



DESERT HILLS
HIGH SCHOOL

Student Handbook

2026-2027

YOU Belong!

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DESERT HILLS HIGH SCHOOL



Mission Statement

“Our Thunder Family is committed to student learning and ensuring that every student knows they belong.”

Thunder Family Core Values:

Respect, Responsibility, Integrity

School History

Desert Hills High School opened in the 2008-09 school year as home of the black and gold Desert Hills Thunder. Construction on the school began in 2006 in response to growth in the Bloomington Hills and Little Valley communities.

In the beginning, Desert Hills High School opened with students being brought together from different schools with the challenge of creating their own unique traditions and culture. DHHS students responded to the challenge and have successfully evolved into a school where traditions are created and sustained by our students, faculty, community and entire Thunder family loyal to Thunder values. The students at Desert Hills High continue to set a high standard of excellence in academics, arts, and athletics.

Following community input Desert Hills High School adopted the name Thunder along with Thor, god of Thunder, as the school mascot. DHHS has embraced Thor's hammer and helmet as important school symbols.

- **Thor:** The school mascot Thor, god of Thunder, is the mightiest of the Norse gods. Thor was foremost of the Norse gods and most revered for his strength in battle and his ability to conquer his enemies with his mighty hammer. Thor's legacy even lives on as part of our weekly calendar, Thursday (Thor's Day) was derived from this mighty god.
- **Thor's hammer:** Thor's hammer, named "Mjöllnir", is a powerful weapon which commands respect. Mjöllnir is so powerful it emits ferocious lightning bolts when used in battle and never misses its mark. When thrown, Mjöllnir always finds its way back into Thor's hands. Thor's hammer is our symbol of strength and represents our work ethic and dedication to improving student achievement.
- **Thor's helmet:** Thor's protective helmet was invaluable in battle and likewise, symbolizes our knowledge and commitment to academics through lifelong learning. These important symbols are at the heart of Thunder pride and excellence



Bell Schedules

Monday & Thursday Homeroom

1A/5B	8:15 - 9:25
Homeroom	9:25 - 10:05
2A/6B	10:10 - 11:20
Lunch	11:20 - 12:15
3A/7B	12:20 - 1:30
4A/8B	1:35 - 2:45

Tuesday & Wednesday

1A/5B	8:15 - 9:35
2A/6B	9:40 - 11:00
Lunch	11:00 - 11:55
3A/7B	12:00 - 1:20
4A/8B	1:25 - 2:45

Friday

1A/5B	8:15 - 9:10
2A/6B	9:15 - 10:10
3A/7B	10:15 - 11:10
4A/8B	11:15 - 12:10
Lunch	12:10 - 12:45

*Buses will run at 12:45

DHHS School Fight Song

Thor's Revenge

Our home is roaring as the lightning strikes!
Thor's hammer hits with thundering sights.
Our honor lies within the skies
As the pounding thunder roars!

The crash is heard both loud and clear!
We beat the rest as they shake with fear!
What is seen is our victory,
As the pounding thunder roars!

DH-HS, DHHS, DH-HS, GO THUNDER!

Faculty, Staff, and Assignments

Administration

Justin Keate, Principal

Desirae Roden, Assistant Principal/Student Services

Dustin Drake, Assistant Principal/Athletic Director

Liz McBride, Assistant Principal/Student Services

Officer Seth LeFevre, School Resource Officer

Counseling

Stratton, Carly (Names: G-K)

Hardy, Nellie (Names: A-F)

Sheffield, Amber (Names: L-R)

Sanders, Trevor (Names: S-Z)

Coombs Suzette - College Access

Counselor

Secretaries

Brinkerhoff, Amy – Registrar

Graf, Donna – Finance

Peisley, Nikola – District Finance

Riggins, Dawn – Office Manager

Schimbeck, Brandy – Attendance

Thompson, Keri – Athletics

Language Arts

Lowe, Ryan

Clayton, Cody

Davidson, Rebecca

Ford, Allyson

Ketchum, Alissa

Milne, Rylee

Stewart, Jennifer

Mathematics

Nelson, Teena

Allred, Chris

Allred, Craig

Bingham, Matthew

Mendenhall, Sara

Zierse, Emily

World Language

Christian, Jill - ESL

Christensen, Emily

Mildenhall, Rich

Social Science

Dixon, Robyn

Brosier, Brielle

Fielding, Logan

Fowles, Kaden

Irvin, Ezra

Lange, Dakota

Science

Quilter, Ron

Hadley-Hulet, Aria

Bringhurst, Jared

Robinson, Taylor

Watts, Kamryn

Phys. Ed./Health

Balderree, Tanner

Christensen, Marcee

Christensen, Emily

Miller, Mariah (Trainer)

Norman, Trinity

Turley, Wade

Fine Arts

Myrick, Kyle

Berrett, Alli

Candland, Kirsten

Pollard, Michael

Shakespeare, Jerilyn

Woolf, Joe

Special Education

Black, Fran

Gardner, Tim

Robinson, Axuree

West, Telia

Career &Tech. Ed.

Langston, Janelle – Business

Blake, Maryann – Ag. Science

Busselberg, John – Automotive

Crandall, Lou – Graphic Arts,

Photography

Jacobs, Ryan – Computer Technology

Jones, Tanner – Welding

McPherson (Davis), Tierra – FACS

Spens, Libby – FACS

Stevens, Sam – Woodworking

Media – Moffett, Meridee

Tech. Support – Roberts, Clay

Learning Coach – Dixon, Robyn

Data Coach – Brosier, Brielle

Wellness - Christensen, Kim

Custodians

Tuckness, Trace – Head Custodian

Campbell, Wayne

Eduok, Ekufre

Espinoza, Alberto

Giffin, Matt

Hurtado, Artemis

Ingram, Jessica

Vaca-Paz, Irene

Robinson, Cameron

Activity Coaches/Advisors

Baseball	Jagun Leavitt	Lacrosse (girls)	Emily Lunt
Basketball (boys)	Chris Allred	Soccer (boys)	Jason Hendrix
Basketball (girls)	Ezra Irvin	Soccer (girls)	Whitney Bowler
Cheer	Shawndee Beacham	Swim	Tammy Reavis
Cross Country	Logan Fielding	Tennis (boys)	Christian Thurgood
Drill Team	Marcee Christensen	Tennis (girls)	Emily Christensen
Debate	Cody Clayton	Track (boys)	Logan Fielding
Drama	Kyle Myrick	Track (girls)	Trinity Norman
Football	Tanner Balderree	Softball	
Golf (boys)	Marco Leoni	Volleyball (girls)	Craig Allred
Golf (girls)	Kelsey Wood	Volleyball (boys)	Josh James
Lacrosse (boys)	Ethan Shenfeld	Wrestling (boys)	
		Wrestling (girls)	Cindy Millsap

