

# **South Vermillion High School**

**“Home of the Wildcats”  
770 West Wildcat Drive  
Clinton, Indiana 47842-7163**



**Student Handbook  
2018-2019**

**Telephone Numbers:  
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Athletics – (765) 832-5312  
Attendance – (765) 832-2653  
Counseling – (765) 832-5311  
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**Mr. Mark Schimmel - Principal  
Mr. Rodney Idlewine - Assistant Principal  
Mr. Tim Terry - Athletic Director  
Mrs. Linda Avenatti - Counselor  
Mr. Allen Grange - Counselor  
Mrs. Kim Bryant – Treasurer  
Mrs. Lisa Klinge - Nurse**

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# 2018 – 2019 School Calendar

## 1<sup>st</sup> Semester

### August

6 Teacher Work Day  
7 First Student Day

### September

3 Labor Day (no school)

### October

10 End of First Nine Weeks  
15-19 Fall break

### November

21-23 Thanksgiving Break

### December

21 End of 1<sup>st</sup> Semester, Dismiss for Winter Break

## 2<sup>nd</sup> Semester

### January

2 Teacher Work Day  
3 Students Return

### February

18 Presidents' Day

### March

6 End of 3<sup>rd</sup> Nine Weeks  
18-22 Flex Days  
25-29 Spring Break

### May

23 Last Student Day/End of 4<sup>th</sup> Nine Weeks  
24 Teacher Work Day  
25 SVHS Commencement

# **2018-2019 Daily Schedule**

## **Daily Schedule (Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday)**

Warning Bell 8:15  
Period 1 8:20 – 9:05  
Period 2 9:10 – 9:55  
Period 3 10:00 – 10:45  
Homeroom 10:50 – 11:20  
Period 4  
A Lunch 11:20 -11:50 Class 11:55 – 12:50  
B Lunch 11:50 -12:20 Class 11:25 – 11:50 & 12:25 – 12:50  
C Lunch 12:20 -12:50 Class 11:25 – 12:20  
Period 5 12:55 – 1:40  
Period 6 1:45 – 2:30  
Period 7 2:35 – 3:20

## **Professional Development (Friday)**

Warning Bell 8:15  
Period 1 8:20 – 9:05  
Period 2 9:10 – 9:55  
Period 3 10:00 – 10:45  
Period 4  
A Lunch 10:45 -11:15 Class 11:20 – 12:15  
B Lunch 11:15 -11:45 Class 10:50 – 11:15 & 11:50 – 12:15  
C Lunch 11:45 -12:15 Class 10:50 – 11:45  
Period 5 12:20 – 1:05  
Period 6 1:10 – 1:55  
Period 7 2:00 – 2:50

## **2 – Hour Delay Schedule**

Warning Bell 10:15  
Period 1 10:20 – 10:50  
Period 2 10:55 – 11:25  
Period 3 11:30 – 12:00  
Period 4  
A Lunch 12:00 – 12:30 Class 12:35 – 1:30  
B Lunch 12:30 – 1:00 Class 12:05 – 12:30 & 1:05 – 1:30  
C Lunch 1:00 – 1:30 Class 12:05 – 12:55  
Period 5 1:35 – 2:05  
Period 6 2:10 – 2:40  
Period 7 2:45 – 3:20

# General Information

## **Our Mission**

South Vermillion High School challenges each student to reach his/her potential. A connected and integrated program involving teachers, students, family, and community members promotes high level skill development, critical thinking, and problem solving while fostering intellectual, social, physical, and emotional growth.

## **Our Vision**

South Vermillion High School is a model school. In fulfilling the vision of excellence, the School will:

- 1) Provide a safe and inviting educational environment.
- 2) Recruit and retain a highly qualified staff who use a variety of instructional methodologies to meet the needs of all learners.
- 3) Employ all available resources to communicate to all stakeholders.
- 4) Make curricular and instructional decisions based upon available research & data.

### **Students will:**

- 1) Demonstrate respect for themselves and others.
- 2) Use technology in the authentic situations and become global citizens.
- 3) Think critically and become lifelong learners.
- 4) Actively engage in their learning and become self-directed learners.

### **Families will:**

- 1) Work with educators to ensure that the student reaches his/her potential.
- 2) Support student accountability in the areas of achievement and behavior.
- 3) Set high expectations for their students.

### **The community will:**

- 1) Advocate for the school by supporting its mission and vision.
- 2) Establish and maintain strong links between business and education through programs such as internships, shadowing, service learning, sponsorships, and classroom visitations.
- 3) Expect that students be prepared for productive employment and effective leadership.

## **Equal Education Opportunity**

It is the policy of the South Vermillion Community School Corporation to provide an equal education opportunity for all students. Any person who believes that the Corporation, a school, or any staff person has discriminated against a student on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex (including sexual orientation and transgender identity), disability, age (except as authorized by law), religion, military status, ancestry, or genetic information, has the right to file a complaint. A formal complaint may be made in writing to the South Vermillion Community School Corporation Compliance Officer (Superintendent) listed below:

Mr. Dave Chapman  
SVCS Superintendent  
765-832-2426

The complaint will be investigated and a response, in writing, will be given to the concerned person within 14 days. The compliance officer may provide additional information concerning access to equal education opportunity. Under no circumstances will the SVCS Corporation threaten or retaliate against anyone who raises or files a complaint.

## **Student Rights and Responsibilities**

The rules and procedures of South Vermillion High School are designed to allow each student to obtain a safe, orderly, and appropriate education. Students can expect their rights will be protected and that they will be treated with fairness and respect. Likewise, students will be expected to respect the rights of their fellow students and the staff. Students will be expected to follow staff members' directions and obey all school rules. Disciplinary procedures are designed to ensure due process (notice and a fair hearing) before a student is disciplined because of his/her behavior.

