

STARGATE SCHOOL

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Community Compact

Stargate School will provide a differentiated program designed specifically to meet the needs of identified intellectually gifted learners in order to challenge each student's academic abilities, support their unique emotional needs, promote individual character development, and encourage a life-long love of learning.

Stargate succeeds when there's a strong partnership between families, teachers, students, and our broader community. Our school creates an environment in which families are actively involved, teachers are allowed to innovate, and students are offered diverse opportunities to learn. This unique learning environment relies on commitments from all stakeholders to support its continued success.

When Stargate staff, families, and community members are engaged in written or verbal communication, it is important to communicate with the following expectations in mind:

- Our goal is to work together as a team. Advocate for your child through empathy, kindness, and curiosity, as we work together to support your child.
- Communication should always follow the Communication Pathways, starting with the staff member for whom you have a question or concern. The Communication Pathways outlined at this link offer detailed flow charts for all kinds of questions, from classroom issues to policy concerns.
- Communicate respectfully and concisely at all times. In most cases, a phone call allows for clearer communication than email and diminishes the risk for a misperception of tone. Emails that are longer than one paragraph in length likely warrant a phone call or face-to-face meeting.

- Please limit communications to official channels through Stargate email and phone numbers. Personal cell phone numbers of our staff members are not to be used for school communication.
- Lengthy face-to-face conversations regarding questions or concerns should be scheduled in advance whenever possible. While we value and appreciate the relationships between our staff and families, staff often have competing demands on their time and attention (i.e., prioritizing student safety at pick-up). Scheduling for a time when they do not have other responsibilities allows all parties to give the conversation the attention it deserves.
- Parents should expect a returned phone call/email within three school days and a scheduled meeting within five to seven school days when needed. Teachers are not expected to respond to an email or a phone call outside of normal school hours, which are typically 7:30 a.m - 4:00 p.m. Monday through Friday. If a parent or guardian has an urgent and immediate need, please call the front desk of your school.
- In Middle and High School, please check Google Classroom for classroom information, as this is the most reliable source for student assignments.
- Please gather all the information directly from official channels before addressing a situation that may be concerning to you.
- When engaging in a conversation, come with curiosity and recognize that Stargate staff members have a professional responsibility to meet the individual needs of all students and support your child's success.
- Our teachers are trained professionals who bring expertise in curriculum, instruction, and best practices to support every student's learning
- Please notify your child's teacher and assigned counselor as soon as possible if there is a change in your home situation (such as illness, loss, divorce or separation, or a medical diagnosis), so the school team can provide appropriate support for your child and family.
- The use of language that is hurtful, defamatory, discriminatory, racist, sexist, offensive, obscene, inflammatory, unlawful, vulgar, or otherwise objectionable to members of the community or the school is not appropriate when communicating with or about Stargate. We expect all members of our community to engage respectfully and constructively in person, in online forums, or in writing. Should this language be used, the school leader or Executive Director may issue a no-trespassing or no-contact order for the remainder of the school year.

In the event that these outlined expectations are not practiced through written or verbal communication, the following steps may be implemented:

- The staff member may choose to request a phone or face-to-face conversation in lieu of a lengthy email exchange.
 - The staff member or parent may choose to end the conversation or email exchange and request an administrator to mediate a conversation in order to reach a resolution in the event they feel they are not being treated respectfully.
 - Communication will be directed to the appropriate staff member based on the published Communication Pathways.
 - In the event a parent has not found resolution with an administrator mediation, they may choose to seek resolution through the [Board Communication and Complaint Policy](#).
 - In the event that a community member uses language that is hurtful, defamatory, discriminatory, racist, sexist, offensive, obscene, inflammatory, unlawful, vulgar, or otherwise objectionable to members of the community or the school, the school leader and/or the Executive Director reserve the right to issue a no-trespassing or no-contact order.
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Stargate's Commitment to Being a Good Neighbor

We value our partnership with local businesses and expect students, families, and staff to demonstrate respectful behavior (language and actions) both on campus and in the surrounding neighborhood. In the past, we have had our business partners share concerns regarding the behaviors of some in our community. This includes avoiding loitering, improper parking, or any disruption to nearby businesses before, during, or after school hours. No one shall park in these lots unless they are frequenting the business. These are privately owned establishments that rely on available parking for their customers and will tow vehicles or issue citations if needed. It is critical that we maintain a positive relationship with our neighbors, and we appreciate your cooperation.

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