Executive/Class Council Organizational Chart 2026-2027

Adviser - Mrs. Spens libby.spens@washk12.org

Senior Class Officers

Student Body President: Ira Larsen
 Senior Class President: Shaylee Garr
 VP of Activities: Lily Harris
 VP of Athletics: Hyrum Lay
 VP of Fine Arts: Brett Ford
 VP of Assemblies: Nathan Boyer
 VP of Publicity - SM: Kendyll Robinson
 VP of Publicity - Posters: Oscar Osmond
 VP of Tech - Video: Rylan Pettingil
 VP of Elections and Eligibility: Eliza Fullmer
 Tech Representative: Mattix Espinoza
 Yearbook Representative: Hannah Cox

Cheer Representative:

Adviser - Mrs. Brosier brielle.brosier@washk12.org

Junior Class Officers

Junior Class President: Emmalina Cordero
 VP of Activities: Naomi Mathews
 VP of Athletics: Dylan Coates
 VP of Fine Arts: McKay Jolley
 VP of Assemblies: Samantha (Sami) Eriksen
 VP of Publicity - SM: Genevieve Woolley
 VP of Publicity - Posters: Adelaide Osmond
 VP of Tech - Video: Ace Christensen
 VP of Elections and Eligibility: Hadley Wilson

Sophomore Class Officers

Janally Draper
 Carson Garr
 Makenna Hoyt
 Matthew Santoyo

Elections and Eligibility- Mr. Clayton cody.clayton@washk12.org

E&E Senior Chair -

E&E Junior Chair -

E&E Sophomore Chair -

SECTION 1 – General Information and Policies

THUNDER CODE OF CONDUCT

Desert Hills Thunder students are expected to abide by our behavior mission statement of Respect, Responsibility, Integrity. Students at DHHS will show Respect, Responsibility and Integrity in all areas of academics as well as athletic and school activities.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

<https://procedure.washk12.org/policy/3000/3750>

Academic integrity is honest and ethical behavior in an academic setting and showing respect for others ideas using proper acknowledgement and referencing.

Desert Hills High School administration and faculty expect each student to maintain a high level of academic integrity. As teachers work to assess individual student learning through assignments and assessments, every student should avoid cheating, plagiarism and fabrication on all assignments and assessments in order to render an honest evaluation of student learning.

Students are encouraged to seek clarification from instructors if they are unsure whether a specific action violates academic integrity. Upholding these standards is essential to maintaining the credibility and fairness of our academic environment.

Consequences:

- **First Offense:** The incident will be documented, and the student may receive academic consequences as determined by the teacher, which may include a reduced or failing grade on the assignment. The student may also be required to complete an academic integrity reflection or module.
- **Repeated Offenses:** Any subsequent violation may result in formal administrative review. Consequences may include suspension, a failing grade for the course, loss of academic privileges, or other disciplinary actions as determined by the administration.

To prepare students for college and careers, no cheating of any type on any school assignments or assessments will be allowed. Definitions and consequences of cheating, plagiarism and fabrication are listed below:

Cheating

Cheating involves the use or attempt to use unauthorized materials, or other aids in academic work. Cheating also includes providing others with unauthorized materials, or preparing work for another student. Examples of cheating include, but are not limited to; passing assessment questions or answers to others, copying another's work, or providing materials for others to copy.

Plagiarism

Plagiarism involves the presentation of another person's or group's ideas or work or portions of the work and passing them off as the product of one's own work on any academic assignment or assessment. According to the Merriam-Webster Online Dictionary, to "plagiarize" means:

- To steal and pass off (the ideas or words of another) as one's own.
- To use (another's production) without crediting the source.
- To commit literary theft.
- To present as new and original an idea or product derived from an existing source.

Anytime a student presents another person's work as his/her own—even if that other person is a friend or family member—the student has plagiarized.

Fabrication

Fabrication involves invented information, citing false information, or the deliberate misrepresentation of another's work.

Consequences of Cheating

Consequences of cheating, plagiarism, or fabrication, whether intentional or not, will be determined on an individual basis by the student's teacher, counselors, and administrators, depending on the frequency and severity of the transgression(s).

Consequences may include, but are not limited to;

- No credit for the assignment and its associated components.
- Having to redo the assignment for no, partial, or full credit as determined by the teacher.

Sources:

Merriam-Webster's online Dictionary

Dixie State University Code of Student Responsibility:4C-Academic Conduct

<https://catalog.dixie.edu/codeofstudentrightsresponsibilities/#studentacademicconduct>

UVU Academic Honesty Policy

<https://policy.uvu.edu/getDisplayFile/563a3c1c65db23201153c268>

ACTIVITY CARDS

Activity cards will be issued to DHHS students at the beginning of the school year. Students should carry their student ID with them while at school and school activities. Activity cards provide free or reduced admission to many DHHS activities and school sponsored functions. Students without DHHS activity cards may not be admitted to events.

ALCOHOL, TOBACCO & DRUG VIOLATIONS

WCSD Policy 2110 <https://procedure.washk12.org/policy/2000/2110>

WCSD Policy 1401 <https://procedure.washk12.org/policy/1000/1401>

Washington County School District Prohibits the use, sale or distribution of alcohol, tobacco, controlled substance, imitation controlled substance, or drug paraphernalia on school property, at a school sponsored activity or in any vehicle used by the district to transport students to or from an activity during any time of the day or night.

ATTENDANCE POLICY

<https://procedure.washk12.org/policy/2000/2900>

Philosophy

Inasmuch as it is our purpose and mission to “foster educational excellence where students acquire the skills, knowledge, and character necessary for success...” these procedures are established for structure and to support local and state school attendance policies. The intent is to help our students develop sound attendance practices and prepare them to be employable and responsible citizens.

Good attendance is VERY important. YOU are responsible for your attendance per District policy.

1. DHHS will focus on positive interventions for students having issues with excessive absences and/or tardies. Students who are marked truant from class will be required to attend lunch detentions to clear the truant marks.
2. Don't jeopardize your **eligibility** for activities. If you are truant, you will not participate in the next school activity.
3. Per WCSD Policy 2900, parents may excuse absences no more than one week after the absence.