Parents have the right to know how their child is succeeding in school and will be provided information on a regular basis and as needed, when concerns arise. Many times it will be the responsibility of the student to deliver that information. It is encouraged to establish constructive communication channels with their child's teachers and support staff and to inform the staff of suggestions or concerns that may help their child better accomplish his/her educational goals.

The staff expects students to arrive at school prepared to learn. It is the student's responsibility to arrive on time and be prepared to participate in the educational process. If, for some reason, this is not possible the students should seek help from the administrators or guidance counselors. Adult students (age eighteen (18) or older) are expected to follow all school rules. If residing at home, adult students should include their parents in their educational program.

## **Student Well-Being**

Student safety is a responsibility of the students and the staff. All staff members are familiar with emergency procedures such as evacuation procedures, fire and tornado drills, safety drills in the event of a terrorist or other violent attack, accident reporting procedures. Should a student be aware of any dangerous situation or accident, s/he must notify any staff person immediately.

Students with specific health care needs should submit those needs, in writing and with proper documentation by a physician, to the nurses' office.

## **Injury and Illness**

All injuries must be reported to a teacher or the nurses' office. If minor, the student will be treated and may return to class. If medical attention is required, the office will follow the school's emergency procedures and attempt to make contact with the student's parents.

A student who becomes ill during the school day should request permission from the teacher to go to the office. The office will determine whether or not the student should remain in school or go home. No student will be released from school without proper parental permission.

A student will be considered sick enough to be excused from school when the school nurse determines that the student:

1. Has a temperature of 100 degrees or higher or
2. Has diarrhea or has vomited

A student should not return to school until he/she has been fever free for 24 hours.

## **Medication**

The term "medication" is presumably not limited to prescription medication, but would include over-the-counter medication such as Tylenol, Ibuprofen, etc. Only employees designated by the school administration qualify to administer medication. All medication is to be brought to school by a parent or an adult 18 years or older with a note from the parents, and counted with the nurse. All medication is to be brought to the nurse at the beginning of the day. All medication must be in the original container, FDA approved, have written permission from a parent, with the student's name, drug name, dose, route, and time. Only the amount on the directions can be given. No aspirin product can be given without a prescription.

Prescription medication (excluding antibiotics) must have the Authorization to Dispense Medication at School form completed by the physician. Asthma inhalers and Epi pens that can be self-administered and kept in the student's possession need Authorization to Dispense Medication and Asthma or Epi Contract forms. Medication may be released to a student if the student's parent provides written permission for the student to receive the medication. All medication not picked up at the end of the school year will be disposed of on the last day of school.

Parents/Guardians may sign a consent form for SVHS to provide Tylenol (acetaminophen) to a student as needed. Once a student has reached 10 doses, the school will need a physician's statement to continue dispensing Tylenol. Consents may be picked up in the book room on book rental days or in the nurse's office when school is in session. No exceptions will be made to administer medication without a written parental consent.

## **Enrolling in the School**

Students are expected to enroll in the attendance corporation in which they have legal settlement, unless other arrangements have been approved.

Students that are new to the school are required to enroll with their parents or legal guardian. When enrolling, the parents will need to bring:

- A. A birth certificate or similar document,
- B. Court papers allocating parental rights and responsibilities, or custody (if appropriate),
- C. Proof of residency, (no homeless child will be denied enrollment based on a lack of proof or residency)

#### D. Proof of immunizations.

Students enrolling from another accredited school must have an official transcript from the sending school in order to receive credit from that school. Marian Adams, Registrar, in the Counseling Center will assist in obtaining the transcript, if not presented at the time of enrollment.

New students eighteen (18) years of age or older are not required to be accompanied by a parent when enrolling. When residing with a parent, these students are encouraged to include the parents in the enrollment process. When conducting themselves in school, adult students have the responsibilities of both student and parent.

Non-resident students should refer to the Board Policy for eligibility requirements to enroll.

Foreign students and foreign-exchange students (from recognized and approved student programs) are eligible for admission on the same basis as other non-resident students.

## **Transfer of Students Without Legal Settlement**

In addition to students with legal settlement in the Corporation, students without legal settlement in the Corporation will be enrolled in compliance with I.C. 20-26-11-32 and pursuant to Board Policy 5111 Determination of Legal Settlement and Eligibility for Enrollment of Students without Legal Settlement in the Corporation.

## **Scheduling and Assignment**

Schedules are provided to each student at the beginning of each semester of the school year or upon enrolling. The schedule is based upon the student's needs and available class space. Any changes in a student's schedule should be handled through the Counseling Center at 765-832-5351. It is important to note that some student requests to take a specific course may be denied. Students are expected to follow their schedules.

## **Early Dismissal**

No student may leave school prior to dismissal time without either a.) a written request signed by the parent or a person whose signature is on file in the school office or b.) the parent coming to the school office to personally request the release. No student will be released to a person other than a custodial parent(s) or guardian(s) without a permission note signed by the custodial parent(s) or other legal authorization.

## **Transfer Out of the Corporation**

If a student plans to transfer from South Vermillion High School, the parent must notify the Principal. School records shall be transferred within fourteen (14) days to the new school corporation. Parents are encouraged to contact Marian Adams in the Counseling Center at 765-832-5351 for specific details.

## **Withdrawal from School**

No student under the age of eighteen (18) will be allowed to withdraw from school without an exit interview with the Principal/designee who must agree to the withdrawal. The Principal/designee is also required to provide to the Bureau of Motor Vehicles the name of any student under the age of eighteen (18) who withdraws from School for revocation of the student's driver's license. The student also may not be able to obtain an employment certificate needed to obtain a job.

