or any other body piercings are not in line with the appearance of a Ben Torah and do not reflect the standard expected of a Valley Torah Student. Wearing an earring or any other bodily piercing on or off campus <u>may be grounds for expulsion</u>.
- 5. Open-front shoes, sandals, slippers, Crocs, etc. are not permitted. **They may be confiscated and kept in the office until the end of the school year.**
- 6. Socks must be worn at all times.

Please note that all possible dress violations cannot be addressed in this Code of Conduct. The Administration retains the right to address any student's attire or appearance that is deemed inappropriate, whether on campus or at school-related events.

## **Personal Belongings**

Valley Torah is not liable for any damage or loss that occurs to your property on our premises (whether in the building, on the parking lot, or sports area). Students are responsible at all times for their personal property, cell phones, and vehicles.

#### **Cleanliness**

Any student found destroying or defacing school property will face severe administrative disciplinary action in addition to having the incident documented in their permanent record. VTHS is a place of Torah, and our campus should therefore be treated with proper respect. Littering or vandalizing the classrooms, halls, grounds, or school property, even in jest such as "Purim Shtick" is prohibited. <u>Parents are financially responsible for any damage to school property</u>. Clothing or containers left around the school will be discarded.

# **Eating and Drinking**

Eating and Drinking in the classroom is strictly prohibited (water is allowed). Lunch and snacks are to be eaten in the cafeteria and schoolyard. For safety reasons, hallways must remain clear with backpacks in designated areas. Food brought to school must maintain the school's Kosher standard. (For a list of accepted Hechsherim please see <a href="kosherquest.com">kosherquest.com</a>)

# **Inappropriate Language**

Inappropriate Language, foul language, swearing, offensive remarks and extreme rudeness are not acceptable. This policy has zero tolerance. Appropriate consequences will follow any violation and <u>increase in severity</u> with repeat occurrences (including being sent home with a suspension).

# **Disruptive Behavior**

Disruptive Behavior is any behavior that distracts from the learning process. This includes disturbing (or entering) a class in which a student is not enrolled. Such behavior is prohibited and appropriate consequences will be implemented.

#### **Cheating and Plagiarism**

Any form of cheating, including the use of Artificial Intelligence (AI) such as CHATGPT etc. is totally unacceptable and is a direct violation of Torah values and Halacha. Talking, whispering, eyeing another student's work, using cheat sheets, or assisting others in an effort to obtain a grade not worked for on an exam, quiz, paper or homework assignment is cheating. Plagiarism will result in automatic failure of the assignment. These infractions will be recorded in the student's permanent file and parents will be notified. Students who cheat on exams may be subject to test and/or course failure, removal from the course, suspension, and/or expulsion. The school has the right to forward this record to any college or school.

#### **Student Vehicles**

All seniors will need to have a completed waiver signed on file in the main office by a parent/guardian in order to leave campus.

Students with permission to leave campus may not drive other students without <u>written</u> permission from the following:

- Driver's Parent/Guardian
- Passenger's Parent/Guardian
- Administrator

## **Parking Lot Policy**

STUDENT PARKING: The wall parking (except for R' Stulberger and the two spots immediately next to his) are reserved for students in addition to the basketball court tandem parking.

The following may result in losing Parking Privileges

- Playing loud music
- Driving unsafe which includes speeding or vehicular horseplay
- Being in the car during school hours

Students are not permitted to be in their vehicles during school hours. Additionally, no materials should be stored inside cars.

STAFF PARKING: Reserved in the front 3 spots near the main building and against the fence by the basketball court.

# **Cellphones**

#### **Phone Policy Morning**

All students will deposit their phones prior to Davening in their designated box. Phone boxes will be put away by 7:55AM. If a student comes late to school, they must scan the QR code and turn in their phone to the office. Failure to do so will result in an infraction (please see below).

- Students will have a 5 minute "grace period" from time they come on campus until they deposit their phones in the box or the office. After 5 minutes, if the phone is not turned in it will be confiscated and marked with an infraction
- (please see below).

#### **Following the Phone Break**

**9th - 11th Graders:** Following the phone break, phones will be deposited back in their designated slot. If phones are not returned on time it will be considered an infraction.

**ALL students:** Phones are not to be visible at any time except for the designated break, otherwise consequences will follow accordingly.

**1st Incident:** Jupiter double diamond referral issued. The phone is confiscated for the remainder of the school day and returned at dismissal.