COMPULSORY ATTENDANCE

Utah Code, Section 53A-11-101 is specific in placing the responsibility of regular daily attendance on parents. As a school, however, we support a philosophy to cooperatively assist parents in helping their child develop sound attendance practices. The procedures herein provide a means where all parties can work together for the educational benefit of students. Our goal is to involve parents and school staff in resolving attendance problems before resorting to and involving juvenile court. A checklist is maintained for each student who has attendance problems to document earnest and persistent efforts by the school.

DHHS ATTENDANCE POLICY PROCEDURES

Absences: All absences are per class not total absences and all absences are considered in the total, excused and unexcused. Total absences, per class, will result in the following:

- Teachers will use Positive Behavior Interventions (PBIS) to recognize positive attendance for students.
- At 5 absences with a failing grade, a first email sent to parents. The teacher contacts parents about the concern.
- At 7 absences with a failing grade, a second email sent to parents. An administrator or counselor will contact parents and discuss the concern and possible solutions.
- At 9 absences with a failing grade, parents and the student are required to meet with administration to discuss solutions/alternative placements.
- At 11+ absences students/parents may be required to meet with the district student services director to determine court referral as per administration.
- At 11+ absences and with a failing grade, students will fail the class and be transferred to an online version of that class to recover the credit, students will have to pay the \$20 fee for credit recovery.
 - This will replace the credit for graduation, not the F on the transcript.
 - WCSD offers in house recovery programs in all middle and high schools. Recovery credit enrollment is managed directly by counselors, with support from lab mentors and the WCSD Utah Online program at risk teachers and staff.

Truancies: Each truancy will result in a consequence. First offense will result in one day of lunch detention with other interventions and consequences as deemed necessary per administration.

Tardies: A student is considered tardy if he/she is not in the classroom when the tardy bell rings.

It is the teacher's responsibility to communicate the expectation to students to be on time to class and plan meaningful and engaging lessons/activities that reflect that expectation. Teachers are expected to keep accurate attendance records including tardies. Total tardies, per class, will result in the following:

- At 5 tardies, the school will email home to ensure parents are aware of the situation.
- At 7 tardies, the school will call home to discuss the tardy problem (warn of consequences).
- At 9 tardies, there will be a meeting with parents, the student, and administration to discuss further consequences. Lunch detention assigned for every tardy from 9 tardies on.
- At 11 tardies, in-school suspension, or other interventions, as per administration will be imposed on the student.

BULLYING AND HAZING

WCSD Policy: <https://procedure.washk12.org/policy/3000/3510>

"Bullying and Hazing" SUMMARY of WCSD Policy 3510

The Washington County School Board is committed to protecting its students, employees and school guests from bullying or harassment of any type, for any reason. The School Board believes that all students, employees or guests are entitled to a safe, equitable and harassment-free school experience. Bullying or harassment in any form will not be tolerated and shall be just cause for disciplinary action. Conduct that constitutes bullying or harassment will be dealt with immediately and consistently.

"Bullying" is aggressive behavior that is intentional and involves an imbalance of power or strength. A person is bullied or victimized when he/she is exposed repeatedly and over time to negative actions on the part of one or more persons. Therefore "Bullying" means intentionally or knowingly committing an act that endangers the physical, and/or emotional health or safety of a student, a school employee, or a school guest. Any act involving any of the following elements will be considered bullying: (1) physical brutality, (2) forced or involuntary consumption of any food, liquor, drug, or other substance, (3) coerced actions or activities of a sexual nature or with sexual connotations, (4) physically obstructing freedom of movement, (6) verbal intimidation, such as teasing and name calling, (7) non-verbal and emotional intimidation through gestures, social exclusion. The conduct described above constitutes bullying, regardless of whether the person against whom the conduct is committed directed, consented to, or acquiesced in, the conduct.

"Cyber-bullying" is a form of bullying involving the use of email, texting, instant messaging, chat rooms, cell phones, or other forms of information technology.

"Hazing" is a form of **bullying** done for the purpose of initiation or admission into, affiliation with, holding office in, or as a condition for, membership or acceptance, or continued

membership or acceptance, in any school or school sponsored team, organization, program, or event.

No school employee, student, or guest, may engage in Bullying, Hazing or Cyber-bullying anyone else: (1) on school property, (2) at a school related or sponsored event, (3) on a school bus, (4) at a school bus stop; or (5) while the school district employee or student is traveling to or from a location or event described above.

To report violations anonymously:

- Submit a report through SafeUT (<https://safeut.med.utah.edu/>) or call 435-634-7015

Each reported complaint shall include: (1) name of complaining party; (2) name of offender (if known); (3) date and location of incident(s); (4) a statement describing the incident(s), including names of witnesses.

Each reported violation of the prohibitions noted previously shall be promptly investigated by a school administrator or an individual designated by a school administrator. Formal disciplinary action is prohibited based solely on an anonymous report of bullying, hazing, or retaliation.

Consequences or penalties may include but are not limited to:

- Student suspension or removal from a school-sponsored team or activity including school sponsored transportation.
- Student suspension or expulsion from school or lesser disciplinary action.
- Employee suspension or termination for cause or lesser disciplinary action.
- Employee reassignment. Discipline actions must also include, as appropriate:
- Procedures for protecting the victim and other involved individual from being subjected to further bullying or retaliation for reporting the bullying or hazing.
- Prompt reporting to law enforcement of all acts that constitute suspected criminal activity.
- Prompt reporting to the Office of Civil Rights (OCR) of all acts that may be violations of civil rights.
- Procedures for providing due process rights under Section 53A-8-102

CELL PHONES AND OTHER COMMUNICATION DEVICES

<https://procedure.washk12.org/policy/3000/3700>

In accordance with WUSD policy and Utah law, cell phones are restricted in use during the day:

- Cell phones, headphones, and personal electronic devices may not be used during instructional time.
- Devices must be stored in lockers or backpacks, and not carried on the body during class.
- Cell phone and electronic device use will be permitted only during passing periods and lunch breaks.

Photographic capabilities create additional problems. Their use in certain school situations can be very disruptive and could pose a threat to freedoms of privacy; examples include testing periods, locker rooms, or rest rooms, etc. In these settings, they are strictly prohibited. Consequently, DHHS prohibits the use of cell phones on campus during scheduled class time, or misuse of cell phones or other picture taking devices anytime on campus or during the school day. Proper cell phone etiquette is expected at lunchtime and between classes. Students are personally and solely responsible for the security of cell phones and other devices. DHHS shall not be responsible for the loss, theft, or damage to personal devices.