## **Immunizations**

Students must provide documentation that complies with the rules set forth by the Indiana State Board of Health that all immunizations required by law are current, including but not limited to pertussis (whooping cough), poliomyelitis, measles, diphtheria, rubella (German measles), tetanus, mumps, hepatitis A, hepatitis B, and varicella (chicken pox), or have an authorized exemption from State immunization requirements (I.C. 20-8.1-7-9.5). Every student who enters kindergarten or grade 1 shall be immunized against hepatitis A, hepatitis B, diphtheria, tetanus, pertussis, polio, measles, mumps, rubella and chicken pox. Every child who enters grades 6 through 10 shall also have a meningococcal conjugate vaccine. Students entering grades 11 and 12 also must have a second meningococcal conjugate vaccine. From time-to-time other communicable diseases may be designated by the Indiana State Board of Health as diseases that require immunizations. For the safety of all students, the school principal may remove a student from school or establish a deadline for meeting State requirements if a student does not have the necessary immunizations or authorized exemption. In the event of a chicken pox epidemic, the Superintendent may temporarily deny admission to a student otherwise exempted from the chicken pox immunization requirement. Any questions about immunizations or exemptions should be directed to Lisa Klinge, Nurse at 765-832-3551.

Information concerning meningococcal disease (meningitis) and its vaccine shall be provided to students and parents at the beginning of the school year. The information must include information concerning the causes, symptoms and spread of meningococcal diseases and places where parents may obtain additional information and vaccinations for their children.

## **Control of Casual Contact Communicable Diseases and Pests**

Because a school has a high concentration of people, it is necessary to take specific measures when the health or safety of the group is at risk. The school's professional staff has the authority to remove or isolate a student who has been ill or has been exposed to a communicable disease or highly-transient pest, such as lice.

Specific diseases include: diphtheria, scarlet fever, strep infections, whooping cough, mumps, measles, rubella, and other conditions indicated by the Local and State Health Departments.

Any removal will be limited to the contagious period as specified in the school's administrative guidelines.

## **Control of Non-Casual Contact Communicable Diseases**

The corporation has an obligation to protect staff and students from non-casual contact communicable diseases. When a non-casual contact communicable disease is suspected, the staff or student's health will be reviewed by a panel of resource people, including the County Health Department. The School will protect the privacy of the person affected and those in contact with the affected person. Students and staff will be permitted to remain in school unless there is definitive evidence to warrant exclusion.

Non-casual contact communicable diseases include sexually transmitted diseases, AIDS, ARC-AIDS Related Complex, HIV, Hepatitis B, and other diseases that may be specified by the State Board of Health.

As required by Federal law, parents will be requested to have their child's blood checked for HIV and HBV when the child has bled at School and students or staff members have been exposed to the blood. Any testing is subject to laws protecting confidentiality.

## **Special Education**

### **Person with a Disability**

The American's with Disabilities Act (A.D.A.) and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act prohibit discrimination against persons with a disability in any program receiving Federal financial assistance. This protection applies not just to students, but all individuals who have access to the Corporation's programs and facilities.

The law defines person with a disability as anyone who:

- A. Has a mental or physical impairment that substantially limits one or more major life activities;
- B. Has a record of such an impairment; or
- C. Is regarded as having such an impairment.

The South Vermillion School Corporation has specific responsibilities under these two laws, which include identifying, reviewing and, if the child is determined to be eligible, affording access to appropriate educational accommodation.

### **Free and Appropriate Public Education**

Students are entitled to a free appropriate public education in the "least restrictive environment." The School provides a variety of special education programs for students identified as having a disability as defined by the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA).

A student can access special education services only through the proper evaluation and placement procedure. Parent involvement in this procedure is required. More importantly, the school encourages the parent to be an active participant. To inquire about the procedure, a parent should contact Courtney Lavallie, Special Education Chair, at 765-832-3551.

Students with disabilities who do not qualify for IDEA may be served within the regular education program with an accommodation plan developed through an interactive dialogue between the School, the student and the student's parent(s). Parents who believe their child may have a disability that interferes substantially with the child's ability to function properly in school, should contact Courtney Lavallie, Special Education Chair, at 765-832-3551.

### **Service Animal Policy**

A student's need for and use of a service animal must be addressed in the student's individualized education program (IEP) and/or Section 504 Plan. A service animal that meets the definition set forth in Policy 8390 shall be permitted to accompany the student anywhere on the school campus where students are permitted to be; however, the service animal must be at all times under the control of the student or the service animal's handler. The principal will review and determine whether the documentation required by board policy has been provided for the student's service animal.

## Homeless Students

Homeless students will be provided with access to educational opportunities in the same manner as other students served by the corporation. Homeless students are eligible to receive transportation services, participate in education programs for students with disabilities or limited English proficiency, participate in high ability programs, and receive meals under school nutrition programs. Homeless students will not be denied enrollment based on lack or proof of residency. For additional information contact Rodney Idlewine, Assistant Principal at 765-832-3551.

## Protection and Privacy of Student Records

The corporation maintains many student records including both directory information and confidential information. Directory Information is described in detail in Board Policy 8330 on Student Records.

Directory information can be provided upon request to any individual, other than a for profit organization, even without the written consent of a parent. Parents may refuse to allow the Board to disclose "directory information" upon written notification to the board. For further information about the items included within the category of directory information and instructions on how to prohibit its release you may consult the board's annual Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) notice which can be found in the South Vermillion Community School Corporation Bylaws & Policies , or review Policy 8330 - Student Records.

Confidential records include test scores, psychological reports, behavioral data, disciplinary records, social security numbers, and communications with family and outside service providers.

Students and parents have the right to review and receive copies of all educational records. Costs for copies of records may be charged to the parent. To review student records please provide a written notice identifying requested student records to Marian Adams, Registrar, in the Counseling Center at 765-832-5331. You will be given an appointment with the appropriate person to answer any questions and to review the requested student records.

