

Desert Hills High School



Student Handbook

1515 S. Val Vista Drive, Gilbert, AZ 85296

(p) 480-813-1151 (f) 480-813-1161

www.deserthillshs.com

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School Information

Desert Hills High School

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Office Phone: (480) 813-1151

Web: www.deserthillshs.com

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Open Enrollment

This Leona Group managed school has an open-enrollment policy in accordance with A.R.S. § 15-184. A copy of the full open-enrollment policy is available for your review upon request from the school office.

This Leona Group managed school does not discriminate in its admissions or enrollment practices on the basis of race, ethnicity, national origin, age, religion, gender, income level, disability, English proficiency or athletic ability.

Failure to disclose accurate, complete, and truthful information on the enrollment application may result in revocation or removal from enrollment.

Pursuant to A.R.S 15-184(F), This Leona Group managed school may refuse to admit any pupil who has been expelled from another educational institution or who is in the process of being expelled from another educational institution.

This Leona Group managed school will consider all of the facts and circumstances surrounding any disciplinary action taken by a student's previous school, and this Leona Group managed school may honor the previous school's disciplinary consequence, including long-term suspension, upon enrollment.

Arizona Student Enrollment

Thank you for your interest in attending a Leona Group managed school. As a manager of public charter schools, we are pleased to offer you a free and quality educational choice in a safe, caring, and respectful environment. Leona Group schools offer a rigorous education taught by highly qualified teachers. We look forward to meeting your family and we are available to answer any other questions you may have.

Families experiencing housing instability may not be required to provide the documentation outlined below at the time of enrollment. Please inform the school if this applies to you.

The following documentation is required for enrollment:

- Proof of Residency (ARS 15-802(b))
- A person can prove his or her physical residence by completing an Affidavit of Arizona Residency (available at school offices) and submitting an original or legible copy of one of the following documents that indicate the person's name and residence address:
 - Valid Arizona driver's license, Arizona identification card, or motor vehicle registration
 - Valid Arizona Address Confidentiality Program authorization card
 - Real estate deed, mortgage documents, or property tax bill
 - Residential lease or rental agreement
 - Water, electric, gas, cable, or phone bill
 - Bank or credit card statement
 - State income tax return, W-2 wage statement or payroll Documentation from a state, tribal or federal government agency

- Temporary on-base billeting facility (for military families)
- Certificate of tribal enrollment or other identification, issued by a recognized American Indian tribe, that contains an Arizona address
- Consular identification card issued by a foreign government as a valid form of identification if the foreign government uses biometric verification techniques in issuing the consular identification card
- Documentation from a state, tribal or federal government agency (Social Security Administration, Veteran's Administration, Arizona Department of Economic Security)
- The residency documentation received by the school will be maintained in accordance with the Arizona Department of Education guidelines and must be verified annually.

The following documentation is requested at the time of enrollment, but will not prevent a student from enrolling:

Proof of Age and Identity (A.R.S. §15-828)

Any person enrolling a student should provide the school with one of the following:

A copy of the child's government-issued birth certificate; or

Other reliable proof of identity and age, such as a student's baptismal certificate, hospital-issued birth certificate, application for a Social Security number, passport, or original school registration records from another public or private school; or

A letter from an authorized representative of an agency having custody of the student.

The following documentation is required for attendance:

Immunizations (ARS 15-872)

All students entering Arizona public schools are required by law to be immunized. If the student has a medical condition or personal belief that conflicts with this law, a waiver may be signed and presented prior to the student's first day of school. Immunization records (or exemption documentation) are required to attend school, but are not a requirement for enrollment.

Rights of Homeless Students under the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act

This school shall provide an educational environment that treats all students with dignity and respect. Every homeless student shall have access to the same free and appropriate educational opportunities as students who are not homeless. This commitment to the educational rights of homeless students, youth, and unaccompanied youth, applied to all services, programs, and activities provided or made available.

A student may be considered eligible for services as a "Homeless Student or Youth" under the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act if he or she is presently living:

- In a shelter
- In a motel/hotel
- In a car, park, abandoned building, bus or train station
- Doubled up with other people due to loss of housing or economic hardship.
- In a campground due to the lack of an alternative accommodation

According to the McKinney-Vento Homeless Act, Eligible Students Have Rights to:

- Immediate school enrollment. A school must immediately enroll students even if they lack health, immunization or school records, proof of guardianship, or proof of residency.
- Enroll in the school he/she attended when permanently housed (school of origin); the school in which he/she was last enrolled (school of origin); any school that non-homeless students living in the same attendance area in which the homeless child or youth is actually living are eligible to attend.
- Remain enrolled in his/her selected school for as long as he/ she remains homeless or, if the student becomes permanently housed, until the end of the academic year.
- Priority in certain preschool programs.
- Participate in a tutorial-instructional support program, school related activities, and/or receive other support services.
- Obtain information regarding how to get fee waivers, and low-cost or free medical referrals.
- Transportation services: A homeless student attending his/her school of origin has a right to transportation to go to and from the school of origin as long as (s)he is homeless or, if the student becomes permanently housed, until the end of the academic year.

If you believe your child(ren) may be eligible contact the school of attendance for your child(ren), speak to the front office staff and request McKinney-Vento services as well as the district liaison contact information.

For more information, refer to <http://www.azed.gov/homeless> or contact:

<i>Atticus Masterson Homeless Liaison Desert Hills High School 1515 S. Val Vista Dr., Gilbert AZ 85296 480-813-1151</i>	<i>Silvia.Chavez Homeless Education Coordinator Arizona Department of Education 1535 W. Jefferson Street Phoenix, AZ 85007 (602) 542-4963 Silvia.Chavez@azed.gov</i>
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Dispute Resolution: If you disagree with school officials about enrollment, transportation, or fair treatment of a homeless student or youth, you may file a complaint with the school district. The school district must respond quickly, and it must be in writing. During the dispute, the student must be immediately enrolled in the school and provided transportation until the matter is resolved. The Homeless Liaison will assist you in making decisions, providing notice of any appeal process, and filling out dispute forms. You have the right to appeal a decision to the state level.

Equal Education Opportunity

Federal and state laws prohibit discrimination on the basis of race, color, national origin, gender, religion, or disability. This Leona Group managed school provides a nondiscriminatory learning and work environment ensuring that all students and staff are free from unlawful discrimination. A lack of English language skills will not be a barrier to admission and participation in the education programs of the school. This commitment extends to all school programs and school sponsored events. A full copy of the grievance procedure is available from the school leader.

In the event a student experiences discrimination, the student should report the incident to the school leader within ten (10) school days. The inability of a student to speak English should not prevent the student from reporting a violation. Every reasonable measure to interpret a non-English speaker's concerns will be taken.

The following individual has been designated to handle inquiries regarding the non-discrimination policies:

Dave Miller, Principal
Desert Hills High School
1515 S. Val Vista Dr.
Gilbert, AZ 85296
480-813-1151
dave.miller@leonaschools.com

Procedures for Filing Complaints

Any person who believes he/she has been the subject of, or is a witness to, discrimination or harassment shall immediately notify any teacher, office personnel, or the school leader. Complaints that cannot be reported immediately must be reported within thirty (30) calendar days. The school employee receiving the report or complaint, or who personally witness discrimination or harassment, shall immediately inform the school leader of the report or complaint and complete a Statement of Facts form.

Procedures for Investigation of the Report/Complaint

The school leader will investigate the incident personally, or designate another school employee to conduct the investigation, at the school leader's discretion. The alleged victim or witness will be required to complete a Statement of Facts form, or if a Statement of Facts form is not available, set forth in another written form all information relevant to the complaint, including a description of the conduct alleged (i.e., specific words, statements, or actions), names of perpetrator and victim, places, times, and other witnesses. The school leader shall contact an outside agency (i.e., Department of Child Safety or law enforcement) as required by statute or when otherwise deemed appropriate by the school leader.

Investigative Findings

In all cases, regardless of whether a violation of school policy is found or a complainant no longer wishes to pursue a complaint, the investigation shall conclude with a written investigation report. The report shall include findings, conclusions and any possible recommendations, including any discipline referral resulting from the alleged conduct, to be prepared by the individual who conducts the investigation. The report shall be drafted as soon as possible after the investigation is closed.

Attendance Policy

Parents or guardians must contact the school office at 480-813-1151 to report an absence. In order to sign in late or sign out early, students must have permission from parents or guardians, or be 18 years of age, and have permission from the School Leader. Parents and/or students must sign out of school in the front office. A student is considered to have an unexcused absence if they have not attended their physical school or logged in to remote courses, and have not otherwise contacted the school that day. Students have the opportunity to

make up an absence on the Friday of the same week of the absence. Students are considered tardy if they arrive after the late bell for each class.

Excused absences are identified by the Department of Education as an absence due to illness, doctor appointment, mental or behavioral health, homelessness, bereavement, family emergencies, time necessary to process for the armed forces, and out-of-school suspensions. (A.R.S. § 15-901(A)(1))

Students that accrue 10 consecutive unexcused absences will be withdrawn from school.
(A.R.S. §15-901(A)(2)).

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Students that accrue 10 consecutive unexcused absences will be withdrawn from school.
(A.R.S. §15-901(A)(2)).

Supervision of Students

Students may be on campus from 7:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Thursday. On Fridays, students may be on campus from 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

Parent Involvement

This Leona Group managed school welcomes and encourages parent involvement. We recognize and value a variety of ways that parents can be meaningful partners in the education of their children. There are many opportunities for you to be involved in your student's education. Meaningful parental involvement is achieved when parents participate in supporting student learning at home, are involved in school-related decision making, and support school-related activities. This Leona Group managed school continuously works to achieve this goal in order to meet Federal and State requirements. This Leona Group managed school has developed a Parent Involvement Policy in collaboration with parents. This policy is available for your review upon request at the school office and on the school website.

Opportunities for meaningful parent involvement are provided at This Leona Group managed school through:

- Annual Title I Advisory meetings
- Opportunities to volunteer to serve on school councils/committees
- Communication vehicles such as school newsletter, school website, written description of programs, and information from annual Title I meetings
- Feedback through surveys
- Annual recommitment by parents, students, and teachers to the Parent-Student-School Compact

If you would like additional information on how you can participate in any of the committees, please contact the School Leader, front office staff, or your child's teacher.

As part of the Title I Parent Involvement Policy, this Leona Group managed school has developed a compact outlining how parents, school staff, and students will share responsibility for improving student achievement. School compacts will be reviewed and revised annually, as necessary.

School-Parent Compact

The following Parent/School Compact, developed through the combined efforts of the parents, students, and staff of The Leona Group, outlines the goals, expectations, and shared responsibilities for the success of all our students.

School Environment

The School Will:

- The School will provide a safe, secure environment a closed campus with adequate security (local law enforcement).
- The School will employ a staff that is well trained and certified in maintaining a safe, educational environment.

The Parents Will:

- The parents will contact the school with any concerns over attendance, behavior or academic completion.
- The Parents will contact their individual student, during regular class hours, through the school office only.

The Student Will:

- Students will accept the responsibility of maintaining a safe, secure learning environment by accepting this code of conduct.
- Students will not use, sell, or participate in any illegal use of drugs, tobacco, or alcohol.
- Students will avoid and refrain from all gang related activities, including: hand signs, clothing, jewelry, graffiti, or any other actions or behavior.
- Students will not gamble in any way shape or form - playing cards, dice, or any other related gambling material.
- Students will not carry weapons or any look-alikes or replicas of weapons.
- Students will not use phones, pagers, iPods, MP3 players, cameras, handheld game devices, or any similar electronics in any class unless the teacher has given permission to use for academic purposes (i.e. research, calculator function).
- Students will not fight or participate in any confrontational behavior at any time with anybody.
- Students will attend classes on time and be permitted to leave campus with parent/guardian permission only.

Behavior and Participation

The School Will:

- The School will maintain a safe climate, with a positive atmosphere suitable for learning for all students.
- The School will provide students with a foundation for continuous learning.