The following are DHHS policies regarding cell phones and other devices:

1. Students are expected to show Respect, Responsibility, and Integrity in regard to use of cell phones or other personal devices.
2. During class period, they must be turned **OFF** and stowed **out of sight**.
3. Teachers, administration, bus drivers, and any school officials may confiscate cell phones (including the power source) that are **ON** or used during class time. The owner will be identified, the device labeled and then given to office staff for safe keeping.
4. It is insubordination for a student to refuse to give up a cell phone and components and the student may be suspended. Parents will be contacted to meet with the administration.
5. 1st offense the device may be returned to the student at the end of the school day. The 2nd offense will be returned to the parent or guardian only. 3rd offense will be considered insubordination and disciplinary action will be taken by school administration.
6. All files on the device, including photos and videos, are subject to search by school administration. If files are found to be indecent or pornographic (as defined in the Utah Code), or compromise test or classroom data, or otherwise conflicts with school or district policy, the owner of the device will be disciplined by the school and held legally responsible for material found in the files.

CIVIL RIGHTS DISCLOSURE

<https://procedure.washk12.org/letters/Notices/NO03>

The Washington County Board of Education ensures an equal educational opportunity in accordance with several Federal Civil Rights Laws.

The Washington County School District does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability, gender identity, sexual orientation, religious affiliation, age, pregnancy, parental or marital status in its programs or activities.

DANCES AND DANCE DECORUM

DHHS is **not** required to provide school dances; however, throughout the school year, there may be school sponsored dances. DHHS students will be expected to conduct themselves appropriately at school dances.

1. A formal dance suggests appropriate formal dress. Inappropriate dressing will not be allowed, and violators will be required to leave the dance.
2. Vulgar, obscene or otherwise inappropriate actions may be cause for removal from the dance.
3. Dances are for DHHS students only. (Visitors must have a dance guest pass filled out 1 week prior to the dance)
4. Students who do not present their DHHS Student ID card will not be allowed in the dance.

DRESS CODE: WCSD STUDENT DRESS GUIDELINES

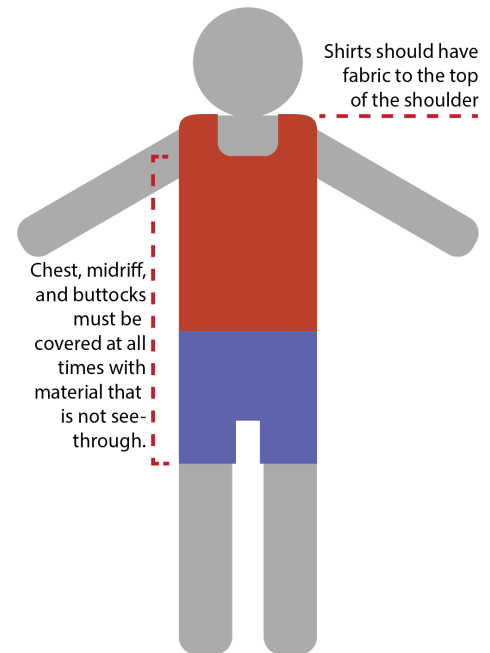
WCSD Dress Code Policy

School administrators are responsible for the implementation and enforcement of student conduct, dress and appearance standards contained in District policy 2200 Student Dress Code and these guidelines. The legal concept of “reasonableness” shall be the guiding principle in the application and discipline of student conduct, dress and appearance. Adherence to the conduct, dress, and appearance standards and these guidelines will be the responsibility of the student and their parent(s)/guardian(s). School administrators will have final judgment on all matters concerning interpretation of student conduct, dress, and appearance.

The following specific guidelines have been established to aid students, parents, staff and administration in the implementation and enforcement of policy 2200 Student Dress Code.

Dress and Appearance Standards include (but are not limited to) the following:

1. Clothing should be clean and in good repair.
2. Hats and other headwear:
 - a. May be worn unless it disrupts the school or school activity, poses a danger to self or others, or limits the ability of others to identify the student.
 - b. Any headwear that does not allow the student’s face to be visible is not allowed.
3. Clothing (See figure):
 - a. Must be appropriate in length and not revealing.
 - b. Must provide coverage of the torso with no viewable undergarments. Coverage will be with material that is not see-through.
 - c. Tube tops are not permitted.
4. Clothing, appearance, jewelry, accessory, footwear, or personal items shall be free of any writing, images, symbols, or any other insignias that:
 - a. Are lewd, vulgar, profane, obscene, or sexually suggestive.
 - b. Advocates, represents, or promotes racism, discrimination, violence or hate in any form.
 - c. Signifies or depicts gangs and/or illegal or criminal activities. (Administrators in consultation with law enforcement agencies will determine what signifies and/or depicts these activities.)
 - d. Shows or references tobacco, alcohol, drugs, or any illegal substance.
5. Footwear, appropriate for the day’s activities, shall be worn at all times.
6. Any dress or appearance item or practice that creates an unhealthy, unsafe, or disruption to the school or school activity may be prohibited.



If a student’s clothing is found to be in violation of the dress code the following steps may be taken:

- **First offense** - Alternative clothing may be issued, or the student may be asked to change.
- **Second offense** - Alternative clothing may be issued. Parents are to be notified.

- **Third offense** – Considered insubordinate and disciplinary action may be taken, including possible suspension from school.

The purpose of the Dress Code is that student dress or grooming not distract from or disrupt the learning environment. Students are expected to dress appropriately for school and learning as well as for safety to the student.

FEE WAIVERS

WCSD policy <https://procedure.washk12.org/policy/3000/3400>

Each school in WCSD is to ensure that adequate waivers or other provisions are available to guarantee that no student is denied the opportunity to participate because of an inability to pay the required fee, deposit or charge.

Proof of eligibility will be determined by the principal after the parent or guardian of a student applying for a fee waiver provides acceptable documentation verifying the student's eligibility to receive the waiver. DHHS finance office has more information about the fee waiver process.

Fee Waiver Application: <https://schools.utah.gov/file/666bfc86-5c65-4d77-bd26-5187ce025c66>

FERPA NOTIFICATION

WCSD policy: <https://procedure.washk12.org/letters/Notices/No01>

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) and District Policy 3260 affords parents and students over 18 years of age ("eligible students") certain rights with respect to the student's education records.