Parents and adult students have the right to amend a student record when they believe that any of the information contained in the record is inaccurate, misleading or violates the student's privacy. A parent or adult student must request the amendment of a student record in writing and if the request is denied, the parent or adult student will be informed of his/her right to a hearing on the matter.

The administration may disclose personally identifiable information from education record without prior parental consent to officials of state and federal government, educational institutions and agencies, and under specific circumstances authorized by Board policy and Federal law.

Consistent with the Protection of Pupil Rights Amendment (PPRA), no student shall be required, as a part of the school program or the Corporation's curriculum, without prior written consent of the student (if an adult, or an emancipated minor) or, if an un-emancipated minor, his/her parents, to submit to or participate in any survey, analysis, or evaluation that reveals information concerning:

- A. Political affiliations or beliefs of the student or the student's parents;
- B. Mental or psychological problems of the student or the student's family;
- C. Sexual behavior or attitudes;
- D. Illegal, anti-social, self-incriminating or demeaning behavior;
- E. Critical appraisals of other individuals with whom respondents have close family relationships;
- F. Legally recognized privileged and analogous relationships, such as those of lawyers, physicians, and ministers;

- G. Religious practices, affiliations, or beliefs of the student or his/her parents; or
- H. Income (other than that required by law to determine eligibility for participation in a program or for receiving financial assistance under such a program).

Further, parents have the right to inspect, upon request, a survey or evaluation created by a third party before the survey/evaluation is administered or distributed by the school to the student. The principal will provide the parent access to the survey/evaluation within a reasonable period of time after the request is made.

The parent may access the following:

- A. Activities involving the collection, disclosure, or use of personal information collected from students for the purpose of marketing or for selling that information or otherwise providing that information to others for that purpose; and
- B. The administration of any survey by a third party that contains one or more of the items described in A through H above.

The Family Policy Compliance Office in the U.S. Department of Education administers both FERPA and PPR. Parents and/or eligible students who believe their rights have been violated may file a complaint with:

Family Policy Compliance Office  
U.S. Department of Education  
400 Maryland Avenue, SW  
Washington, D.C. 20202-4605  
[www.ed.gov/offices/OM/fpco](http://www.ed.gov/offices/OM/fpco)

## **Fire, Tornado, and Safety Drills**

The school complies with all fire safety laws and will conduct fire drills in accordance with State law. Specific instructions on how to proceed will be provided to students by their teachers who will be responsible for safe, prompt, and orderly evacuation of the building.

Tornado drills will be conducted during the tornado season using the procedures prescribed by the State. The alarm system for tornadoes is different from the alarm system for fires and consists of a verbal announcement on the PA system or the use of an air horn.

Safety drills will be conducted once per school year. Teachers will provide specific instruction on the appropriate procedure to follow in situations where students must be secured in their building rather than evacuated. These situations can include a terrorist threat, a person in possession of a deadly weapon on school property, or other acts of violence.

## **Emergency Closings and Delays**

If the school must be closed or the opening delayed because of inclement weather or other conditions, the school will notify local radio and television stations along with making contact with students and parents via the School Reach automated calling system. Parents and students are responsible for knowing about emergency closings and delays.

## **Safety and Security**

- A. All visitors must report to the office when they arrive at school.
- B. All visitors are given and required to wear a building pass while they are in the building.

- C. Staff are expected to question people in the building whom they do not recognize and who are not wearing a building pass, and to question people who are "hanging around" the building after hours.
- D. Students and staff are expected to immediately report to a teacher or administrator any suspicious behavior or situation that makes them uncomfortable.
- E. All outside doors will be locked during the school day.
- F. Portions of the building that will not be needed after the regular school days are closed off.
- G. If a person wishes to confer with a member of the staff s/he should call for an appointment prior to coming to the school in order to prevent any inconvenience.
- H. Students may not bring visitors to school without first obtaining written permission from the principal
- I. A person is stationed at the secure entry of the building to greet visitors and guide them to the office.
- J. The Corporation may utilize video surveillance and electronic monitoring in order to protect Corporation property, promote security, and protect the health, welfare, and safety of students, staff, and visitors.

## **Visitors**

Visitors, particularly parents, are welcome at the school. Visitors must report to the secure entry upon entering the school to sign in and obtain a pass. Any visitor found in the building without signing in and a guest pass shall be reported to the Principal. If a person wishes to confer with a member of the staff, s/he should call for an appointment prior to coming to the school in order to schedule a mutually convenient meeting time.

## **Electronic Devices**

Students may use personal communication devices (PCDs) before and after school, during their lunch break, in between classes as long as they do not create a distraction, disruption or otherwise interfere with the educational environment. Use of PCDs, except those approved by a teacher or administrator or as required by a student's IEP, at any other time is prohibited. All PCDs must be stored out of sight during the class period. The use of PCDs during instructional time are to be completely banned during the seven academic periods each day.

## **Lost and Found**

The lost and found area is in the front office. Students who have lost items should check there and may retrieve their items if they give a proper description. Unclaimed items will be given to charity at the close of the school year.

## **Cafeteria Procedures**

SVHS maintains a closed campus policy at all times. Therefore, food prepared outside the school cafeteria is not permitted without prior permission from the principal – this does not include students packing their lunch from home. For ease and speed of service during lunch, all students are encouraged to use the account deposit system. Payments made online will not post on the account until after midnight of the day it is received. Breakfast is available for \$1.00, type "A" lunch is \$2.55. "Ala-carte" service is available at both meals for varying costs. Persons with special dietary needs are encouraged to meet with the cafeteria manager for special arrangements. Catering services are also available. Running in the school and cafeteria is prohibited. Cutting in line is prohibited.

## **Cafeteria Charge Policy**

The National School Lunch Program requires school food authorities to establish written administrative guidelines and procedures for meal charges. South Vermillion Community School Corporation will adhere to the following meal charge procedure.