The Parents Will:

- The Parents will reinforce mutual respect for all teachers, staff and other students.
- The Parents will reinforce appropriate dress for a learning environment (including clothing and jewelry).

- The Parents will monitor their student's attendance ensuring full attendance - 100%.
- The Parents will reinforce positive student behavior and participation involving any and all activities, possessions and actions.
- The Parents will support students in their learning and completion of all classes, all assignments and all class activities.
- The Parents will assist their students in seeking and receiving any additional help in order to achieve.
- The Parents will have access to all curricular materials and their student's class work in order to monitor his or her progress.
- The Parents will keep abreast of child's grades and keep an open line of communication.

The Students Will:

- Students will show respect to all teachers, all staff and all students at all times: No racism, foul language, obscene gestures, harassment, poor attitude or inappropriate behavior (see school environment above).
- Students will use appropriate language at all times: No obscenities, threats, harassment, or any other verbal abuses.
- Students will show positive behavior at all times: Attendance, participation, respect, positive attitude, gestures and posture.
- Students will dress appropriately for a learning environment at all times, reflecting professional maturity and modesty.

Academics and Curriculum

The School Will:

- The School will provide a challenging curriculum that is aligned to the Arizona Academic Standards.
- The School will promote student achievement and success addressing all learning styles and accommodations.
- The School will employ highly trained professionals (teachers, administrators, and staff) who promote the highest quality in education.

The Student Will:

- Students will put in 100% effort in all class activities and all assignments at all times in order to meet the requirements for graduation.
- Students will ask for help on any assignments they do not understand in order to achieve to their best ability.
- Students will attend any extra help or additional classes suggested by their teacher in order to achieve to their best ability.
- Students will complete all classes and all assignments appropriately to the best of their ability.

Goals and Achievement

The School Will:

- Provide every opportunity for students to achieve academic success.

The Parents Will:

- The Parents will provide every opportunity for their student to achieve academic success.

The Students Will:

- Students will take responsibility: to learn and achieve in every class and every course of study, to monitor their own grades and credits, and positively work toward graduation.

Parent's Right to Know

You have the right to request information regarding the professional qualifications of your child's teacher. Specifically, you may request the following:

- Whether your child's teacher has met state qualification and certification/licensing criteria for the grade levels and subject area in which the teacher provides instruction.
- Whether your child's teacher is teaching under emergency or other provisional status through which state qualification or certification/licensing criteria has been waived.
- The bachelor's degree major of the teacher and any other graduate certification or degree held by the teacher, and the field of study/discipline of the certification or degree.
- Whether the child is provided services by paraprofessionals and, if so, their qualifications.
- Information on your child's achievement level in each of the state tests.

If you would like to receive this information, please contact the school office at 480-813-1151 to schedule an appointment with the school leader.

Parent Classroom Visits, Tours, or Observations

Parents of Enrolled Students. In accordance with Arizona law, parents of students enrolled at the school may request to visit, tour, or observe their child's classroom (a "campus visit"), subject to the following parameters:

- All campus visit requests must be received by the school at least 24 hours in advance of the proposed visit, provided that the school, in its sole discretion, may waive the 24-hour advance notice requirement on a case-by-case basis.
- Campus visit requests will be promptly reviewed by the School Leader, with input from the classroom teacher.
- Campus visit requests will be approved unless they threaten to interfere with the physical, intellectual, social, or emotional health and/or safety of students and staff.

During any approved campus visit, parents will be subject to all policies applicable to campus visitors generally, including safety requirements for providing identification, signing in and out of the campus, and if applicable, being accompanied by school staff.

Parents of Potential Students. In accordance with Arizona law, parents who wish to enroll their child in the school may request a campus visit, subject to the same parameters set forth above for parents of enrolled students. In addition, parents of potential students will be required to be accompanied at all times during any campus visit by a current staff member.

Scheduling. Approved campus visits will be scheduled at a mutually convenient time for the school and the parents, and may be limited to a specific time frame, at the school's discretion.

Health and Safety Parameters. For purposes of this policy, the following requests threaten to interfere with the physical, intellectual, social, or emotional health and/or safety of students and staff, and are therefore not allowed:

- Requests for campus visits during state testing, other testing periods, or at other times that would clearly interfere with educational instruction or disrupt the educational environment.
- Requests for campus visits by parents who have demonstrated failure to abide by Parent Behavioral Expectations (set forth below), or who have otherwise failed to abide by campus visitation policies of the school.
- Requests that, for other reasons, threaten to interfere with the physical, intellectual, social, or emotional health and/or safety of students and staff.

Parent Behavioral Expectations. During any campus visit, parents are expected and required to comply with all campus visitor procedures and to comport themselves at all times with appropriate decorum and in a manner that is respectful and conducive to an environment in which the educational objectives of the school can be effectively administered. Consistent with this expectation, any parental behavior that constitutes harassment, bullying, or verbal or physical abuse of staff or students, or that otherwise disrupts the educational environment is expressly prohibited.

In addition, parents may not interfere with instruction or distract from the instructional environment, nor may parents help their child with their schoolwork during a campus visit, unless specifically allowed by the classroom teacher.

Parents who disregard these behavioral expectations while on school grounds will be ejected from campus; may be prohibited from future campus visits or subject to other limitations on future campus visits; and may be subject to other consequences under applicable law or policy.

School Volunteers

Parent/Guardian Volunteers

Desert Hills High School welcomes and encourages parent involvement. We recognize and value a variety of ways that parents can be meaningful partners in the education of their children. There are many opportunities for you to be involved in your student's education. Meaningful parental involvement is achieved when parents participate in supporting student learning at home, are involved in school-related decision making, and support school-related activities. Desert Hills High School continuously works to achieve this goal in order to meet Federal and State requirements. Desert Hills High School has developed a Parent Involvement Policy in collaboration with parents. This policy is available for your review upon request at the school office and on the school website.

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- Opportunities to volunteer to serve on school councils/committees
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- Annual recommitment by parents, students, and teachers to the Parent-Student-School Compact

If you would like additional information on how you can participate in any of the committees, please contact the School Leader, front office staff or your child's teacher.

As part of the Title I Parent Involvement Policy, Desert Hills High School has developed a compact outlining how parents, school staff, and students will share responsibility for improving student achievement. School compacts will be reviewed and revised annually, as necessary.

Community Volunteers

Community Volunteers are required to have a valid AZ Fingerprint Clearance Card prior to volunteering in our programs. For more information on becoming a community volunteer, contact the school leader.

Conduct of Visitors/General Public on School Property

The definition of *general public* is anyone who does not come under the definition of student, faculty member, staff member, or employee.

- All visitors, parents, guardians, etc. who visit the school for any reason (i.e. volunteering in the classroom, observation, meeting with school staff, etc.) are required to enter the school through the main/front doors, report to the school office, sign in, present identification, and wear a visitor badge at all times. In order to ensure the safety of the campus community, entrance to the school through other entrances is not permitted by visitors. All visitors must be escorted by a staff member at all times.
- No person shall visit or audit a classroom or other school activity, nor shall any person come upon or remain upon school premises, without prior approval by the school leader or the school leader's authorized representative. Nor shall any person conduct or attempt to conduct any activity on school premises without prior approval by the school leader or school leader's authorized representative.
- Any member of the general public considered by the school leader, or a person authorized by the school leader, to be in violation of these rules shall be instructed to leave school property. Failure to obey the instruction may subject the person to criminal proceedings pursuant to A.R.S. § 13-2911 and to any other applicable civil or criminal proceedings, or to tribal ordinance.
- Persons who engage in disorderly conduct of any kind may be subject to removal and exclusion from the School.
- No person shall possess or engage in the use of medical marijuana on school property or at school-sponsored events.

No person shall engage in conduct that may cause interference with, or disruption of, an educational institution. Interference with or disruption of an educational institution includes any act that might reasonably lead to the evacuation or closure of any property of the educational institution or the postponement, cancellation or suspension of any class or other school activity. For the purposes of this policy, an actual evacuation, closure,

postponement, cancellation or suspension is not required for the act to be considered interference or disruption.

A person commits interference with or disruption of an educational institution by doing any of the following:

- Intentionally, knowingly or recklessly interfering with or disruption of the normal operations of the school by either:
 - Threatening to cause physical injury to any employee or student of the school or any person on the property of the school.
 - Threatening to cause damage to the school, the property of the school, or the property of any student or employee of the school.
- Intentionally or knowingly entering or remaining on the property of the school for the purpose of interfering with or denying lawful use of the property to others.
- Intentionally or knowingly refusing to obey a lawful order given by the school leader or another person designated to maintain order at the school.

The above identified acts need not be directed at a specific individual, the school, or specific property of the school to constitute a violation of this policy. Restitution for any financial loss caused by a violation of the policy may be required. Furthermore, an individual who interferes with or disrupts an educational institution is subject to misdemeanor or felony charges as provided in A.R.S. § 13-2911.

A person may also interfere with or disrupt the operation of the school by committing any of the following:

- Any conduct intended to obstruct, disrupt, or interfere with teaching, research, service, administrative, or disciplinary functions or any activity sponsored or approved by the school board
- Physical or verbal abuse or threat of harm to any person on property owned or controlled by the school or at school-sponsored functions
- Forceful or unauthorized entry to or occupation of school facilities, including both buildings and grounds
- Illicit use, possession, distribution, or sale of tobacco, alcohol, or drugs, other controlled substances, or other illegal contraband on school property or at school-sponsored functions
- Use of speech or language that is offensive or inappropriate to the limited forum of the public school educational environment.
- Failure to comply with the lawful directions of school officials or of law enforcement officers acting in performance of their duties, and failure to identify oneself to such officials or officers when lawfully requested to do so.
- Knowing violation of a school rule and/or policy. Proof that an alleged violator has a reasonable opportunity to become aware of such rules and regulations shall be sufficient proof that the violation was done knowingly.
- Any conduct constituting an infraction of any federal, state, or city law or policy of the school board.
- Carrying or possessing a weapon on school grounds unless the individual is a peace officer or has obtained specific authorization from the appropriate school administrator.

Student Records and Confidentiality

(Annual Notification of Confidentiality Rights Regarding Education Records of Students with Disabilities and Their Parents)

This Leona Group managed school has established written policies regarding the collection, storage, retrieval, use and transfer of student educational information collected and maintained pertinent to the education of all students to ensure the confidentiality of the information and to guarantee parents'/guardians' and students' rights to privacy. These policies and procedures are in compliance with federal and state laws.

The Family Education Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) affords families and majority age students rights to their education records. These rights are as follows:

Right to Inspect and Review

Parents have the right to inspect and review a student's education records within 45 days from the day the school receives a request for access. Requests should be submitted in writing to the school leader and identify the records to be inspected. The school leader will make arrangements for access and notify the parent of the time and place where the records may be inspected.

Right to Amend Education Records

Parents may request to have their student's educational records amended if they believe the information is inaccurate or misleading or otherwise in violation of the student's privacy rights. The request should be made in writing to the school leader, clearly identifying the part of the record the parent(s) want changed and specify why it is inaccurate or misleading. If the School decides not to amend the record as requested, the parent(s) will be notified of their right to a hearing regarding the request for amendment.

Additional information regarding the hearing procedures will be provided to the parent(s) when notified of the right to a hearing. After the hearing, if the School still decides not to amend the record, the parent or eligible student has the right to place a statement with the record setting forth his or her view regarding the contested information.

Right to Consent to Disclosure

Parent(s) or eligible students have the right to require their consent to disclosures of personally identifiable information contained in the student's education records by the prior written consent of the parent(s) or eligible student(s), except to the extent that FERPA authorizes disclosure without consent.