These rights are:

- 1)** The right to inspect and review the student's education records within 45 days of the day the school receives a request for access. Parents or eligible students should submit to the school principal or assistant principal a written request that identifies the record(s) they wish to inspect. The school official will make arrangements for access and notify the parent or eligible student of the time and place where the records may be inspected.
- 2)** The right to request the amendment of the student's education records that the parent or eligible student believes are inaccurate or misleading. Parents or eligible students may ask the school to amend a record that they believe is inaccurate or misleading. Such requests should be in writing and addressed to the school principal or assistant principal. It must clearly identify the part of the record they want changed, and specify why it is inaccurate or misleading. If the school decides not to amend the record as requested by the parent or eligible student, the school will notify the parent or eligible student of the decision and advise them of their right to a hearing regarding the request for amendment. Additional information regarding the hearing procedures will be provided to the parent or eligible student when notified of the right to a hearing.
- 3)** The right to consent to disclosures of personally identifiable information contained in the student's education records, except to the extent that FERPA authorizes disclosure without consent.

The following information may be disclosed without consent:

- a) Directory Information:** The following information is designated as student directory information: student's name, address (to include internet address) phone number, date of birth, grade level, extracurricular participation, awards or

honors, photograph, video or digital images, height and weight (if a member of an athletic team), previous school attended, dates of attendance, and parent's name. "Directory Information" may be disclosed without prior written consent.

The District will also routinely disclose names, addresses, and telephone numbers to military recruiters. Parents or eligible students will have two weeks from the beginning of the school year or date a student enrolls to advise the school district, in writing, of any and all items they refuse to permit the district to designate as directory information for the balance of the school year.

b) School Officials: School officials with legitimate educational interests may also have access to records. A school official is a person employed by the school as an administrator, supervisor, instructor, or support staff member such as a bus driver (including health or medical staff and law enforcement unit personnel); a person serving on the School Board; a person or company with whom the school has contracted to perform a special task (such as an attorney, auditor, medical consultant, or therapist); or a parent or student serving on an official committee, such as a disciplinary or grievance committee, or assisting another school official in performing his or her tasks. A school official has a legitimate educational interest if the official needs to review an education record in order to fulfill his or her professional responsibility.

c) Other Schools: The school may disclose education records without consent to officials of another school district in which a student seeks or intends to enroll.

4) The right to file a complaint with the U.S. Department of Education concerning alleged failures by the School to comply with the requirements of FERPA. The name and address of the Office that administers FERPA is:

**Family Policy Compliance Office
U.S. Department of Education
400 Maryland Avenue, SW, Washington D.C. 20202-4605**

FIRE & SAFETY EMERGENCY PROCEDURES

WCSD policy <https://procedure.washk12.org/policy/3000/3110>

In order to keep our school a safe learning environment for all teachers, students and other DHHS faculty practice fire & safety emergency procedures throughout the school year. Emergency drills prepare all persons on our DHHS campus for an emergency situation. An emergency handbook detailing steps to be taken during each type of emergency is provided to all the teachers for their reference.

IMMUNIZATIONS (2330)

Utah 53A-11-301 requires documentation of immunizations for school attendance.

The Utah Department of Health maintains a voluntary, confidential record system to assist parents/guardians, health care providers, and schools in documenting your child's immunizations. This record system is called the Utah Statewide Immunization Information System (USIIS). Allowing your child's school to share your child's immunization history with USIIS will aid you, your child's health care provider, and the school to determine which immunizations your child has received, and which may still be needed. **If you do not wish to give permission for the school to your child's/legal dependent's**

immunization information with USIIS, please request an immunization opt-out form from the school.

LEAVING SCHOOL DURING THE SCHOOL DAY

1. **Students must sign out at the attendance office before leaving campus for any reason (except lunch).**
2. Phone calls from parents are acceptable for check out.
3. Should a student miss school the day of an activity for **illness**, he or she may not participate in that evening's activities – including games and fine arts performances. **Don't jeopardize eligibility for activities.**
4. A truancy will render you ineligible for the subsequent event.

LICE PROCEDURES

<https://procedure.washk12.org/letters/Admin/A140>

In managing lice in the schools Washington County School District refers to the recommendations as per the Utah Department of Health (UDH), UDH Office of Epidemiology, the Center for Disease Control (CDC), American Academy of Pediatrics, and the National Association of School Nurses (NASN).

PROTECTION OF PUPIL RIGHTS (PPRA) Notice ([Link](#))

The Protection of Pupil Rights Amendment (PPRA), 20 U.S.C. § 1232h, affords parents of elementary and secondary students certain rights regarding the conduct of surveys, collection and use of information for marketing purposes, and certain physical exams. These include, but are not limited to, the right to:

- **Consent** before students are required to submit to a survey that concerns one or more of the following protected areas ("protected information survey") if the survey is funded in whole or in part by a program of the U.S. Department of Education (ED)–
- **Receive notice and an opportunity to opt a student out**
- **Inspect, upon request and before administration or use**

PUBLIC DISPLAY OF AFFECTION (PDA)

A public display of affection beyond handholding is prohibited. This includes kissing, necking, petting, full-body hugging. Students who persist in PDA will be warned, parents contacted, and ultimately suspensions could be imposed.

SAFE SCHOOLS POLICY

<https://procedure.washk12.org/policy/2000/2110>

The Board of Education of the Washington County School District recognizes that every student in the schools should have the opportunity to learn in an environment that is safe, conducive to the learning process, and free from unnecessary disruption.

The safety and well-being of students at Desert Hills High School is paramount. Students who feel welcome and safe will better achieve academically and be more apt to develop an ownership in and a sense of belonging to our school.

To foster such an environment the following policy has been adopted and is based on the following principles: Each student is expected to follow accepted rules of conduct.

1. Each student is expected to show respect for other people and obey persons in authority at the school.
2. The policy applies to students while in the classroom, on school grounds, on school vehicles, and in school-related activities or events.

Suspension is not the deprivation of a right to learning but is the temporary denial of social interaction through school contact and the removal of the person from the classroom setting because of real and present disruptive effect of his/her presence, or a reasonable assumption that his/her presence will be disruptive or a threat to the well-being or safety of himself/herself and or other students or staff. Suspension may carry with it conditions which must be met to remove the suspension. Suspension is for no more than 10 school days per incident.