1. Payments can be made using your online account with Harmony. A small fee will be charged. It may take up to 24 hours to post to your child's account. You can also send cash, check or money order to school.
2. A student may charge up to 5 lunch meals at the Elementary Schools and 3 lunch meals at the Middle School and High School as long as they establish and maintain a good credit history of making payments on their food service account. We will allow students to charge 5 breakfast meals.
3. A student isn't allowed to charge "a la carte" items of any kind without sufficient funds in their account.
4. If a student repeatedly comes to school with no lunch and no money, the Cafeteria Manager must report this to the building principal as this may be a sign of abuse or neglect and the proper authorities should be contacted.
5. If the student has charged the maximum meals allowed then an alternative lunch of sunbutter and jelly sandwich and milk will be provided at no charge.
6. If the student who is reduced or full price has reached the maximum charges allowed but has enough money in hand for a meal that day, they will not be denied a regular lunch.
7. The Cafeteria Manager will coordinate communications with the parent(s)/guardian(s) to resolve the matter of unpaid charges.
8. The automated call system will notify parents whenever the balance is -1.00 in the student's meal account. The food service manager will also send home letters, email or call at least once a week when accounts have a negative balance.
9. No charging will be allowed after May 1<sup>st</sup>. All accounts will need to be paid in full by the end of school. Accounts with a positive balance will transfer to the following school year.

## **Insurance**

The school does not carry hospitalization or accident insurance that covers a student who is injured at school or while attending any school activities.

## **Locker Policy**

Lockers are provided for student use and convenience and students assume full responsibility for the security and contents of their assigned locker; however, lockers remain at all times under the control of the school. The school corporation retains the right to inspect lockers and contents to ensure that use is in accordance with intended purposes. School authorities may, for any reason, conduct periodic general inspections of lockers at any time, without notice, without student consent, and without a search warrant. Random, general inspections of lockers may occur without student presence. Sharing or trading lockers with another students is prohibited.

## **Passes**

Passes out of class are at the discretion of the teacher. Students who leave class for any reason must have written permission from a staff member. Passes for the health office must issue a medical excuse. Verbal permission is not acceptable. Students must report directly to the designation on the pass

## Student Activities

### **School-Sponsored Clubs and Activities**

South Vermillion High School provides students the opportunity to broaden their learning through curricular-related activities. A curricular-related activity maybe for credit, required for a particular course, and/or contain school subject matter.

South Vermillion High School has many student groups that are authorized by the school. It is the corporation's policy that authorized groups are those approved by the Board of School Trustees and sponsored by a staff member. Authorized groups include: Band, Choir, Dance Team

Extra-curricular activities do not reflect the school curriculum, but are made available to students to allow them to pursue additional worthwhile activities. Some Activities offered are: Drama Club, Chamber Choir, Academic Superbowl Team.

### **Athletics**

South Vermillion High School provides a variety of athletic activities in which students may participate providing they meet any eligibility requirements that may apply. For further information, contact Tim Terry, Athletic Director, at 765-832-5312. The following is a list of activities currently being offered:

Football, Boys and Girls Tennis, Volleyball, Boys and Girls Cross Country, Boys and Girls Soccer, Boys and Girls Basketball, Wrestling, Boys and Girls Swimming & Diving, Boys and Girls Track, Baseball, Softball, Boys and Girls Golf, Cheerleading

### **Non-school Sponsored Clubs and Activities**

Non-school sponsored student groups organized for religious, political, philosophical reasons may meet during non-instructional hours. The application for permission can be obtained from the Principal. The application must verify that the activity is being initiated by students, attendance is voluntary, that no school staff person is actively involved in the event, that the event will not interfere with school activities and that non-school persons do not play a regular role in the event. School rules will still apply regarding behavior and equal opportunity to participate.

Membership in any fraternity, sorority, or any other secret society is not permitted. All groups must comply with school rules and must provide equal opportunity to participate.

No non-corporation sponsored organization may use the name of the school or school mascot.

### **Student Employment**

South Vermillion High School does not encourage students to take jobs outside of school that could interfere with their success in school. If a student believes that s/he must maintain a job in addition to going to school, s/he must first make contact with his/her counselor to discuss any legal requirements. The student must obtain intent to employ from a possible employer and then contact Sara Edwards, Athletic Secretary, to obtain a work permit.

The school may deny a work permit to a student whose academic performance does not meet the school standards or whose attendance is not in good standing. It also has the right to revoke a work permit previously issued to a student if the school determines that there has been a significant decrease in the student's grade point average or attendance after s/he begins to work. When it

appears that a job is detrimental to student's academic status, the school will advise the parents and employer to ensure that the student's education remains the primary focus.

Should the work permit be revoked at the end of the school year, the student may be allowed to work during the summer while school is not in session. However, such student will lose the work permit at the start of the new school year until s/he meets the attendance and grade standards established by the school for receiving the work permit.

## **Academics**

### **Academic & Career Planning Guide**

All course offerings available at South Vermillion High School can be accessed online at the South Vermillion Community Schools website: [www.svcs.k12.in.us](http://www.svcs.k12.in.us). Any questions or concerns please contact the Counseling center at 765-832-5311.

### **Field Trips**

Field trips are academic activities that are held off school grounds. There are also other trips that are part of the school's co-curricular and extra-curricular program. No student may participate in any school-sponsored trip without parental consent. Attendance rules apply to all field trips. While the Corporation encourages the student's participation in field trips, alternative assignments will be provided for any student whose parent does not give permission for the student to attend. Students who violate school rules may lose the privilege to go on field trips.

### **Grades**

South Vermillion High School has a standard grading procedure, as well as additional notations that may indicate work in progress or incomplete work. The purpose of a grade is to indicate the extent to which the student has acquired the necessary learning. In general, students are assigned grades based upon test results, homework, projects, and classroom participation. Each teacher may place a different emphasis on these areas in determining a grade and will so inform the students at the beginning of the course work. If a student is not sure how his/her grade will be determined, s/he should ask the teacher.