One exception, which permits disclosure without consent, is disclosure to school officials with legitimate educational interests. A school official is a person employed by the school as an administrator, supervisor, instructor, or support staff member (including health or medical staff and law enforcement unit personnel) or a person serving on the school board. A school official also may include a volunteer or contractor outside of the school who performs an institutional service or function for which the school would otherwise use its own employees and who is under the direct control of the school with respect to the use and maintenance of personally identifiable information from education records, such as an attorney, auditor, medical consultant, or therapist; a parent or student volunteering to serve on an official committee, such as a disciplinary or grievance committee; or a parent, student, or other volunteer 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.

Right to File a Complaint

A parent or eligible student has the right to file a complaint with the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act Office in Washington D.C., if they believe that the district has violated the provision of FERPA. If a family or majority age student wishes to file a complaint alleging a FERPA violation, he or she should first contact the school leader. If a reasonable solution is not made at the school level the complainant has the right to file a complaint with the U.S. Department of Education.

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

Notice for Release of Student Directory Information

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act or “FERPA” requires that the School obtain your written consent to release any personally identifiable information or educational records concerning your child. FERPA provides many exceptions to the written consent requirement; one of which is an exception for information designated as “directory information.”

Directory information is information that is generally not considered harmful or an invasion of privacy if released. Directory information can include items such as, but not limited to, names, addresses, phone numbers, honors and awards, participation in school activities and sports, and other similar information. Before the School may release directory information without your written consent, it must first inform you of those items that the School will designate as directory information, and provide you an opportunity to opt-out. It is important to the School that it balances safeguarding your child’s information with ensuring that your child is informed of various opportunities and activities. Therefore, the School has decided to designate the following information as “directory information” (information that can be released without your written consent):

- Student's name
- Student's photograph
- Student's grade level
- Student's honors and awards received
- Student's participation in officially recognized activities and sports within the School

If you opt-out of having your child’s directory information released, your child may also miss opportunities to be on vendor lists for graduation announcements, yearbook opportunities, or other student lists for participation in clubs and activities, or his/her achievements may not be publicized in School announcements. Another item to consider is that State and Federal law require that if directory information is released to persons or organizations who inform students of educational or occupational opportunities, then, the School is also required to provide the same access to official military recruiting representatives for the purpose of informing students of educational and occupational opportunities available to them in the military. However, you can request in writing that the School not release the student’s directory information without your prior signed and dated written consent. If you do not object in writing to the release of any or all directory information, then the School must provide military recruiters, upon request, directory information containing the student’s name, address, and telephone listing.

If you do not want any or all directory information about your student to be released to any person or organization (including School groups) without your prior signed and dated written consent, you must notify the School in writing using the opt-out form located at the end of this Handbook and returning it to your student's school, within two (2) weeks of receiving this form, or by October 31st, whichever occurs first. If the School does not receive notification from you on the form found at the end of this Handbook within the prescribed time, the School will assume that your permission is given to use the directory information as described above.

NOTIFICATION OF RIGHTS UNDER THE PROTECTION OF PUPIL RIGHTS AMENDMENT

The Protection of Pupil Rights Amendment (PPRA) (20 U.S.C. § 1232h; 34 CFR Part 98) affords parents certain rights regarding our conduct of surveys, collection and use of information for marketing purposes, and certain physical exams. These include 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):

1. Political affiliations or beliefs of the student or student's parent;
2. Mental or psychological problems of the student or student's family;
3. Sex behavior or attitudes;
4. Illegal, antisocial, self-incriminating, or demeaning behavior;
5. Critical appraisals of others with whom respondents have close family relationships;
6. Legally recognized privileged relationships, such as with lawyers, doctors, or ministers;
7. Religious practices, affiliations, or beliefs of the student or parents; or
8. Income, other than as required by law to determine program eligibility.

Receive notice and an opportunity to opt a student out of:

1. Any other protected information survey, regardless of funding;
2. Any nonemergency, invasive physical exam or screening required as a condition of attendance, administered by the school or its agent, and not necessary to protect the immediate health and safety of a student, except for hearing, vision, or scoliosis screenings, or any physical exam or screening permitted or required under State law; and
3. Activities involving collection, disclosure, or use of personal information obtained from students for marketing or to sell or otherwise distribute the information to others.

Inspect, upon request and before administration or use -

1. Protected information surveys of students;
2. Instruments used to collect personal information from students for any of the above marketing, sales, or other distribution purposes; and
3. Instructional material used as part of the educational curriculum.

These rights transfer from the parents to a student who is 18 years old or an emancipated minor under State law.

This Leona Group managed school has developed and adopted policies, in consultation with parents, regarding these rights, as well as arrangements to protect student privacy in the administration of protected information surveys and the collection, disclosure, or use of personal information for marketing, sales, or other distribution purposes. This Leona Group managed school will directly notify parents of these policies at least annually at the start of each school year and after any substantive changes. This Leona Group managed school will also directly notify, such as through U.S. Mail or email, parents of students who are scheduled to

participate in the specific activities or surveys noted below and will provide an opportunity for the parent to opt his or her child out of participation of the specific activity or survey. This Leona Group managed school will make this notification to parents at the beginning of the school year if the school has identified the specific or approximate dates of the activities or surveys at that time. For surveys and activities scheduled after the school year starts, parents will be provided reasonable notification of the planned activities and surveys listed below and be provided an opportunity to opt their child out of such activities and surveys. Parents will also be provided an opportunity to review any pertinent surveys. Following is a list of the specific activities and surveys covered under this requirement:

- Collection, disclosure, or use of personal information for marketing, sales or other distribution.
- Administration of any protected information survey not funded in whole or in part by ED.
- Any non-emergency, invasive physical examination or screening as described above.

Parents who believe their rights have been violated may file a complaint with:

Family Policy Compliance Office
U.S. Department of Education
400 Maryland Avenue, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20202-8520

Service Animals

Service animal means any dog or miniature horse that is individually trained to do work or perform tasks for the benefit of an individual with a disability, including a physical, sensory, psychiatric, intellectual or other mental disability. Service animals do not include other species of animals, whether wild or domestic, trained or untrained.

This Leona Group managed school does not discriminate against individuals with disabilities who use service animals if the work or tasks performed by the service animal are directly related to the individual's disability. Work or tasks include assisting individuals who are blind or have low vision with navigation and other tasks, alerting individuals who are deaf or hard of hearing to the presence of people or sounds, providing non-violent protection or rescue work, pulling a wheelchair, assisting an individual during a seizure, alerting individuals to the presence of allergens, retrieving items such as medicine or the telephone, providing physical support and assistance with balance and stability to individuals with mobility disabilities and helping individuals with psychiatric and neurological disabilities by preventing or interrupting impulsive or destructive behaviors. The crime deterrent effects of an animal's presence and the provision of emotional support, well-being, comfort or companionship do not constitute work or tasks.

Individuals with disabilities shall be permitted to be accompanied by their service animal in all areas of the School's facilities where members of the public, participants in services, programs or activities, or invitees are allowed to go. A service animal may be excluded from the School if one or more of the following apply:

- The animal poses a direct threat to the health or safety of others.
- The animal fundamentally alters the nature of the School, services or activities provided.
- The animal poses an undue burden.

A service animal shall be under the control of its handler. A service animal shall have a harness, leash, or other tether, unless either the handler is unable because of a disability to use a harness, leash or other tether or use

of the harness, leash or other tether would interfere with the service animal's safe, effective performance of work or tasks, in which case the service animal must be under the handler's control. The School shall not be responsible for the training, feeding, grooming. The School must approve any person who is authorized by the owner to assist in the care and supervision of the service animal while on school property.

A request for an individual with a disability to be accompanied by a service animal must be submitted to the school leader at least three (3) school days prior to bringing the service animal to school or to a school function. Forms are available by contacting the school office.

Service dog requests must provide proof of the following vaccinations: DHLPPC (distemper, hepatitis, leptospirosis, parainfluenza, parvovirus, and coronavirus) bordatella, rabies. Miniature horse requests must provide proof of the following vaccinations: Equine Infectious Anemia (Coggins Test), rabies, tetanus, encephalomyelitis, rhinoneumonitis, influenza, and strangles.

All service animals must be: spayed or neutered; treated for and kept free of fleas and ticks; and kept groomed to avoid shedding and dander. Owners of the service animal are liable for any harm or injury caused by the animal to students, staff, visitors, and/or property.

Health Information

Immunizations

Arizona law ARS §15-872 requires that parents provide an up-to-date record of immunizations prior to attending school. The record must include the month, date, and year of your student's immunizations. Students without proof of immunization will be excluded from school. The following immunizations are required to attend a Leona Group managed school, contingent on age:

- Diphtheria/Pertussis/Tetanus (DPT, DTaP, Tdap)
- Polio
- MMR #1 and MMR #2
- Haemophilus Influenzae B (HIB)
- Hepatitis A Series
- Hepatitis B Series
- Chickenpox (Varicella) or history of disease
- Meningococcal

Please inform the school of any immunizations that your student receives throughout the year so that immunization records are kept current.

Arizona law ARS §15-872 provides exemptions from immunization requirements for the following:

- Medical reasons—permanent or temporary
- Personal beliefs
- Documentation of adequate immunity

Although the law allows exemptions, if an outbreak of any of the diseases covered by required immunizations occurs, the County Health Department may require that students who are not immunized be excluded from school for the duration of the outbreak.

Medication

Students are not permitted to carry prescription or over-the-counter medication to and from school or to keep it on their person while at school or when participating in any school-related activities. The school office will accept up to a 30-day supply of medication for students to treat an existing condition. Parents/Guardians or Adult Students must complete a Medication Form with the school office prior to any medication being administered at school. The following is required for all medications stored and administered by the school office:

- Prescription medication **MUST** be in its original prescription container with a pharmacy label. Over-the-Counter medication **MUST** be in the original factory container clearly stating directions and warnings. **NO** medications will be accepted in any other containers, bags, envelopes, etc.
- Sample prescription medication must have a prescription by a physician attached in order to be accepted
- A medication form must be on file for any medications to be administered at school
- All medication must be dropped off and picked up by the parent/guardian or an adult on the Emergency Contact List **ONLY**
- Only medications needed to treat a current/existing ailment will be stored at the school
- Medications will be given in age/weight appropriate doses according to manufacturer's directions or physician's orders on file
- For administration of over-the-counter medication beyond a 3 day period, a doctor's authorization or prescription is required
- Students requiring an inhaler or EpiPen may carry and self-administer these with written parental consent on the Medication Form. Students who self-administer medication must report their use to the office so that it can be recorded.
- Desert Hills High School reserves the right to disallow the use or administration of any medication on school premises if the threat of abuse or misuse of the medicine may pose a risk to any student.

Naloxone

In compliance with state law, this Leona Group managed school has established a policy concerning the administration of Naloxone (Narcan) by certain school staff members to students who the staff reasonably believes are suffering from an opiate/opioid overdose. This policy provides that authorized and trained staff to administer Naloxone, provided that trained and authorized staff are present at the school at the time of the potential overdose and provided that Naloxone (Narcan) is currently available on the school site. The school has decided to utilize intranasal Naloxone as the method of administration exclusively. Authorized staff are to follow the protocols outlined in their Naloxone (Narcan) training in administering the Naxolone (Narcan), and they or another member of the school staff must call 911 as soon as possible and request that emergency responders be dispatched to the school. The school will ensure at least once a year that Naloxone (Narcan) kits, if any, are current, complete, and not past their expiration date.

Hearing and Vision Screenings

Hearing and Vision screenings are given to selected groups of students per Arizona mandate under the guidelines of the Arizona Department of Education and the Arizona Department of Health Hearing Conservation Program. For more information on these screenings, please contact the school office.

Chronic Health Conditions

A chronic health condition is one that is not curable and/or requires continuous treatment. If your student has a chronic illness or health condition that will cause him/her to miss school, please inform the school office. School staff will develop a Chronic Illness Plan to ensure that absences due to the chronic condition are not subject to school attendance policies and to provide ways to furnish missed work or instructional materials during your student's absences.