Expulsion is defined as the removal from school for any period longer than 10 consecutive days but not more than one school year.

A STUDENT MAY BE SUSPENDED OR EXPELLED FROM SCHOOL FOR ANY OF THE FOLLOWING REASONS:

1. Frequent or flagrant willful disobedience, defiance of proper authority or disruptive behavior, including the use of foul, profane, vulgar or abusive language.
2. Willful destruction or defacing of school property.
3. Behavior or threatened behavior that poses an immediate and significant threat to the welfare, safety, or morals of other students or school personnel or to the operation of the school, including bullying, emotional, physical or sexual harassment.
4. Possession or use of pornographic material on school property. (H.B. 100- 4-30-07)
5. Possession, control, or use of an alcoholic beverage as defined in Section 32A-1-105 of the Utah Code.
6. Possession, control, or use of tobacco;
7. Behavior that threatens harm or does harm to the school or school property, to a person associated with the school, or property associated with any such person, regardless of where it occurs.
8. Because of identification and association with gangs, the following will not be permitted
9. on school campuses or at school activities: bandanas or any article of clothing bearing gang symbols, names, initials, insignia, or anything else that signals gang affiliation.
10. When a school official determines that time is needed to establish further facts of an act or series of acts of disobedience and misconduct disruptive to the learning process which may lead to suspension or expulsion from school.

A STUDENT SHALL BE SUSPENDED OR EXPELLED FROM SCHOOL FOR ANY OF THE FOLLOWING REASONS:

1. Any serious violation affecting another student or staff member, or any serious violation occurring during school hours, including lunch/break time, in a school building, in or on school property, or in conjunction with any school activity, including:
 - a. Possession, control, or actual or threatened use of a real weapon, explosive, or noxious or flammable material;
 - b. The actual or threatened use of a lookalike weapon with intent to intimidate another person or to disrupt normal school activities;

- c. The sale, control, or distribution of a drug or controlled substance as defined in Section 58-37-2;
 - d. The sale, control, or distribution of an imitation controlled substance as defined in Section 58-37b-2;
 - e. The sale, control, or distribution of drug paraphernalia as defined in Section 58-37a-3.
- 2. The commission of an act involving the use of force or threatened force which if committed by an adult would be a felony or class A misdemeanor.
 - 3. A student who commits a violation of section 1A above involving a real or look alike, weapon, explosive, or flammable material shall be expelled from school for a period of not less than one year, unless the Superintendent determines, on a case-by-case basis, that a lesser penalty would be more appropriate.

A student may be required to attend the School of Life life-skills course taught at DHHS as part of a consequence for behavior or academic violations.

A student may be denied admission to school on the basis of having been expelled from that or any other school during the preceding 12 months. A suspension or expulsion under this policy is not subject to the age limitations under Subsection 53A-11-102(1).

SEARCH AND SEIZURE

WCSD Policy 5220, <https://procedure.washk12.org/policy/5000/5220>

Any person **and their vehicle** on any school campus are subject to search at any time.

The following items are subject to search and seizure on campus:

- 1. **Students.** All students are subject to search if reasonable suspicion exists to suspect imminent danger to the student or others or violates school or district policy.
- 2. **Visitors and non-school persons.**
- 3. **Lockers.** Student lockers are school property and as such are subject to search at any time.

SECTION 504

WCSD 504: <https://www.washk12.org/student-services/equity/504>

Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 protects the educational rights of students with mental or physical disabilities. Students with mental or physical disabilities that impair or limits one or more life activities, the student can and may be evaluated to receive accommodations under a 504 plan.

SEXUAL HARASSMENT

<https://procedure.washk12.org/policy/2000/2116>

The Washington County School District is dedicated to cultivating an educational environment in which all individuals are treated with respect and dignity. No person on the basis of sex, shall be subjected to discrimination or sexual harassment under any education program or activity receiving Federal financial assistance. (20 U.S.C. 1681(a)).

2.2. Sexual Harassment

Sexual harassment shall not be tolerated. Employee violations shall be subject to disciplinary action up to and including dismissal from employment and referral for criminal prosecution.

Student violations shall be subject to corrective action to include the possible loss of privileges, community service, suspensions, expulsions, and referral for legal prosecution. Employees or students affected by sexual harassment shall be afforded avenues for filing complaints, which are free from bias, collusion, intimidation, or reprisal.

Discrimination Statement (from WCSD Policy)

Sexual harassment is prohibited by Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 and by this Policy in all of the District's educational programs including academics, extracurricular activities, and athletics. Allegations that originate off-campus which impact the victim's ability to effectively access and continue their educational program **may** be addressed under this Policy at the discretion of the Designated District Title IX Coordinator. This may include allegations of sexual harassment through the internet, electronic mobile devices and/or social media.

Persons alleging educational program discrimination or other related violation of civil rights may file a complaint with the District Civil Rights Coordinator (the Assistant Superintendent of Secondary Education, WCSD). Persons alleging employment practices discrimination or other related violations of civil rights may file a complaint with the District Human Resource Manager. WCSD is committed to co-educational course programs including physical education and other athletic opportunities for both sexes as required by Title IX of the Educational Amendment of 1972. Information regarding the grievance procedure for addressing possible discriminatory actions may be obtained from: Mr. Richard Holmes, Assistant Superintendent Washington County School District, 121 West Tabernacle, St. George, UT 84770. Questions regarding 504 procedures should be directed to Mrs. Karen Bess, Director of Student Services, at the same address.

SKATEBOARDS, ROLLERBLADES, ETC.

For liability reasons due to potential injuries, skateboards, rollerblades, bikes, heelies, etc., may not be ridden on campus. The campus includes hallways, classrooms, walkways, parking lots, and attached features – handrails, walls, etc. Students who bring skateboards to school must store them in their locker or the front office, they are not to be brought to the classroom.

STUDENT DRIVING & PARKING

1. **Remember, you must be a licensed driver to operate a vehicle on campus.**
2. Students may only park in student parking spaces (parking spaces labeled with a name is prohibited and may lead to a fine) during school hours 7:45 AM to 3:00 PM. **Students may NOT park in faculty or VISITOR designated spots during school and may be subject to fines if they park in these designated spots.**
3. Students who park in handicap, or non-parking areas may be ticketed by law enforcement.
4. Desert Hills High School is not responsible for loss of or damage to vehicles.