### **Graduation Requirements**

In order to receive a diploma and graduate, a student must pass all assessments required by the State Board of Education, meet requirements for basic coursework, and earn the total number of minimum credits. For students in special education, the IEP team will determine coursework and the extent of participation in state-mandated assessments. A student may participate in the graduation ceremony provided he/she meets the forty-two (42) credits required and has completed a minimum of 6 semesters of attendance. Students will not be allowed to graduate after no less than 8 semesters if they have not passed the ECA as required by the Indiana State Department of Education. Early graduates must apply by October 15 and have already passed all state required assessments.

**Course and Credit Requirements**

<b>English/ Language Arts</b>	<b>8 credits</b> Including a balance of literature, composition and speech.
<b>Mathematics</b>	<b>6 credits (in grades 9-12)</b> 2 credits: Algebra I 2 credits: Geometry 2 credits: Algebra II <small>Students may earn credit for Algebra I, Geometry, or Algebra II through a dual credit course or by passing a state-approved exam.</small>
<b>Science</b>	<b>6 credits</b> 2 credits: Biology I 2 credits: Chemistry I or Physics I or Integrated Chemistry-Physics 2 credits: any Core 40 science course
<b>Social Studies</b>	<b>6 credits</b> 2 credits: U.S. History 1 credit: U.S. Government 1 credit: Economics 2 credits: World History/Civilization or Geography/History of the World
<b>Directed Electives</b>	<b>5 credits</b> World Languages Fine Arts Career and Technical Education
<b>Physical Education</b>	<b>2 credits</b>
<b>Health and Wellness</b>	<b>1 credit</b>
<b>Electives*</b>	<b>8 credits</b> <small>*Major or Core 40 Elective Credits</small>
<b>42 Total SVHS Credits Required</b>	

**CORE40 with Academic Honors** (minimum 47 credits)

For the Core 40 with Academic Honors diploma, students must:

- Complete all requirements for Core 40.
- Earn 2 additional Core 40 math credits.
- Earn 6-8 Core 40 world language credits (8 credits in one language or 4 credits each in two languages).
- Earn 2 Core 40 fine arts credits.
- Earn a grade of a "C" or better in courses that will count toward the diploma.
- Have a grade point average of a "B" or better.
- Complete one of the following:
  - A. Earn 4 credits in 2 or more AP courses and take corresponding AP exams
  - B. Earn 6 verifiable transcripted college credits in dual credit courses from priority course list
  - C. Earn two of the following:
    1. A minimum of 3 verifiable transcripted college credits from the priority course list,
    2. 2 credits in AP courses and corresponding AP exams,
    3. 2 credits in IB standard level courses and corresponding IB exams.
  - D. Earn a combined score of 1750 or higher on the SAT critical reading, mathematics and writing sections and a minimum score of 530 on each mathematics and writing sections and a minimum score of 530 on each mathematics and writing sections and a minimum score of 530 on each mathematics and writing sections and a minimum score of 530 on each mathematics and writing sections
  - E. Earn an ACT composite score of 28 or higher and complete written section
  - F. Earn 4 credits in IB courses and take corresponding IB exams.

**CORE40 with Technical Honors** (minimum 47 credits)

For the Core 40 with Technical Honors diploma, students must:

- Complete all requirements for Core 40.
- Earn 6 credits in the college and career preparation courses in a state-approved College & Career Pathway and one of the following:
  1. Pathway designated industry-based certification or credential, or
  2. Pathway dual credits from the lists of priority courses resulting in 6 transcripted college credits
- Earn a grade of "C" or better in courses that will count toward the diploma.
- Have a grade point average of a "B" or better.
- Complete one of the following,
  - A. Any one of the options (A - F) of the Core 40 with Academic Honors
  - B. Earn the following scores or higher on WorkKeys: Reading for Information - Level 6, Applied Mathematics - Level 6, and Locating Information - Level 5.
  - C. Earn the following minimum score(s) on Accuplacer: Writing 80, Reading 90, Math 75.
  - D. Earn the following minimum score(s) on Compass: Algebra 68 Writing 70, Reading 80.

## ISTEP+

Along with meeting credit requirements for graduation, students from South Vermillion High School must meet the academic standards of the ISTEP+ Assessments in Algebra I and English 10.

Students not passing the ISTEP+ may meet the criteria for a waiver through:

1. Participation in all remediation opportunities offered by the school.
2. Taking the test in the subject area(s) that the student has not passed at least once every year, following the initial year in which the student first takes the exam.
3. Maintaining a 95% attendance rate.
4. Maintaining a C average in the courses comprising the credits specifically required for graduation.

## Final Exams

Students are required to take their "Final Exams" on the date scheduled by SVHS administration. Exceptions to this policy must be pre-approved by the Principal. During final exams, students are not permitted to leave school and then return later to take a final unless approved by the Principal.

## Final Exam Exemption Policy

Students may exempt the final exam in three classes of their choosing if they meet the required criteria. Students must have the following to be exempt from final exams (per semester).

1. Zero tardy infractions in all classes.
2. A limit of 3 absences per class (non-certified), A single class violation eliminates eligibility in all classes.
3. Must be passing the course with a C or higher in each 9 week grading period.
4. Zero suspendable disciplinary actions.
5. A student can not exempt out of an AP course during 1<sup>st</sup> semester.
6. If the entire SVHS student body attendance is at 96% then all students who meet the remaining criteria may exempt out of an additional final.

## Honor Roll

Honor Roll is divided into three categories and is calculated by the school's computer system using the following guidelines:

Distinguished Honor Roll	3.85 - 4.00
High Honor Roll	3.50 - 3.849
Honor Roll	3.00 - 3.499

A student may have no grade lower than a C to qualify.