**2nd Incident:** Jupiter referral issued and a parent meeting or phone call is required. Phone is held by administration for **one full school day**, including evening.

**3rd Incident:** Jupiter referral issued and a parent meeting or phone call is required. Phone is held by administration for **five full school days**, including evenings.

**4th Incident:** Phone is held by administration for **the remainder of the semester or ten full school days (including evenings)**—whichever is longer.

12th graders: May have access to their phones only during off-campus lunch or when leaving campus with permission. Phones are not to be visible at any time while on campus—even during lunch. Seniors will be required to return their phones into their designated box upon returning from their lunch break. If phones are not returned on time it will be considered an infraction.

1st Infraction - Double Diamond Referral 2nd Infraction - One week of No Phone privileges 3rd Infraction - Jupiter referral issued and a parent meeting or phone call is required. Phone is held by administration for **one full school day**, including evening.

\*\*\* Students that submit or bring a "fake" or "second" phone will have **all** their phones confiscated and held in the office for the remainder of the semester or five school days, whichever is longer.

# **Student Life**

## **Technology at School**

Students may not bring their personal laptops, tablets, smart watches or other devices to school. Teachers will provide the students with devices when necessary. Additionally, students may check out computers in the office with proper ID. Special exceptions may be made in consultation with and permission of the administration.

Use of technology in school must comply with Valley Torah's <u>Technology Acceptable Use Policy.</u>

Smartwatches are not to be used or seen on campus for any of the following purposes; to send or check text messages, access games, the internet, images, the camera or videos.

#### **Student Conduct**

Students are expected to demonstrate the highest level of respect and Derech Eretz both towards fellow students as well as to any faculty member with whom they may interact during the day. A student who behaves inappropriately towards a fellow student or faculty member will face appropriate consequences.

Valley Torah has **zero tolerance** for any type of bullying or aggression towards other students. Any student involved in verbal, emotional, cyber bullying or physical aggression towards another student will face severe consequences including the possibility of suspension or expulsion from school.

#### **Mixed Gender Socializing**

Students are expected to refrain from events and venues that involve mixed gender socialization.

Parties and Simchas that have mixed gender socialization are off limits.

Boy-Girl socializing both in-person or through social media is not acceptable.

Blatant disregard to any of the above policies may result in removal from Valley Torah High School.

## **Digital Citizenship**

Technology and social media have brought us a myriad of new ways to communicate with each other. While these forms of communication allow for many advances in learning and in creating connections between people, they can also encroach on an individual's privacy and create questions of propriety.

Students should exercise the utmost caution when participating in any form of social media or online communication, both within the Valley Torah community and beyond. Students who participate in online interactions must remember that their posts reflect not just on themselves, but on the entire Valley Torah Community.

Valley Torah urges parents to monitor their children's use of the internet and all social media platforms. Additionally, we strongly recommend that parents install content filters on their children's devices.

Any student involved in any of the following whether on or off campus will face immediate consequences including the possibility of suspension or expulsion:

- Posting or sharing anything containing profane, lewd, or disrespectful language
- Posting or sharing inappropriate content
- Posting or sharing hurtful or derogatory content directed at another

# **School Trips**

Class trips and school-wide Shabbatonim are scheduled from time to time throughout the school year. Parents are notified in advance of the date, time, destination, mode of transportation, and cost of the trip. Shabbatonim are an integral part of the VTHS program. Much time and creative effort go into planning a weekend that is spiritually, physically, and emotionally exciting. Every student is expected to attend.

#### **Athletics**

Valley Torah fields competitive athletic teams. It is a privilege and not a right to participate in athletics. All students who wish to play on these teams must have approval from the administration and maintain a **2.5 GPA** and a citizenship grade of "C" or better.

Any student who has an "F" in any course (including davening) or drops below a 2.5 GPA, or whose citizenship grade drops lower than a "C" will be placed on academic probation. Academic probation includes but is not limited to attending study hours and following the academic improvement plan set forth by the school. A student on prolonged academic probation who does not show improvement or effort will face suspension from the team which includes games and practices. Suspensions will carry into the following season if necessary. It is grounds for team dismissal if academic performance does not improve after multiple suspensions. Any student suspended for attendance, academic or behavioral reasons will not be allowed to practice or play on the day of their suspension. VTHS athletes are ambassadors of our school and are expected to exhibit good sportsmanship in addition to high Torah values and academic standards.

The first 5 weeks of eligibility for sports will be determined by the previous semester's report card.

#### **Dress Code Guide Chart**