TECHNOLOGY ACCEPTABLE USE AGREEMENT

WCSD policy: <https://procedure.washk12.org/policy/3000/3700>

The purpose of this agreement is to ensure that the use of computers, Internet, and other electronic or communication devices by District students, patrons, and employees are used appropriately, responsibly, ethically and legally. The Technology Acceptable Use Agreement will

address the use of computers, the Internet, and the interference or distraction caused by electronic and communication devices.

Technology use is a privilege, not a right:

Washington County School District is able to provide computers, Internet, and other technological advances for the District employees and staff, students, and other patrons. The use of this technology is a privilege, not a right, and inappropriate use will result in the loss of these privileges to those within the Washington County School District.

DO'S for COMPUTERS and INTERNET

- Use your own account and not someone else's. The use of another's account may result in the loss of your own
- Access only the servers, files, databases, and sites you have permission to access. Attempts to access restricted areas may result in adding more restrictions to your account or the permanent removal of it.
- Use games, chat rooms, instant messaging etc., ONLY if it is directly related to education, instruction, and/or work assignments. The use of such, other than for educational purposes, is a waste of technology resources and can degrade network equipment, software, or system performance.
- Use the technology provided to enhance homework and other assignments, being careful not to borrow material that is not yours. If someone else came up with the idea, wrote the paper or has claim to the information being borrowed, give the credit where credit is due.
- Be careful not to engage in any illegal activity which may hamper the use of district technology. Such activity may include: using copyrighted material, using and/or communicating threatening or obscene material, and material protected by trade secrets.
- Be aware of another person's privacy and keep personal information such as: addresses, phone numbers, or other personal information private.
- Use the technology provided for the betterment of education and educating not for commercial and/or personal gain.
- Understand that any attempt to change or destroy another's data or network that is connected to the Internet is vandalism.
- What is yours is yours and what is theirs is theirs!
- Above all, respect others. Accessing, downloading, storing or printing files or messages that are profane, obscene, or contain bad language can be very offensive to those around you. This type of activity is also a waste of technology and other resources.

Once again, the use of this technology is a privilege, not a right, and inappropriate use will result in the loss of these privileges.

Portable Communication Devices:

Washington County School District recognizes that technology is essential and embraces and encourages the use of it. We have seen advancements in technology that have ushered in a new generation of gadgets, particularly in Portable Communication Devices. **Such devices would include, but are not limited to: cell phones, with the ability to go online, chat, text message, download, e-mail, and photograph. Other devices could include pagers, mp3 players, cassette and CD players, laser pointers, game machines, and mini DV cameras.**

DO'S of PORTABLE COMMUNICATION DEVICES

- Be responsible to ensure that the portable communication device is turned off and placed out of sight during the instructional day.
- Be considerate of others, making sure that such devices do not distract from the opportunity to learn and be educated.
- Be careful not to invade or violate another's privacy by taking these devices in areas such as locker rooms, shower rooms, restrooms, and other areas where someone's privacy could be violated.
- Be very careful with portable communication devices, that they are not used in any way that can be interpreted as being threatening, humiliating, harassing, embarrassing, or intimidating.

*Understand that teachers and administrators have authority to confiscate these devices, contact the parents, and take appropriate action if any of these devices are used inappropriately. The administration will arrange for the parent or guardian to pick up that device at the school office.

VISITORS

WCSD policy: <https://procedure.washk12.org/policy/2000/2960>

1. All visitors are to check-in at the DHHS main office.
2. Students may not bring friends or relatives to attend school with them. Students cannot bring any school age visitors to school with them.
3. Parents are welcome and encouraged to attend classes with their student(s) anytime, however, DHHS asks visiting parents to schedule with the school officials and teachers **prior to attending**.
4. Persons on campus without permission may be cited for trespassing.

18 YEAR-OLD STUDENTS

DHHS requires that 18 year-old students have the same parental permission required of a 17 year-old. Eighteen-year-old students not willing to comply with this rule are encouraged to enroll at Southwest Adult High School.

SECTION 2 – Academics and Student Services

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

A SUMMARY OF GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

Subject	Credits	
	'27 grads	'28 grads+
Language Arts	4.0	4.0
Mathematics	3.0	3.0
Science	3.0	3.0
Social Science	3.0	3.5
Fine Arts	1.5	1.5
Healthy Lifestyles and Fitness	2.0	2.0
Career and Technology Ed.	1.0	1.0
Financial Literacy	0.5	0.5
Digital Literacy	0.5	0.5
Electives	<u>8.5</u>	<u>9.0</u>
Total	27.0	28.0

Note:

- All 10th and 11th grade students must have a “full” schedule unless otherwise approved by administration.
- Students may NOT drop a class to avoid failing (see Class Change Procedures below).
- Seniors who are significantly behind in graduation requirements will need to visit with the administration to receive alternative diploma options.

CREDIT FROM ALTERNATIVE SOURCES

- The courses must be completed prior to established graduation deadlines.
- All courses must be from an accredited institution.
- Courses taken at any other WCSD high school or institution must be pre-approved.

WCSD Policy 4.2: <https://procedure.washk12.org/policy/4000/4100>

GRADUATING SENIORS

WCSD Policy <https://procedure.washk12.org/policy/4000/4100>

To receive a DHHS diploma, students must be enrolled for a minimum of one academic quarter immediately prior to graduation.

To participate in DHHS commencement exercises, students must complete all requirements and be approved by their counselor. Approval includes fulfillment of all graduation requirements (including credit from outside sources). The graduating senior will be counseled regarding his or her progress toward graduation; however, the responsibility for registration in required classes and the completion of those classes together with the completion and submission of all other required paperwork is that of the individual senior.

TOP HONOR STUDENTS

Graduating seniors with a cumulative 4.0 GPA will be recognized at graduation. DHHS will not recognize an individual Valedictorian or Salutatorian. A class ranking of “1” will be included on student transcripts with a cumulative 4.0 GPA.

CLASS CHANGE PROCEDURES

Students interested in a class change must contact their counselor at the designated times for class changes to occur. District mandated fees may apply to class changes. Class changes will not be considered after the deadline for each quarter. No student may drop a class to avoid an unsatisfactory grade.