## GPA/Class Rank

Accumulative grade point average is computed by dividing the total number of grade points earned, by the total number of credits attempted.

The following scale is used for computing GPA:

A	=	4.00	B-	=	2.67	D+	=	1.33
A-	=	3.67	C+	=	2.33	D	=	1.00
B+	=	3.33	C	=	2.00	D-	=	.67
B	=	3.00	C-	=	1.67	F	=	0.00

Valedictorian and Salutatorian are determined at the end of the 8<sup>th</sup> semester each year.

## Grading Scale

93 - 100	A	90 - 92	A-		
87 - 89	B+	83 - 86	B	80 - 82	B-
77 - 79	C+	73 - 76	C	70 - 72	C-
67 - 69	D+	63 - 66	D	60 - 62	D-
0 - 59	F				

## Failure Explanation

Any student receiving a grade combination of any of those listed below will not receive a passing grade (no credit) for the semester.

9 Week	9 Week	Exam	=	Semester Grade
D-	D-	F	=	F
D-	F	D-	=	F
D-	F	D	=	F
	Any Two (2) F's		=	F

## Figuring Semester Grades

For figuring semester averages, the numeric values of letter grades are:

A = 11	C = 5
A- = 10	C- = 4
B+ = 9	D+ = 3
B = 8	D = 2
B- = 7	D- = 1
C+ = 6	F = 0

Final semester grades will be determined by assigning the above numeric value to each of the nine weeks grades and the final examination. Each of the nine weeks grades is to be doubled in value. The sum of the doubled nine weeks grades added to the final exam grade will determine the semester grade. Note the following example:

First Nine Weeks B (8 x 2) = 16

Second Nine Weeks C+ (6 x 2) = 12

Final Exam B = 8

TOTAL POINTS 36

SEMESTER GRADE B

The following total points list is provided to make it easier to determine semester averages:

A = 53 - 55	A- = 48 - 52	B+ = 43 - 47	B = 38 - 42
B- = 33 - 37	C+ = 28 - 32	C- = 18 - 22	D+ = 13 - 17
D = 8 - 12	D- = 5 - 7	F = 0 - 4	

## Course Scheduling

Students should determine their course selection through consultation with teachers, parents, and guidance counselors. Students wishing to enroll in certain classes must meet stated prerequisites. Exception to this policy requires the recommendation of the department chair and permission of an administrator.

## Earning Course Credits

There are only two options to earn course credits at South Vermillion High School. One is through completing required courses offered at SVHS and the other is through APEX, our online credit recovery program. Any course offered through classroom instruction must be taken at the school. APEX courses will be utilized when there are scheduling conflicts or when students need to recover credits in order to graduate. Scheduling an APEX course requires approval by the principal. Courses through an outside vendor will not be accepted unless otherwise approved by the principal.

## Student Course Selection

Counselors meet with students to review diploma types and graduation requirements to assist the students in the best possible courses to fit the individual student's needs.

Course selections are made for the fall and spring semesters. The student's scheduling worksheet needs to be completed in its entirety and signed by the student and parent/guardian.

Parents/guardians are welcome to make an appointment with the student's counselor to consider the best options for the student. Counselors make every effort to meet appropriate course requests as they fit within the SVHS master schedule.

### Schedule Change Policy

Students make course requests for the upcoming school year and are expected to follow their schedules. Once a student has a copy of his/her schedule, a change may be made only for the following reasons:

1. The school may be required to make a schedule change for a student if a required course is failed, remediation needs, to balance class sizes, or if a course is cancelled.
2. Course changes due to a teacher preference will **not** be made.
3. In May, a student will receive a copy of his/her schedule and course change requests may be made until the end of the school year.

## Honors Classes Prerequisites

### Math

Honors Geometry

- Pass Algebra I ECA
- Earn a B or better in Algebra I 8<sup>th</sup> Grade/8<sup>th</sup> Grade Honors Math

Honors Algebra II

- Earn a B or better in Honors Geometry

To remain in 2<sup>nd</sup> semester Honors Math

- Earn a C or better for semester grade

### English

9<sup>th</sup> Grade Honors English

- Pass ISTEP >550

- Earn a B or better in 8<sup>th</sup> grade ELA
  - Teacher Recommendation
- 10<sup>th</sup>/11<sup>th</sup> Grade Honors English
- Earn a B or better in prior year Honors English
  - Earn an A or better in prior year English
  - Teacher Recommendation
- To remain in 2<sup>nd</sup> semester Honors English
- Earn a C or better for semester grade

## **Auditing or Retaking Classes**

Students who have earned a credit in a course at South Vermillion High School with a grade lower than a "C" or students who have failed a course at South Vermillion High School may retake the course to earn credit, to better master its content or to meet minimum grade requirements to qualify for an Indiana Academic Honors diploma or a Technical Honors diploma. With permission of the principal, students who plan to retake the second semester of a year-long course may also retake the first semester. When retaking a course, the original grade and the grade earned when the class is retaken will both be on the student's transcript. The higher grade will be associated with the credit and factored into the student's GPA. The lower grade will remain on the transcript with a notation that the course was retaken, but will not be included in the calculation of the student's GPA.

Incoming 9<sup>th</sup> graders with high school credit earned in middle school may retake those courses at South Vermillion High School if the grade earned in the middle school is lower than a "B-." When retaking a course previously taken in middle school, the course, credit, and grade earned in middle school will not be a part of the South Vermillion High School transcript.

## **Grade Level**

The following guidelines will be used to determine grade level classification:

Freshman	0- 8 Credits
Sophomore	9-18 Credits
Junior	19-27 Credits
Senior	28 or More Credits

\*Any student attending school for three years and has earned 27 or fewer credits will be reclassified as junior status.