Instruction and Learning

Assessment of Learning

Students at this Leona Group managed school are assessed to ensure that they are acquiring skills and being challenged academically. To measure the achievement of all students, school-wide assessments are administered throughout the year. Each student's performance on the school-wide assessments is measured against their own previous performance. Results of these assessments in language arts and mathematics are used to make needed programming changes and provide additional support to students through intervention programs. Results are also made available to teachers, parents, and students so that everyone can work together to help ensure that all learning goals are met for every student. Students with disabilities participate in all state and school assessments and may be administered more individualized evaluations or assessments by appropriate professionals for the purpose of determining eligibility and providing specialized instruction under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA).

TEST:		WHO IS TESTED:	WHAT IT IS USED FOR:
ACT Aspire & ACT		<ul style="list-style-type: none">9th grade takes ACT Aspire11th grade takes ACT	<ul style="list-style-type: none">To determine student growth and achievement towards state academic standards
AZ Science		<ul style="list-style-type: none">11th grade	<ul style="list-style-type: none">To determine student growth and achievement towards state academic standards
AZELLA		<ul style="list-style-type: none">All English language learners	<ul style="list-style-type: none">To identify students for English language services, measure their academic language proficiency growth, and exit them out of the program

IXL		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All enrolled students Grades 9 through 12 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To provide targeted interventions to increase student mastery of state academic standards • To measure individual student growth towards mastery of state academic standards
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Grading

Current, real-time grades are available on the StudentVue and ParentVue apps when classes are in session. These reports indicate how the student is doing in each course. Students are expected to regularly review their current grades and attendance each week. StudentVue can be accessed from any computer with Internet access; it is also available as a free, user-friendly app which students can download onto their smartphones. StudentVue connects students to their individual accounts in Synergy, the information system used at Desert Hills High School.

- 90-100% = A = 4.0
- 80-89% = B = 3.0
- 70-79% = C = 2.0
- 60-69% = D = 1.0
- 0-59 = F = 0.0

The cut-off date for determining Desert Hills' Valedictorian and Salutatorian each year is set two weeks before the established calendar date of graduation. For more information, contact the front office.

Desert Hills High School accepts transfer credits from other accredited high schools.

Report Cards

Midterm and final grade information for each course is available to parents and students via the school's StudentVue and ParentVue online portals. For information on accessing grade portal information or to sign up, contact the school office at 480-813-1151.

Graduation Requirements

Students are required to complete 22 credits to earn a diploma in the state of Arizona.

- English: 4
- Math: 4
- Science: 3
- Social Studies: 3
- Fine Arts/Vocational: 1
- Electives: 7

Students must also earn a 60% or higher on the Arizona Civics exam with a 60%.

Technology Use Guidelines

Students and parents agree that students at Desert Hills High school will abide by technology use rules established by the school's administration. This includes an agreement by students not to access or engage in the following items on campus, during school-related off campus activities or with school technology.

- Inappropriate materials (obscene, pornographic, illegal ,etc)
- Vandalism and harassment (e.g., "cyberbullying")
- Copyright violations and plagiarism
- Access to social networking or chat room websites.
- Downloading (e.g., music files)
- Consequences for not adhering to Technology Use Guidelines are included in the school's Code of Conduct and include possible consequences for violations ranging from school conferences to possible suspensions or expulsion.

Technology Usage Expectations:

- Students using a school issued device are expected to treat the equipment with care.
- Students should not draw, write, scratch, or damage these devices.
- Students should not eat or drink, or have open containers of food/liquid, while using school issued technology.
- Students should only use school issued technology to aid in their learning. Students should not be accessing personal social media accounts, gaming sites, pornography, buying/selling sites, or other inappropriate sites using school issued devices.
- Students should not download any files or software from the internet onto school issued technology.
- Students should not attempt to "hack" into any of the school's technology systems for any reason.
- Students who misuse school technology will be subject to disciplinary consequences.

Students do not have any personal privacy right or any reasonable expectation of privacy when using this Leona Group managed school domain email, computers, or internet. Technology is property of the school and must be returned to the school once the student is no longer an active student (graduation, transfer, moved out of the area).

When using a school issued Chromebook to conduct research students are protected with CIPA (Children's Internet Protection Act) compliant web filters, Umbrella and Securely and a Sonicwall NSA 2600. When students are using their own devices and networks, students are expected to adhere to the school's policies and expectations for internet safety during student orientation. When research outside of the LMS is required to complete the requirements of a course, students will be provided with a list of reputable and verified online sources through the course content or by the assigned content area teacher.

This Leona Group managed school has the right to restrict or terminate information network access and use of school technology. This Leona Group managed school has the right to monitor network activity to ensure school policy for acceptable use is followed. If you do not want your student to have access to the Internet, please notify the school leader in writing.

Children's Online Privacy Protection Act (COPPA)

At this Leona Group managed school, your child will be using Google Chromebooks and will have internet access and receive an e-mail address through Google's G Suite for Education during class instruction and to complete assignments. The COPPA requires that we obtain Verifiable Parental Consent before collecting information from your child or permitting them to disclose personal information, if your child is under thirteen (13) years old.

I have read the G Suite for Education Privacy Notice located at https://gsuite.google.com/terms/education_privacy.html and consent to allow my child to submit information in order to use the website.

Exceptional Student Services

Child Find

In compliance with the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act, this Leona Group managed school is required to locate and provide a free and appropriate public education (FAPE) for all enrolled students with disabilities.

The following child find activities are conducted by this Leona Group managed school to locate enrolled students with disabilities:

1. Review of school records (from prior schools and school of current enrollment).
2. Screening within 45 days of enrollment in the following areas: vision, hearing, motor skills, speech, language, cognitive ability, academic, and social emotional development.
3. Refer children suspected of having a disability age birth to three years to Arizona Early Intervention Program and children age three to five years (not yet enrolled in school) to the appropriate state or community agencies.
4. Provide information about concerns and student progress to parent(s) in writing.
5. If appropriate, refer the child for evaluation and/or other appropriate services.

All referrals are considered confidential, and services are provided at no cost. The parent, legal guardian, or surrogate parent retains the right to refuse services and are provided other procedural safeguards under federal and state law.

A free appropriate public education with a full continuum of services is available for eligible students with disabilities. If you suspect that your child has a disability and is eligible for services under ADA Section 504 or IDEA or have questions about child find activities, please contact the school's exceptional student services coordinator or the school leader. You may also contact the Director of Exceptional Student Services at 602-953-2933.

ADA Section 504

Pursuant to Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, this Leona Group managed school has a duty to identify, refer, evaluate and if eligible, provide a free, appropriate public education to students with disabilities. For additional information about the rights of parents of eligible students, or for answers to any questions you might have about identification, evaluation and placement into Section 504 programs, please contact the school leader or the Director of Exceptional Student Services at 602-953-2933.

Grievance Procedure under ADA Section 504

Any person who believes she or he has been subjected to discrimination on the basis of disability by a student, staff member, or third party may file a grievance under the grievance procedure outlined in this handbook. Examples of disability discrimination can include, but are not limited to, disability-based harassment; limiting or denying a qualified individual with a disability in the enjoyment of any right, privilege, advantage, or opportunity enjoyed by others receiving an aid, benefit or service; and failing to make non-fundamental, reasonable modifications of "policies, practices or procedures" when such modification is necessary to accommodate individuals with disabilities.

This Leona Group managed school will make appropriate arrangements to ensure that disabled persons are provided other accommodations, if needed, to participate in this grievance process. Such arrangements may include, but are not limited to, providing interpreters for the deaf, providing audio material for the blind, providing a scribe for submission of the complaint, or assuring a barrier-free location for the proceedings. The school leader will be responsible for such arrangements.

Special Education Services

This Leona Group managed school makes available special education and related services to all students. Our teachers are trained to teach to diverse learning styles and ability levels. This Leona Group managed school believes in close collaboration between general education teachers, special education teachers, staff, and parents. This produces the best possible learning outcomes for our exceptional students. For more information about our special education programs, please contact the school's special education department.

Special Education Records Retention Notice

Pursuant to A.R.S. 41-1351, special education records including placement records, referrals, evaluations, and testing data, will be destroyed seven years after the student's last fiscal year of enrollment. A permanent record of a student's name, address, phone number, grades, attendance record, classes attended, grade level completed and year completed, may be maintained without time limitation.

Procedural Safeguards

Parents of a student with a disability (or suspected of having a disability) are entitled to a Procedural Safeguards Notice, which explains the rights of the parent and student to ensure they are protected through the special education process. A copy of the procedural safeguards notice is offered to parents once annually

and in specific instances; however, copies are always available by contacting the School Office and on the school's website.

ESS Referral and Evaluation

Students suspected of having a disability may be referred to the school's exceptional student services coordinator, school leader, or the Director of Exceptional Student Services by the parent or school staff for further evaluation. Evaluations will be conducted pursuant to the requirements under ADA Section 504 and/or IDEA.

For information on the school's evaluation procedures under Section 504 or IDEA, contact the school leader or the Director of Exceptional Student Services at 602-953-2933.

English Language Acquisition Services

This Leona Group managed school offers programs that meet the diverse needs of English Language Learners by offering programs that meet the Arizona requirements under A.R.S.15-756.01. The programs are designed to provide equal educational opportunity and access to curriculum while developing English language skills to students for whom English is not the primary language. Parents have the right to refuse participation in these services. For more information, contact the school ELAS coordinator, school leader or Director of ELAS at 602-953-2933.

School Nutrition

Children need healthy meals to learn. This Leona Group school will be participating in the **National School Lunch Program and the School Breakfast Program**. As part of this program, this Leona Group school will offer healthy meals.

If you have other questions or need help, call the school office at 480-813-1151 or consult our website, at www.deserthillshs.com.

In accordance with federal civil rights law and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) civil rights regulations and policies, this institution is prohibited from discriminating on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex (including gender identity and sexual orientation), disability, age, or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity.

Program information may be made available in languages other than English. Persons with disabilities who require alternative means of communication to obtain program information (e.g., Braille, large print, audiotope, American Sign Language), should contact the responsible state or local agency that administers the program or USDA's TARGET Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TTY) or contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339.

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

Student Code of Conduct and Expectations

Students must wear clothing including a top and a bottom (such as pants, skirt, shorts or the equivalent), or a one-piece outfit (such as a dress or jumpsuit) and footwear as required by state law. Tops and one-piece outfits must be secured with a strap or straps at the shoulders or neck. Clothing must have material that covers the front, back and sides. Clothing fabric must cover all private body parts and undergarments and must not be see-through. Undergarments may not be worn as clothing.

Clothing may not cover a student's face to the extent that the student is not identifiable (except clothing worn for health and safety, medical, or religious purposes.) Footwear such as shoes, sandals or boots shall be worn in the school buildings. Footwear must be both safe and non-destructive to school property. Reasonable variations from these requirements may be permitted by the School Leader to accommodate student participation in approved activities such as for physical education classes or other student activities (e.g., student theatrical productions).

Students shall not be permitted to wear the following: any clothing, jewelry or personal items that advocate or promote violence or acts of terror; any clothing, jewelry or personal items with images or language depicting or advocating the use of alcohol, tobacco products, nicotine, sexual references, nudity, profanity, obscenity, unlawful use of weapons, and/or controlled or illegal drugs; any clothing, jewelry or personal items that use or depict hate speech or that target groups based on sex, age, race, religion, color, national origin, ancestry, creed, marital status, parental status, homelessness, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, gender non-conformity, physical, mental, emotional or learning disability, or any other legally-protected status or classification; any clothing, jewelry or personal items that threaten the health or safety of any other student or staff member.

Drug Free School

A Drug Free School Zone is defined in A.R.S. 3411 as "the area within 300 feet of a school or its accompanying grounds, any public property within one thousand feet of a school or its accompanying grounds, a school bus stop or on any bus contracted to transport students."