GRADE REPORTING

Power School is readily accessible for parents to keep track of their students' academic progress. DHHS does not send report cards home. We expect students and parents to regularly check Power School. Grades are reported on a quarterly basis for semester as well as full year classes. <https://www.washk12.org/powerschool>

CREDIT RECOVERY

In cases where a student has failed courses that the student must make up to meet graduation requirements (i.e. F, NG, NC is transcribed on a report card), the following guidelines must be followed:

- WCSD offers in house recovery programs in all high schools. Recovery credit enrollment is managed directly by counselors, with support from lab mentors and the WCSD Utah Online program at risk teachers and staff.
- Students that have failed a course will work with their school counselor to determine their credit recovery needs.
- Students may be placed in a credit recovery class at their school if seats are available, or students may work on their credit recovery outside of the school day or during the summer.

Credit Recovery Grading Process:

- Credit recovery program will award a P/F grade for course completion.
 - Students must complete 100% of the course
 - Students must demonstrate 75% accuracy in the course to receive a P on the transcript
- The course grade for credit recovery credit will not replace the previous grade. If a student wishes to replace the previous grade [[State Board Rule R277-717-3](#)] the Notification of Intent to Enroll for Course Grade Forgiveness form must be submitted and be taken for original credit, not recovery credit.

Credit Recovery Fee:

- A fee of \$20.00 will be assessed for every quarter of time that a student is enrolled in the credit recovery program.
- If a student fails to complete the make-up recovery credit, the fee will not be refunded.

EARLY GRADUATION

All graduation requirements must be fulfilled in order to graduate with a DHHS diploma.

WCSD policy: <https://procedure.washk12.org/policy/4000/4100>

SECTION 3 – Media (Library)

PURPOSE:

The Library exists to foster pursuit of knowledge, excellence in learning and teaching and for intellectual interaction, collaboration, study and reflection. The staff is committed to serving the needs of students, faculty and staff.

HOURS OF OPERATION

The media center is available for student use at 7:45 AM to 3:20 PM each school day.

CHECK OUT POLICY

1. General Collection materials may be checked out for 10 school days.
2. English novels may be checked out for 30 school days.
3. Reserved, reference, and periodicals can be checked out for one day only.
4. Media materials checked out may be renewed but must be physically brought in for renewal.

GENERAL MEDIA INFORMATION

1. Books will not be checked out to students who have overdue books.
2. The fee for losing a book is the cost to replace the book.
3. For damaged books, a fine may be assessed based on the degree of damage against the cost of the book.
4. The media may charge fees for copies, document binding, lamination, transparencies, and other services requiring special equipment.
5. Certain school supplies may be available for purchase from the Media Center.

INTERNET REGULATIONS

Internet use is a privilege, not a right. School computers and online computer services are intended for educational use only. The Washington County School District has a Technology Acceptable Use Policy which states that students who violate the terms of the policy will immediately lose access and may be further restricted from using the internet. DHHS students are expected to practice Respect, Responsibility, Integrity with regards to internet use.

SECTION 4 – Clubs and Organizations

CLUBS AND ORGANIZATIONS

UHSSA Handbook Link: <https://uhsaa.org/Publications/Handbook/Handbook.pdf>

WCSD Policy: <https://procedure.washk12.org/policy/3000/3630>

Eligibility:

Students who participate in interscholastic activities must be eligible according to the Utah High School Activities Association (UHSSA) guidelines. In brief, academic eligibility requires participating students must show proof that they have a 2.0 grade point average and no more than one failing grade in the previous grading term. A **No Grade (NG)** or **No Credit (NC)** is considered an “F” until the actual grade has been awarded. Certain activities may set a more restrictive academic eligibility as determined by the coach or adviser. Parents and students in these activities will be notified prior to the beginning of the respective activity season. Participation in an extracurricular activity is a privilege offered to students who perform academically.

- **Good attendance is paramount, thus a Truancy (or Sluff) renders a student ineligible for participation in the succeeding school sponsored activity.**
- **Game or performance day attendance is mandatory.**
- **Students who miss class without prior administrative approval will be ineligible to participate that day.**

CLUBS AT DESERT HILLS HIGH SCHOOL

WCSD Policy <https://procedure.washk12.org/policy/3000/3640>

DHHS supports clubs as opportunities for leadership and the building of student/teacher camaraderie. Involvement in clubs also enhances scholarship prospects. Students are encouraged to participate in one or more clubs and activities that will be offered during the school year and sponsored by the school.

It is the policy of the Washington County School District (WCSD) Board of Education not to discriminate against someone because of that person’s race, color, religion, sex (including gender identity, sexual orientation, and pregnancy), national origin, age, disability, genetic information nor any other non-merit factor in its educational programs, activities, or employment practices as required by Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Title IX of the Educational Amendment of 1972, Age Discrimination in Employment Act of 1974, and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990. Equal opportunity is a priority of the Washington County School Board of Education.

CHARTERING NEW CLUBS AT DHHS

Application and Charter Form:

<http://procedure.washk12.org/forms/1000/1120>

Desert Hills High School (DHHS) adheres to the Washington County School District policy 3640. DHHS allows chartering new clubs where interested DHHS students and sponsors of the club show support and has completed the process as outlined in WCSD Policy 3640.

Deadlines for Initiating New Clubs

Application materials must be submitted by **September 15**, for the charter to be considered for the second semester of the current year, or by **January 15**, for the charter to be considered for the first semester of the following year. All non-curricular clubs must renew their applications annually.

DHHS Clubs 26-27

(Will be updated by 8/31 for the 26-27 school year)

Astronomy Club	Jared Bringhurst
Book Club	Meridee Moffett
DECA	Janelle Langston
Drama Club	Kyle Myrick
ESports	Ryan Jacobs
FCCLA	Tierra Davis
FFA	Maryann Blake
Misc. Games Club	
Diversity and Equality Club	
Get Outside Club	Kamryn Watts
Glamour Gals	Logan Fielding
Hope Squad	Brielle Brosier
HOSA	Ron Quilter
Hype Squad	Cody Clayton
Improv Club	
Japanese Club	Rich Mildenhall
Maelstrom	Ryan Lowe
Multicultural Club	Jill Christian
National Honor Society (NHS)	Teena Nelson
Orchestra Club	Kirsten Candland
Science Olympiad	Taylor Robinson
Service Club	Jared Bringhurst
Skills USA	Tanner Jones
Speech & Debate Club	Cody Clayton
Student Government	Libby Spens

Technical Theater Club	Kyle Myrick
The Art	Jerilynn Shakespeare
Thunder Buds	
Tri M Music Honor Society	Kirsten Candland
UNICEF Club	Robyn Dixon
Unified Studies Club	Ron Quilter, Taylor Robinson, and Kamryn Watts
Washington County Youth Coalition	Pamela Holiday