This Leona Group managed school is designated as a Drug Free School Zone. Any person who violates this designation by possession, distribution, solicitation, manufacturing, or sale of drugs is subject to school disciplinary action and criminal prosecution in accordance with Arizona Revised Statutes.

The use, possession, distribution, manufacturing, or sale of drugs on or near school property, on the way to and from school, at a bus stop, or on a bus is prohibited. This includes an individual defined in section 36-2801 as a cardholder or any other individual lawfully possessing or using marijuana as outlined in A.R.S 15-108 For the purposes of this policy, drugs shall include, but not be limited to:

- Marijuana

- Prescription only drugs
- Narcotic drugs
- Inhalants/vapor-releasing substances
- Dangerous drugs – including, but not limited to the following: Hallucinogens, Stimulants, Depressants, Barbiturates, and Anabolic steroids
- Alcoholic beverages
- Drug “look alikes” or substances represented as drugs
- Any student in possession of, selling or distributing dangerous drugs or narcotics will be recommended for long-term suspension or expulsion.

Any student in possession of, selling or distributing any other substances specified in this policy will be subject to disciplinary action.

Bullying, Harassment, and Intimidation Policy

This Leona Group managed school is committed to providing all students with a safe learning environment where everyone is treated with respect. This Leona Group managed school expressly prohibits any acts of bullying, harassment, or intimidation. Additionally, soliciting others to engage in bullying, harassment, or intimidation is also expressly prohibited.

All students, teachers, parents, and staff of This Leona Group managed school have a right and responsibility to take reasonable measures within the scope of their individual authority to prevent violations of the bullying and hazing prevention policy and report incidents of bullying, harassment, or intimidation.

Definitions

Bullying is defined as a real or perceived imbalance of power with the more powerful student or group attacking those who are less powerful. Bullying can be physical in form (e.g., pushing, hitting, kicking, spitting, stealing); verbal (e.g., making threats, taunting, teasing, name-calling); or psychological (e.g., social exclusion, spreading rumors, manipulating social relationships).

Bullying may occur when an individual or group engages in any form of behavior or aggression that includes such acts as intimidation and/or harassment that:

- has the effect of physically harming an individual, damaging an individual's property, or placing an individual in reasonable fear of harm or damage to property;
- is sufficiently severe, persistent or pervasive that the action, behavior, aggression, or threat creates an intimidating, threatening, hostile or abusive environment in the form of physical or emotional or psychological harm or distress;
- behavior, aggression or threat occurs repeatedly over time; occurs when there is a real or perceived imbalance of physical, emotional or psychological power or strength; or
- may constitute a violation of law

Cyberbullying is, but is not limited to, any act of bullying or harassment committed through use of electronic technology or electronic communication devices, including telephonic devices, social networking, and other Internet communications, on school computers, networks, forums and mailing lists, or other District-owned property, and by means of an individual's personal electronic media and equipment.

Harassment is behavior by an individual or group that consists of systematic and/or continued unwanted and annoying actions, including threats and demands. Harassing conduct may take many forms, including verbal acts and name-calling (e.g., bullying); graphic and written statements, which may include use of cell phones, social-media or the Internet (e.g., cyberbullying); or other conduct that may be physically threatening, harmful, or humiliating. Harassment does not have to include intent to harm, be directed at a specific target, or involve repeated incidents. Harassment creates a hostile environment when the conduct is sufficiently severe, pervasive, or persistent so as to interfere with or limit a student's ability to participate in or benefit from the services, activities, or opportunities offered by a school. Harassment based on race, disability, sex, religious orientation, sexual orientation, cultural background, economic status, size or personal appearance may violate an individual's civil rights when such harassment is sufficiently serious that it creates a hostile environment and such harassment is encouraged, tolerated, not adequately addressed or ignored.

Intimidation is intentional behavior by a student or group of students that places another student or group of students in fear of harm of person or property. Intimidation can be manifested emotionally or physically, either directly or indirectly, and by use of social media.

Confidential Reporting

Students and parents/guardians have the right to confidentially report in writing to school administrators, teachers, or other staff members' instances of bullying, harassment, and intimidation (A.R.S. § 15- 341(A)(37)). These reports will be shared with appropriate school officials so that appropriate steps can be taken to ensure that all students have a learning environment that is safe emotionally, mentally, and physically. Reports must be made within thirty (30) calendar days of the last incident.

Reporting Incidents of Bullying or Hazing

Students and others should report any incidents of bullying to a teacher, school administrator or any other school employee (i.e., educational assistant, receptionist, etc.). It is mandatory that school employees report any incidents of bullying in writing to school administration. Students who cannot immediately file a report must do so within thirty (30) calendar days of the last incident. The school employee receiving the report/complaint who believes a student has been subjected to bullying or personally witnesses bullying shall:

- Check to see if an outside agency needs to be contacted (i.e., Department of Child Safety or law enforcement).
- Have the student complete a Student Concerns, Complaints, and Grievances Form. An adult may assist the student in completing the Student Concerns, Complaints, and Grievances Form if necessary.
- At a minimum, the report/complaint shall be put in writing containing the identifying information on the complainant and such specificity of names, places and times as to permit an investigation.
- When a school employee receives the information, the employee will give the information to the school administrator no later than the next school day following the day of the report/complaint.

Procedures for Investigation of the Report/Complaint

A school administrator shall investigate the incident or the activity within ten (10) instructional school days. Extension of the timeline may only be by necessity as determined by the Vice President of Academic Support. A school administrator shall check to see if an outside agency needs to be contacted (i.e., Department of Child Safety or local law enforcement authorities). A school administrator shall complete a Student Discipline Referral form if the student is found to have violated the bullying policy.

Any student who has committed the act of bullying/harassment/intimidation, intentionally files a false report or has retaliated against another who has participated in any manner in an investigation, proceedings or hearing conducted in response to an investigation of bullying, will be subject to consequences in accordance with the school's code of conduct and ARS 15-341(37).

All violations of this policy shall be treated in accordance with the appropriate procedures and penalties provided for in school policies related to the conduct and discipline of students, staff, and others. A complaint may be withdrawn at any time. If the person chooses to re-file the complaint, it must be refiled within 30 calendar days of the original incident

Categories of Misconduct and Range of Possible Consequences

Misconduct or Violation /Definition	Consequence
Assault Intentionally, knowingly or recklessly causing any physical injury to another person; intentionally placing another person in reasonable apprehension of imminent physical injury or knowingly touching another person with the intent to injure, insult or provoke the person	Minimum: Personal Conference Maximum: Expulsion
Aggravated Assault/Assault on a Staff Member An assault in which a person causes serious physical injury to another or an assault on a peace officer, teacher, or other employee of the school district - could be considered as a Threat to an Educational Institution	Minimum: Short-Term Suspension Maximum: Expulsion
Arson/Reckless Burning Attempting to or intentional burning of a building, structure, or property	Minimum: Short-Term Suspension Maximum: Expulsion
Bomb Threats Threatening to cause harm using a bomb, dynamite, explosive, or arson-causing device – could be considered as a Threat to an Educational Institution	Minimum: Short-Term Suspension Maximum: Expulsion
Bullying Bullying is a real or perceived imbalance of power with the more powerful child or group showing either passive or direct aggression toward those who are less powerful. Bullying can be physical in form (e.g., pushing, hitting, kicking, spitting, stealing); verbal (e.g., making threats, taunting, teasing, name calling); psychological (e.g., social exclusion, spreading rumors, manipulating social relationships); or through the use of electronic devices or other social media communication.	Minimum: Personal Conference Maximum: Expulsion
Burglary The act of entering a building or other premises with the intent to commit theft	Minimum: Long-Term Suspension Maximum: Expulsion
Cell Phone Disturbance	Minimum: Personal Conference/Confiscation of Item Maximum: Long-Term Suspension

Any use of cellular phone during the school day (e.g. incoming/outgoing phone calls, text messaging, taking photos, music, etc.)	
Cheating Wrongfully securing and/or using information or assisting another to do so	Minimum: Personal Conference/Parental Involvement Maximum: Short-Term Suspension
Chemical or Biological Threat Threatening to cause harm using dangerous chemicals or biological agents – could be considered as a Threat to an Educational Institution	Minimum: Short-Term Suspension Maximum: Expulsion
Classroom Disturbance Any act which disrupts the normal educational process or violates any rules or procedures of a classroom	Minimum: Personal Conference/Loss of Privileges Maximum: Long-Term Suspension
Combustible Items Possession of substance or object that is readily capable of causing bodily harm or property damage, i.e., matches, lighters, firecrackers, gasoline, and lighter fluid	Minimum: Personal Conference Maximum: Expulsion
Contraband/Inappropriate Items Items which may disrupt the learning environment	Minimum: Personal Conference/Confiscation of Item Maximum: Long-Term Suspension
Criminal Involvement Criminal involvement in an off-campus offense indicating that the offender is likely to pose a threat to the safety or welfare of students or staff members, or impair the normal educational process or educational climate	Minimum: Personal Conference Maximum: Expulsion
Dangerous Situation, Failure to Report Failure to report any knowledge or suspicion of a potentially dangerous situation	Minimum: Personal Conference Maximum: Long-Term Suspension
Defiance/Disrespect Towards Authority, or Non-Compliance Student engages in refusal to follow directions, talks back, or delivers socially-rude interactions	Minimum: Personal Conference Maximum: Long-Term Suspension
Disorderly Conduct Behavior which is disruptive to the orderly education process of the school; this includes disruptive behavior in a class or activity, unreasonable noise, offensive language or gestures, horseplay, roughhousing, sustained out-of-seat behavior, refusing to obey a request	Minimum: Personal Conference Maximum: Expulsion
Dress Code Violations Failure to comply with school's dress and grooming guidelines	Minimum: Personal Conference Maximum: Short-Term Suspension
Endangerment Recklessly endangering another person with a substantial risk of imminent physical injury	Minimum: Personal Conference Maximum: Long-Term Suspension
Ethnic/Racial Slurs/Hate Speech Any communication which disparages a person or group on a basis of some characteristic such as race, gender, ethnicity, religion, or sexual orientation	Minimum: Personal Conference Maximum: Long-Term Suspension

Extortion Demanding money or something of value in return for protection or in connection with a threat to inflict harm	Minimum: Personal Conference Maximum: Expulsion
Fighting Mutual participation in an incident involving physical violence, where there is no major injury	Minimum: Personal Conference Maximum: Expulsion
Fire Alarm, Dialing 911 Setting off the fire alarm or dialing 911 when no indication of emergency	Minimum: Short-Term Suspension Maximum: Expulsion
Forgery Falsely and fraudulently making or altering a document, writing or using the signature or initials of another person	Minimum: Parental Involvement/Restitution Maximum: Long-Term Suspension/Restitution
Gambling To play games of chance for money or to exchange money or property	Minimum: Personal Conference/ Confiscation of Items Maximum: Long-Term Suspension
Gang Activities or Associations Gang-related dress, verbal or written language, or behavior	Minimum: Personal Conference Maximum: Long-Term Suspension
Graffiti or Tagging Writing on walls, drawing or words that are written scratched, painted, or sprayed on walls or other surfaces	Minimum: Personal Conference/Restitution Maximum: Expulsion/Restitution
Harassment, Nonsexual Non-sexual harassment includes communication with another person anonymously or by verbal, electronic, mechanical, telegraphic, telephonic or written means with the intent to harass	Minimum: Personal Conference Maximum: Expulsion
Inappropriate Language Verbal or written messages or physical gestures that include swearing, name calling, or use of words in an inappropriate manner	Minimum: Personal Conference Maximum: Long-Term Suspension
Indecent Exposure or Public Sexual Indecency The intentional exposure of one's private body parts to others	Minimum: Short-Term Suspension Maximum: Expulsion
Hazing/Initiation Any activities that can be considered any type of initiation of another student	Minimum: Personal Conference Maximum: Expulsion
Incitement Transmission of information with the intent to inflame a situation	Minimum: Personal Conference Maximum: Long-Term Suspension
Interference with the Peaceful Conduct of an Educational Institution Disrupting the lawful use of any school property, including uninvited student presence on campus	Minimum: Personal Conference Maximum: Long-Term Suspension
Leaving School Grounds without Permission Leaving school grounds or being in an unauthorized area during regular school hours without permission of the school leader or school leader's designee	Minimum: Personal Conference Maximum: Short-Term Suspension

Lying To make an untrue statement with the intent to deceive, to create a false or misleading impression	Minimum: Personal Conference Maximum: Long-Term Suspension
Minor Aggressive Act Non-serious but inappropriate physical contact, i.e., hitting, biting, spitting, poking, pulling or pushing a chair out from underneath another person, or other behaviors that demonstrate low level hostile behaviors	Minimum: Personal Conference Maximum: Long-Term Suspension
Misconduct Failure to comply with any school rules	Minimum: Maximum: Short-Term Suspension
Negative Group Affiliation Specific attitudes and actions of a student affiliated with a negative group typically include some of the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Involve themselves in other's problems • Confront authority as a group when one member has been disciplined • Act in an uncooperative and/or hostile manner as a group 	Minimum: Personal Conference/Loss of Privileges Maximum: Short-Term Suspension
Plagiarism To steal and pass off the ideas or words of another as one's own	Minimum: Personal Conference/Parental Involvement Maximum: Personal Conference
Pornography Possession, distribution, or sale of any pornographic materials	Minimum: Personal Conference Maximum: Long-Term Suspension
Public Display of Affection Holding hands, kissing, sexual touching or other displays of affection	Minimum: Personal Conference Maximum: Short-Term Suspension
Recklessness Unintentional, careless behavior that may pose a safety or health risk for others	Minimum: Personal Conference Maximum: Short-Term Suspension
Selling/Trading The selling, buying, or trading of any item on school property that is not sponsored by the school (for example, gum, money or candy, etc.)	Minimum: Personal Conference / Confiscation of Items and/or Money Maximum: Short-Term Suspension/ Confiscation of Items and/or Money
Sexual Harassment <i>Contact District Compliance Officer.</i> Unwelcome conduct of a sexual nature that denies or limits a student's ability to participate in or to receive benefits, services, or opportunities in the school's program. It can include unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors, and other verbal, nonverbal, or physical conduct of a sexual nature, including unwanted physical contact. Does not include legitimate nonsexual touching or other non-sexual conduct	Minimum: Short-Term Suspension Maximum: Expulsion
Sexual Conduct Engaging in sexual conduct	Minimum: Short-Term Suspension Maximum: Expulsion
Solicitation/Facilitation/Conspiracy	Minimum: Personal Conference

Encouraging, requesting, commanding or assisting another person in the violation of a school rule or in the commission of a criminal act	Maximum: Expulsion
Tardiness Unexcused lateness to class	Minimum: Personal Conference Maximum: Short-Term Suspension
Technology Violations Failure to comply with laws, rules, or guidelines for use of technology resources	Minimum: Parental Involvement/Loss of Privileges Maximum: Expulsion
Theft Taking property, items, or services from another person or from the school without permission, copying of copyrighted material	Minimum: Personal Conference/Restitution Maximum: Expulsion/Restitution
Trespassing To enter or remain on a school campus or District property without authorization or invitation and with no purpose for entry	Minimum: Personal Conference Maximum: Short-Term Suspension
Truancy/Unexcused Absence Any absence that has not been excused by a parent or legal guardian (includes leaving class without permission)	Minimum: Personal Conference Maximum: Referral to Outside Agency
Unauthorized Areas Being in any area considered off-limits to students, including teachers' lounge, teachers' work areas, off-limits campus areas, etc.	Minimum: Personal Conference Maximum: Short-Term Suspension
Vandalism of Personal or School Property Willful destruction or defacement of personal or school property	Minimum: Personal Conference /Restitution Maximum: Expulsion/Restitution
Verbal Provocation Use of language or gestures that may incite	Minimum: Personal Conference Maximum: Long-Term Suspension
SUBSTANCE ABUSE	
Alcohol Being under the influence of, and/or the use, possession, manufacture, distribution or sale of an alcoholic substance	Minimum: Short-Term Suspension Maximum: Expulsion
Look-A-Like/Over-The-Counter Possession The distribution, sale or use of imitation, look-a-like, prescription or over-the-counter medicine or drugs	Minimum: Short -Term Suspension Maximum: Expulsion
Drug Violation – Possession The unlawful use or possession of any controlled drug or narcotic substance or equipment and devices used for preparing or taking drugs or narcotics. Includes being under the influence of drugs at school, school-sponsored events and on school-sponsored transportation	Minimum: Short-Term Suspension Maximum: Expulsion
Drug Violation – Distribution The unlawful cultivation, manufacture, distribution, sale, transportation or importation of any controlled drug or narcotic substance	Minimum: Long-Term Suspension Maximum: Expulsion
Tobacco	Minimum: Personal Conference Maximum: Long-Term Suspension

The possession, use, distribution, or sale of tobacco products, including Inhalants, e-cigarettes, and vapor-releasing substances.	
Vape The possession, use, distribution, or sale of any vape products or substances.	Minimum: Personal Conference Maximum: Long-Term Suspension
THREATS	
Threats/Intimidation/Verbal Abuse of a Staff Member Statements (verbal or written) or actions, which attempt to threaten or intimidate a staff member (ARS§ 15-507: a person who knowingly abuses a teacher or other school employee on school grounds or while the teacher or employee is engaged in the performance of their duties is guilty of a class 3 misdemeanor). <i>Could be considered as a Threat to an Educational Institution</i>	Minimum: Short-Term Suspension Maximum: Expulsion
Threats or Intimidation Communication by word or conduct the intent to cause physical injury or serious damage to a person or their property – could be considered as a Threat to an Educational Institution	Minimum: Personal Conference Maximum: Long-Term Suspension
Threatening An Educational Institution To interfere with or disrupt an educational institution through threatening statements 1. Threatening to cause physical injury to any employee of an educational institution or any person attending an education institution 2. Threatening to cause damage to any educational institution, the property of any educational institution, the property of any employee of an educational institution or the property of any person attending an educational institution 3. Going upon or remaining on the property of any educational institution for the purpose of interfering with or disrupting the lawful use of the property or in any manner as to deny or interfere with the lawful use of the property of others 4. Refusing to obey a lawful order to leave the property of an educational institution	<i>A student who is determined by the administration to have threatened an educational institution shall be recommended to the Governing Board for expulsion of at least one year except that the administration may modify this expulsion recommendation requirement for a student on a case-by-case basis, in the sole discretion of the administration, if the student agrees to participate in mediation, community service, restitution or other program(s) established by the administration in which the student takes responsibility for the threat and for the results of the threat. The administration may reassign a student who is subject to expulsion to an alternative program and may require that the student's parent(s) or guardian(s) participate in the mediation, community service restitution or other programs in which the parent or guardian takes the responsibility with the student for the threat.</i>
WEAPONS	
Deadly Weapon The possession, sale, use or distribution of a deadly weapon. A deadly weapon is anything designed for lethal use, including a firearm or destructive device – <i>could be considered as a Threat to an Educational Institution</i>	Minimum: Long-Term Suspension Maximum: Expulsion

Dangerous Instrument Anything that, under the circumstances in which it is used, attempted to be used or threatened to be used is readily capable of causing death or serious physical injury – <i>could be considered as a Threat to an Educational Institution</i>	Minimum: Short-Term Suspension Maximum: Expulsion
Simulated Firearm Possession of “look-alike” items, which have the appearance of or are represented to be a real weapon – <i>could be considered as a Threat to an Educational Institution</i>	Minimum: Short-Term Suspension Maximum: Expulsion
Threatening or Intimidating Threatening or intimidating another person with a deadly weapon, dangerous instrument or simulated weapon – <i>could be considered as a Threat to an Educational Institution</i>	Minimum: Long-Term Suspension Maximum: Expulsion
Destructive Device The possession, sale, use or distribution of any device other than a firearm that will, or is designed to, or may be readily converted to expel a projectile by any means of propulsion, such as a BB/pellet gun, slingshot, bow, or crossbow – <i>could be considered as a Threat to an Educational Institution</i>	Minimum: Long-Term Suspension Maximum: Expulsion
Other Weapon The possession, sale, use or distribution of other weapons such as a Billy Club, Brass Knuckles, knife, or Nun chucks, etc. – <i>could be considered as a Threat to an Educational Institution</i>	Minimum: Short-Term Suspension Maximum: Expulsion

Student Discipline and Due Process

Short-term Suspension

Short-term suspension means the temporary withdrawal of the privilege of attending school for a period of ten (10) or fewer consecutive school days. The authority to impose short-term suspensions rests with the school leader or designee.

Students who are subject to short-term suspension are entitled to the following due process:

1. The student is told what he/she is accused of doing and the evidence that exists to support the allegation. The student is then given the opportunity to explain his/her version of the situation.
2. The school leader will make reasonable efforts to verify facts and statements prior to making a decision regarding the discipline.
3. The school leader may:
 - a. Immediately impose a short-term suspension;
 - b. Proceed with a recommendation for a long-term suspension or expulsion;
 - c. Choose another disciplinary alternative; or
 - d. Exonerate the student.
4. The school leader may immediately suspend a student whose presence creates a danger to self or others.

5. A written record of the decision will be kept in the student's discipline file.
6. The parent/guardian will be notified of the decision to impose the short-term suspension including the terms of and reasons for the suspension.
7. No appeal is available from the imposition of a short-term suspension.

Long-Term Suspension or Expulsion^[LA1]

Long-term suspension means the withdrawal of the privilege of attending school for a set period of time of ten (10) or more consecutive school days. Expulsion is the permanent exclusion of a student from school. While a school leader may recommend a long-term suspension or expulsion, the authority to impose a long-term suspension or expulsion rests with the board-appointed hearing officer^[LA2].

Students who are subject to long-term suspension or expulsion are entitled to the following due process:

1. The governing board will designate an individual to serve as the hearing officer, which may include another district Administrator in the Leona Group network as designated by the governing board^[LA3].
2. A written Notice of Intent to Impose a Long-Term Suspension or Expulsion will be emailed to the student's parent's email address on file with the school or hand-delivered to the parent(s^[LA4]), at the school's sole discretion, in advance of the date of the proposed due process hearing^[LA5].
3. The Notice of Hearing will contain the following information:
 1. The violation(s) of student code of conduct, including applicable alleged facts.
 2. The disciplinary consequence to be considered.
 3. The date, time, and place of the formal hearing.
 4. That the student and parent(s) may attend and participate in the hearing.
 5. That the student and parent(s) may present evidence and witnesses, if properly disclosed to the school in advance of the hearing, and may cross-examine the school's witnesses.
 6. That the student may be represented by counsel, at his/her own expense.
 7. That the student and parent(s) may make a recording of the hearing or obtain a copy of any recording of the hearing that the school may create.
 8. The name of the hearing officer.
4. The hearing may be rescheduled: (1) upon request of the parent(s) or the administration if good cause is shown; (2) upon written agreement of the parties; or (3) as deemed necessary by the hearing officer. The hearing officer shall have the final decision-making authority regarding requests to reschedule the hearing.
5. Prior to the disciplinary hearing, the parties will exchange lists of witnesses and copies of any documents that they will use at the hearing. The hearing officer will set the exchange deadline and inform the parties of that deadline.
6. ^[LA6] At the disciplinary hearing, both the school and the student may present testimony and documentary evidence and may cross-examine the other party's witnesses. The hearing officer may ask questions of any witnesses, and the rules of evidence in civil or criminal matters will not apply. The school bears the burden of proof for the offenses alleged.
7. The student shall be allowed to remain in school pending the outcome of the hearing, unless in the school administration's sole discretion, the student's presence in school constitutes a danger to the student or others or unless a short-term suspension has been imposed and is in effect.

8. The Hearing Officer shall prepare a written decision as soon as practicable after the hearing. Copies of the decision shall be provided to the parent(s) and School Leader.
9. If a long-term suspension or an expulsion is imposed by the Hearing Officer, the disciplinary consequence shall be effective immediately.
10. No appeal is available from the imposition of a long-term suspension or expulsion.

Discipline of Students under ADA §504 and/or IDEA

For behavioral infractions involving students with disabilities, additional procedures and requirements apply under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) and federal regulations issued pursuant to the IDEA or under Section 504 of the Americans with Disabilities Act when the contemplated discipline: (a) would exceed 10 cumulative school days in the current school year or (b) may result in a disciplinary change of placement.

Student Rights

Students shall have the right to receive annually, at the opening of school, a publication listing the rules and regulations to which they are expected to comply. Student behavior expectations shall be clearly defined, reasonable and relevant to the educational process.

Although an attempt has been made to include all rules and expectations, this handbook should be viewed as a guide since it would be impossible to list all situations.

Child Abuse Reporting

Per state law, school employees must report reasonably suspected cases of child abuse, neglect, non-accidental injury, or sexual offenses against children to the Department of Child Safety (DCS) and/or local law enforcement agencies. (A.R.S. §13-3620)

Use of Restraint and Seclusion

Restraint

The term "restraint" means any method or device that immobilizes or reduces the ability of a student to move the student's torso, arms, legs or head freely, including physical force or mechanical devices.

The term "restraint" does not include any of the following:

- Methods or devices (e.g. a weighted vest) implemented by trained school personnel or used by a student for the specific and approved therapeutic or safety purposes for which the method or device is designed and, if applicable, prescribed.
- The temporary touching or holding of the hand, wrist, arm, shoulder or back for the purpose of inducing a student to comply with a reasonable request or to go to a safe location.
- The brief holding of a student by one adult for the purpose of calming or comforting the student.
- Physical force used to take a weapon away from a student or to separate and remove a student from another person when the student is engaged in a physical assault on another person.

Seclusion

The term "seclusion" means the involuntary confinement of a student alone in a room from which egress is prevented (i.e. the student is prevented from leaving the room).

The term “seclusion” does not include the use of a voluntary behavior management technique, as part of a student’s education plan, individual safety plan, behavioral plan or the use of an individualized education program that involves the student’s separation from a larger group for purposes of calming.

Persons Authorized to Use Restraint or Seclusion Techniques

Restraint or seclusion techniques must be used only by school personnel who are trained in the safe and effective use of restraint and seclusion techniques, unless an emergency situation does not allow sufficient time to summon trained personnel.

Use of Restraint and/or Seclusion

Restraint and/or seclusion shall not be used as punishment for misconduct. Restraint or seclusion techniques may only be used on a student if both of the following apply:

1. The student’s behavior presents an imminent danger of bodily harm to the student or others; and
2. Less restrictive interventions appear insufficient to mitigate the imminent danger of bodily harm.

If a restraint or seclusion technique is used on a student:

- School personnel must maintain continuous visual observation and monitoring of the student while the restraint or seclusion technique is in use.
- The restraint or seclusion technique ends when the student’s behavior no longer presents an imminent danger to the student or others.
- The restraint technique employed must not impede the student’s ability to breathe.
- The restraint technique must not be out of proportion to the student’s age or physical condition.

Reporting and Documentation Requirements

School personnel must follow the reporting and documentation requirements set forth below when a restraint or seclusion technique has been used on a student. The procedures shall include the following requirements:

- School personnel shall provide the student’s parent or guardian with written or oral notice on the same day that the incident occurred, unless circumstances prevent same-day notification. If the notice is not provided on the same day of the incident, notice shall be given within twenty-four (24) hours after the incident.
- Within a reasonable time following the incident, school personnel shall provide the student’s parent or guardian with written documentation that includes information about any persons, locations or activities that may have triggered the behavior, if known, and specific information about the behavior and its precursors, the type of restraint or seclusion technique used and the duration of its use.
- School personnel shall review strategies used to address a student’s dangerous behavior if there has been repeated use of restraint or seclusion techniques for the student during a school year. The review must include a review of the incidents in which restraint or seclusion techniques were used and an analysis of how future incidents may be avoided, including whether the student requires a functional behavioral assessment (FBA).

Law Enforcement

If school personnel summon law enforcement instead of using a restraint or seclusion technique on a student, school personnel shall comply with the reporting, documentation and review procedures established in this Policy. Notwithstanding this policy, school resource officers are authorized to respond to situations that present the imminent danger of bodily harm according to protocols established by their law enforcement agency.

School Safety or Crisis Intervention Plans

The school leader is authorized to establish policies and procedures for the use of restraint or seclusion techniques in a school safety or crisis intervention plan.

Notice of Non-Discrimination

This notice is provided as required by Title IV of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990.

This Leona Group managed school does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability, or age in its programs and activities and provides equal access to the Boy Scouts and other designated youth groups. This Leona Group managed school also does not discriminate in its hiring or employment practices. The lack of English skills shall not be a barrier to admission or participation in the school's activities and programs.

Questions, complaints, or requests for additional information regarding these laws may be directed to the appropriate compliance officer designated by this Leona Group school.

The following individuals have been designated as the Leona Group of Arizona's Compliance Officers for Title IV, Title IX, Section 504 and ADA and to handle inquiries regarding the non-discrimination policies:

Title II, Title IV, Title IX:

Mary Berg, Vice President of Academic Support
6150 N. 16th Street. Suite A, Phoenix, AZ 85016
602.953.2933
mary.berg@leonaschools.com

Section 504:

Mary Berg, Vice President of Academic Support
6150 N. 16th Street. Suite A, Phoenix, AZ 85016
602.953.2933
mary.berg@leonaschools.com

National School Lunch Program:

Heather Williams, NSLP Administrator
6150 N. 16th Street. Suite A, Phoenix, AZ 85016
602.953.2933
heather.williams@leonaschools.com

Grievance Procedure

This grievance procedure applies to complaints or grievances under ADA or Section 504.

Any person who believes she or he has been subjected to discrimination on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability or age by a student, staff member, or third party may file a grievance under this procedure.

Students or parents may also present a complaint or grievance regarding the following:

- Discrimination on the basis of disability under ADA or Section 504

- Violation of a student's constitutional rights
- Harassment of the student by another person
- Intimidation by another student
- Bullying by another student (see definition of Bullying)
- Concern for the student's personal safety

This Leona Group managed school prohibits retaliation against anyone who files a grievance or cooperates in the investigation of a grievance.

Procedure

- Grievances should be submitted to the Compliance Officer within 60 days of the date the person filing the grievance becomes aware of the alleged discriminatory action.
- A complaint should be in writing, containing the name and address of the person filing it. The complaint must state the problem or action alleged to be discriminatory and the remedy or relief sought.

If the Complainant is unable to put the complaint in writing, This Leona Group managed school shall provide reasonable accommodations to assist the Complainant with submission of his/her complaint. Although we encourage individuals to submit complaints in writing, This Leona Group managed school will nonetheless provide prompt and equitable response when it becomes aware of possible discrimination.

- The Compliance Officer (or her/his designee) shall conduct an investigation of the complaint. This investigation may be informal, but it must be thorough, affording all interested persons an opportunity to submit evidence relevant to the complaint, including the opportunity to present witnesses. The Compliance Officer (or her/his designee) will maintain the files and records of This Leona Group managed school relating to such grievances.
- The Compliance Officer (or her/his designee) will complete the investigation and issue a written decision on the grievance no later than 30 days after its filing, unless extenuating circumstances require an extension of the 30 day timeline. In such a case, the Compliance Officer (or her/his designee) will communicate with the Complainant concerning the need for an extension.
- The person filing the grievance may appeal the decision of the Compliance Officer (or her/his designee) by writing to the Governing Board within 15 days of receiving the Compliance Officer's decision. The Governing Board shall issue a written decision in response to the appeal no later than 30 days after its filing.
- If it is determined that discrimination occurred, This Leona Group managed school shall take the appropriate steps to prevent the recurrence of discrimination and correct the discriminatory effects on the complainant and others.
- This Leona Group managed school shall maintain confidentiality as required by the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA).

The availability and use of this grievance procedure does not prevent a person from filing a complaint of discrimination on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability or age with the U. S. Department of Education, Office for Civil Rights.

This Leona Group managed school will make appropriate arrangements to ensure that disabled persons are provided other accommodations, if needed, to participate in this grievance process. Such arrangements may include, but are not limited to, providing interpreters for the deaf, providing taped cassettes of material for the blind, providing a scribe for submission of the complaint, or assuring a barrier-free location for the proceedings. The Compliance Officer (or her/his designee) will be responsible for such arrangements. Furthermore, the inability of a student to speak English should not prevent the student from reporting a violation. Every reasonable measure to interpret a non-English speaker's concerns will be taken.

Sexual Harassment

All members of the school community are expected to conduct themselves so as to provide an atmosphere free from sexual harassment. Any staff member violating the personal rights of another through sexual harassment is subject to discipline, including but not limited to, written reprimand, suspension without pay, reassignment or dismissal.

Students engaging in sexual harassment of a staff member and/or another student are subject to discipline under the student code of conduct. Any student seeking relief under this policy should make a timely verbal or written report of the incident to any administrator or other staff member. Under this policy, sexual harassment is defined as follows:

Unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors and other verbal, or physical conduct of a sexual nature constituting sexual harassment when such conduct has the purpose or effect of interfering with a student's academic experience or creating an intimidating, hostile or offensive environment.

Any person who believes she or he has been subjected to sexual harassment by a student, staff member, or third party may file a grievance under the procedure discussed above.

Course Catalog

Language Arts

ELA 9 Foundations

Strategic Reading courses are intended to improve a student's vocabulary, critical-thinking and analysis skills, or reading rate and comprehension level. Although these courses typically emphasize works of fiction, they may also include works of nonfiction (including textbooks). Strategic Reading courses often have a time-management focus, offering strategies for note-taking or for understanding and evaluating the important points of a text.

English 9-1 and 9-2

These two courses are required for graduation. These courses build upon students' prior knowledge of grammar, vocabulary, word usage, and the mechanics of writing and include the four aspects of language use: reading, writing, speaking, and listening. These courses introduce and define various genres of literature, with writing exercises often linked to reading selections. Finally, these courses will introduce the students to MLA format research.

ELA 10 Foundations

ELA 10 Foundations provides instruction in language skills, integrating reading, writing, speaking, and listening, while placing great emphasis on the progress of individual students. Course content depends upon

students' abilities and may include vocabulary building, improving spelling and grammar, developing writing and composition skills, reading silently or aloud, and improving listening and comprehension abilities. Courses provide students with activities in analytical thinking and with the skills and strategies associated with assessments. Topics covered include vocabulary, reading comprehension, and writing strategies.

English 10-1 and 10-2

These two courses are required for graduation. English 10-1 and 10-2 offer a balanced focus on composition and literature. Students learn about the alternate aims and audiences of written compositions by writing persuasive, critical, and creative multi-paragraph essays and compositions. Through the study of various genres of literature, students can improve their reading rate and comprehension and develop the skills to determine the author's intent and theme and to recognize the techniques used by the author to deliver his or her message.

English 11-1 and 11-2

These two courses are required for graduation. They make up the third step in an integrated sequence of instruction in the language arts essential skills. Thematic units provide an overview of the American literary tradition (1630-present), and continue instruction in the process skills and knowledge necessary to meet state graduation competencies in language arts. In addition, these courses continue to develop students' writing skills, emphasizing clear, logical writing patterns, word choice, and usage, as students write essays and begin to learn the techniques of writing research papers.

English 12-1 and 12-2

These two courses are required for graduation. These courses blend composition and literature into a cohesive whole as students write critical and comparative analysis essays of selected literature. These courses explore more advanced literary techniques (irony, satire, humor, connotation, tone, rhythm, and so on) through two or more literary genres.

Math

Algebra 1 Foundations

This course introduces foundational aspects of Algebra in preparation for Algebra 1-1 and 1-2. Specifically, the course introduces linear equations, ratios and proportions, solving and graphing inequalities and the application of Common Core Mathematical Practices.

Algebra 1-1 and 1-2

These two courses are required for graduation. These two courses cover the study of properties and operations of the real number system; evaluating rational algebraic expressions; solving and graphing first degree equations and inequalities; translating word problems into equations; operations with and factoring of polynomials; and solving simple quadratic equations.

Geometry 1 and Geometry 2

Prerequisite: Algebra 1-1 and 1-2.

These two courses are required for graduation. Geometry course topics include include properties of plane and solid figures; deductive methods of reasoning and use of logic; geometry as an axiomatic system including the study of postulates, theorems, and formal proofs; concepts of congruence, similarity, parallelism, perpendicularity, and proportion; and rules of angle measurement in triangles.

Statistics

Prerequisites: Geometry 1 and Geometry 2.

The Statistics course introduces the study of likely events and the analysis, interpretation, and presentation of

quantitative data. Statistics course topics include basic probability and statistics: discrete probability theory, odds and probabilities, probability trees, populations and samples, frequency tables, measures of central tendency, and presentation of data (including graphs). Course topics may also include normal distribution and measures of variability.

Algebra 2-1 and 2-2

Prerequisites: Geometry 1 and Geometry 2

These two courses are required for graduation. Algebra II course topics include field properties and theorems; set theory; operations with rational and irrational expressions; factoring of rational expressions; in-depth study of linear equations and inequalities; quadratic equations; solving systems of linear and quadratic equations; graphing of constant, linear, and quadratic equations; properties of higher degree equations; and operations with rational and irrational exponents.

Social Studies

World History 1 and World History 2

These two courses are required for graduation. These courses emphasize the study of geography and history of the world and how they are interrelated. Students will analyze political, economical, geographical, historical, and cultural aspects to draw conclusions about how world regional issues influence the present.

US History 1 and US History 2

These two courses are required for graduation. U.S. History surveys the development of America from the Age of Exploration to the present time. Emphasis is on socio-political-economic and geographic changes throughout history.

Economics

This course is required for graduation. Economics is the study of the U.S. capitalistic market system. This study includes business organization, competition, taxation, supply and demand, money, and banking. This study prepares students for future college economic courses. It also assists students in being wise consumers in the present.

Government

This course is required for graduation. Government provides an overview of the structure and functions of the U.S. government and political institutions and examines constitutional principles, the concepts of rights and responsibilities, the role of political parties and interest groups, and the importance of civic participation in the democratic process.

Youth Entrepreneurship 1 and Youth Entrepreneurship 2

This is a two-course sequence in which students will investigate the principles of Economics through the lens of entrepreneurship. In addition, students will complete entrepreneurial simulations that provide them with a deeper understanding of small business ownership. The first course in this sequence fulfills the required Economics credit for graduation.

Science

Integrated Science 1 and Integrated Science 2

This course is a process approach to teaching the concepts of science and is organized around the themes of scientific thinking, matter, energy, motion, and the environment. The scientific process skills taught in this course provide the prerequisites for success in future science study. This course meets the science lab requirement for state universities.

Biology 1 and Biology 2

Biology is a lab class that includes the integration of technology into the study of life processes for animals (including insects), plants and humans. A hands-on study of the five kingdoms and their roles in the environment helps students to visualize nature's niche. There is a comprehensive cell component and life chemistry attribute in this course to prepare students for current events of today's controversial societal and political decisions. This course meets the lab requirement for state universities.

Anatomy and Physiology 1–2

Pre-requisites: Science Processes 1-2 or Biology 1-2. Anatomy and Physiology is an extension of Biology with an emphasis on the Human Body systems. With the integration of technology, students will explore the human body to visualize the systems and their integral connection to each other. Students are also required to research disease causing agents and investigate current material about disease control.

Computer Based Instruction (PLP)

DHHS utilizes PLP learning software for student independent learning. Students have the ability to ask a highly qualified teacher on campus if they need any assistance. Students do not have to pay anything during the school year to enroll in a PLP class. Students are able to access PLP programming in the computer lab on campus or at home. Each class is worth ½ credit. Space is limited for the online application. Students with the most need will be given preference first.



The Leona Group

This Leona Group school is proud to be managed by The Leona Group. The Leona Group is a private company that owns and manages schools throughout Arizona. The Leona Group was developed and is operated by educators and business people with decades of experience in both fields and a commitment to all children. The group believes more opportunities should be available to parents and children. By allowing parents choices, the Leona Group strives to provide more students with access to high-quality education.

The Leona Group (TLG) was formed in 1996 in Michigan by Dr. William Coats, a nationally-recognized leader in education reform. Foundational to The Leona Group is the philosophy that every child can and will learn, regardless of ethnicity, economic or educational disadvantage. These founding beliefs drive TLG's commitment to excellence in elementary, middle and high school classrooms across the country.

Our vision is to redefine what's possible by empowering all students to own their futures. Our values include

- We meet each child where they are, responding to their unique circumstances and addressing their academic, social, and emotional needs. We prepare them to learn, thrive, and succeed.
- We provide free educational options that are safe, nurturing, and responsive to individual student needs. Our schools remove barriers to success.

- We are more than effective educators – we are mentors, advisors, and caring adults for our students, guiding them to take control of their learning.
- We create meaningful relationships with families and collaborate with community-based organizations, providing opportunities and resources that increase the safety, stability, and success of our students.
- We set high expectations and equip students for life beyond the classroom as they pursue post-secondary education, careers, and their roles as engaged community members.

School	Grades	Location	Phone	Website
Advance U Elementary	Pre K - 3	449 E Southern Ave, Phoenix, AZ 85040	(602) 243-8531	www.advance-u.com
Alta Vista High School	9 - 12	5040 S Campbell Ave, Tucson, AZ 85706	(520) 294-4922	www.altavistahs.com
Apache Trail High School	9 - 12	945 Apache Trail, Apache Junction, AZ 85220	(480) 288-0337	www.apachetrailhs.com
Colegio Petite Elementary	K - 5	850 N Morley Ave, Nogales, AZ 85621	(520) 222-9213	www.colegioaz.com
Crestview Prep School	9 - 12	2616 E Greenway Rd, Phoenix, AZ 85032	(602) 765-9555	www.crestviewpreparatory.com
Desert Hills High School	9 - 12	1515 S Val Vista Dr, Gilbert, AZ 85296	(480) 813-1151	www.deserthillshs.com
Discover U Elementary	Pre K - 6	13226 N 113th Ave, Youngtown, AZ 85363	(623) 974-4827	www.discoverulearning.com
El Dorado High School	9 - 12	3000 N Alma School Rd, Chandler, AZ 85224	(480) 726-9536	www.edhswolverines.com
Estrella High School	9 - 12	510 N Central Ave, Avondale, AZ 85323	(623) 932-6562	www.estrellahs.com
Gilbert Arts Academy	Pre K - 8	862 E Elliot Rd, Gilbert, AZ 85234	(480) 325-6100	www.gilbertartsacademy.com
Glenview College Prep HS	9 - 12	4386 W Bethany Home Rd, Glendale, AZ 85301	(602) 841-1221	www.glenviewcollegeprep.com
Havasupre Preparatory Academy	K - 8	3155 Maricopa Ave, Lake Havasu City, AZ 86406	(928) 854-4011	www.havasuprepele.com
Leona Connected Online HS	9-12	6150 N 16th St, Suite A, Phoenix, AZ 85016	(602) 396-5627	www.leonaconnected.com
Liberty Arts Academy	Pre K - 8	3015 S Power Rd, Mesa, AZ 85212	(480) 830-3444	www.libertyartsacademy.com
Maya High School	9 - 12	3660 W Glendale Ave, Phoenix, AZ 85051	(602) 242-3442	www.mayahs.com
Mission Heights Prep HS	9 - 12	1376 E Cottonwood Ln, Casa Grande, AZ 85122	(520) 836-9383	www.mhprep.com
Peoria Accelerated HS	9 - 12	8885 W Peoria Ave, Peoria, AZ 85345	(623) 979-0031	www.peoriabulldogs.com
Quest High School	9 - 12	217 E Olympic Dr, Phoenix, AZ 85042	(602) 243-8496	www.questhighschool.com
Ridgeview College Prep HS	9 - 12	1645 W Skyline Dr, San Tan Valley, AZ 85142	(480) 360-4518	www.ridgeviewcollegeprep.com
Skyview High School	9 - 12	4290 S Miller Rd, Buckeye, AZ 85326	(623) 386-6799	www.skyviewhs.com
South Pointe Elem School	K - 5	2033 E Southern Ave, Phoenix, AZ 85040	(602) 276-1943	www.southpointeelem.com
South Pointe High School	9 - 12	8325 S Central Ave, Phoenix, AZ 85042	(602) 243-0600	www.southpointehs.com
South Pointe Jr High School	6 - 8	217 E Olympic Dr, Phoenix, AZ 85042	(602) 243-8496	www.southpointejh.com
South Ridge High School	9 - 12	1122 S 67th Ave, Phoenix, AZ 85043	(623) 247-0106	www.southridgeprep.com
Summit High School	9 - 12	728 E McDowell Rd, Phoenix, AZ 85006	(602) 258-8959	www.summiths.com
Sun Valley High School	9 - 12	1143 S Lindsay Rd, Mesa, AZ 85204	(480) 497-4800	www.sunvalleymesa.com
Vista Grove Prep Academy	K - 8	2929 E McKellips Rd, Mesa, AZ 85213	(480) 924-1500	www.vistagroveprep.com
West Phoenix High School	9 - 12	3835 W Thomas Rd, Phoenix, AZ 85019	(602) 269-1110	www.westphoenixhs.com

American Charter School Foundation

The American Charter School Foundation (ACSF) which was organized in 1998 as a Michigan non-profit corporation. ACSF operates as a non-profit 501(c)(3) corporation.

The mission of the ACSF is to promote the charter school movement in the United States with the goal of improving the public school system by creating a more competitive environment, providing parents and students with freedom of choice, and striving for higher academic standards. To assist in the accomplishment of this goal, the ACSF will do any or all of the following:

- Apply for charter school applications
- Provide supplemental educational services
- Operate as an educational management company
- Serve as a governing body for charter schools

- Acquire property for school sites and facilities
- Provide startup funding and capital investment

OPT OUT of Directory Information Release

Please Return this form ONLY if you DO NOT consent to release of Directory information.

I do not want any or all directory information about my student to be released to any person or organization (including School groups) without my prior signed and dated written consent. Please return this form to the front office, within two (2) weeks of receiving this form, or by October 31st, whichever occurs first. If the School does not receive notification from you on this form within the prescribed time, the School will assume that your permission is given to use the directory information as described above.

Print Parent/Guardian/Adult Student Name

Date

Parent/Guardian/Adult Student Signature

Date

Student Handbook Acknowledgment Form

Please read the following information carefully.

Parents and student must sign this form.

I understand and consent to the responsibilities outlined in this Leona Group managed school Student Handbook. I understand and agree that my child/self will be held accountable for his or her behavior and consequences as outlined in this document. They will be held accountable at school, school-sponsored and school related activities, including school-sponsored travel. I understand that any student who violates the code of conduct is subject to disciplinary action as outlined in this Student Handbook and which may include personal conference to expulsion and criminal prosecution. I further understand and consent to my parental responsibilities as outlined in this handbook. Failure to sign this form does not remove my child's responsibility to abide by the stated policies.

We acknowledge that we received a copy of the Student Handbook and that we have read, understood, discussed, and agree to comply with all rules and policies.

Print Parent/Guardian/Adult Student Name

Date

Parent/Guardian/Adult Student Signature

Date