## **Transportation**

### **Bus Conduct**

Students who are riding to and from school on transportation provided by the school are required to follow some basic safety rules. This applies to school-owned buses as well as any contracted transportation that may be provided.

The driver is responsible for student safety and may assign seating or direct the student in any reasonable manner to maintain that safety.

The following behaviors are expected of all students:

## **Previous to loading (on the road and at school)**

Each student shall:

1. Be on time at the designated loading zone.
2. Stay off the road at all times while walking to and waiting for the bus.
3. Line up single file off the roadway to enter.
4. Wait until the bus is completely stopped before moving forward to enter.
5. Refrain from crossing a highway until the bus driver signals it is safe
6. Go immediately to a seat and be seated.

## **During the trip**

Each student shall:

1. Remain seated while the bus is in motion.
2. Keep head, hands, arms, and legs inside the bus at all times.
3. Not litter in the bus or throw anything from the bus.
4. Keep books, packages, coats, and all other objects out of the aisle.
5. Be courteous to the driver and other bus riders.
6. Not tamper with bus or any of its equipment.

## **Leaving the Bus**

Each student shall:

1. Remain seated until the bus has stopped.
2. Cross the road, when necessary, at least ten feet in front of the bus, but only after the driver signals that it is safe.
3. Be alert to a possible danger signal from the driver.

## **Videotapes on School Buses**

The SVCS School Board has authorized the installation of video cameras on school buses for purposes of monitoring student behavior. If a student is reported to have misbehaved on a bus and his/her actions were recorded, the tape will be submitted to the administration and may be used as evidence of the misbehavior. Since these tapes are considered part of a student's record, they can be viewed only in accordance with Federal law.

## **Penalties for Infractions**

A student who becomes a discipline problem on the bus shall be disciplined in accordance with the Wildcat Code of Conduct and may be deprived of the privilege of riding on the bus.

## **Self-Transportation to School**

Driving to school is a privilege, which can be revoked at any time. Students who are provided the opportunity to ride school transportation are encouraged to do so. Students and their parents assume full responsibility for any transportation to and from school not officially provided by the school. Students who fail to comply with driving and parking regulations may lose driving privileges and face additional consequences.

The following rules shall apply:

1. Students driving to school must obtain the proper parking permit, follow safe driving practices, register for the school's random drug testing, and observe proper parking procedures.
2. An application for a parking permit will be submitted in writing before parking privileges begin. The cost of a parking permit is \$2.00.
3. Students are to park in the student lot east of the gym. Students are to enter and exit the student parking lot through the South Road on to First Street only.
4. Students are not to use the road that leads to the bus garage.
5. Students are not to loiter in the parking lot during the school day. Upon arrival at school, students are to immediately enter the building. No student may return to a vehicle without permission of the administration.
6. Students are not to leave school property (without permission) after arriving in the morning.
7. While on school property, vehicles may be searched if there is a reasonable suspicion of illegal substances, weapons, or other items prohibited elsewhere in this handbook.

## **Wildcat Code of Conduct**

The entire foundation and success of public school education depends on the basic concept of respect and self-discipline. The responsibility for the development and maintenance of self-discipline falls upon the cooperative efforts of students, parents, teachers, administrators, and the community. This self-discipline is established through existing rules and regulations for protection of everyone's rights. It is the student's individual responsibility to know and abide by these rules and regulations.

## **Student Behavior Standards**

A major component of the educational program at South Vermillion High School is to prepare students to become responsible workers and citizens by learning how to conduct themselves properly and in accordance with established standards.

### **Expected Behaviors**

Students are expected to:

- A. Act courteously to adults and fellow students;
- B. Be prompt to school and attentive in class;
- C. Work cooperatively with others when involved in accomplishing a common goal regardless of the other's ability, gender, race, or ethnic background;
- D. Complete assigned tasks on time and as directed;
- E. Help maintain a school environment that is safe, friendly, and productive.

### **Classroom Environment**

It is the responsibility of students, teachers, and administrators to maintain a classroom environment that allows:

- A. A teacher to communicate effectively with all students in the class; and
- B. All students in the class the opportunity to learn.

# Code of Conduct

The Board of School Trustees has adopted the following Code of Conduct. This Code of Conduct is applicable to students:

1. On school property at any time;
2. During and immediately before and after any School activity at any location;
3. Traveling to and from School or to and from a School activity;
4. Off school property if the conduct involves bullying and two (2) or more students who attend school in the corporation and the conduct has an adverse educational impact.

Violations of the Code of Conduct may be punishable by suspension or expulsion:

1. Knowingly interfering with School purposes or inducing another student to do so;
2. Stealing or damaging School property or property of another person;
3. Knowingly causing bodily harm to another person;
4. Threatening another person with bodily injury;
5. Possessing a firearm or any other object that is readily usable as a weapon or is dangerous to others (such as fireworks);
6. Possessing, providing or using a drug or any type of drug-related paraphernalia except as authorized by prescription;
7. Possessing, providing or using any substance or any type of paraphernalia represented to be a drug or drug-related paraphernalia;
8. Possessing or providing an alcoholic beverage;
9. Consuming or being under the influence of a drug or alcohol except as authorized by prescription;
10. Possessing, providing, or using tobacco or any tobacco product or electronic cigarettes or similar devices;
11. Knowingly failing to report to scheduled assignment without permission or acceptable excuse;
12. Failing or refusing to comply with directions of an adult supervising a class or school activity;
13. Directing unwelcome statements, communications, or conduct of a sexual nature to another person; (See Harassment below)
14. Materially altering any School document such as a hall pass;
15. Violating Indiana or Federal law;
16. Truancy - leaving a School activity or School property without prior approval of a teacher or supervising adult;
17. Attempting or conspiring with another person to violate any student behavior standard;

**18. Anti-Harassment** (The School prohibits the harassment, intimidation, or bullying of any student on school property or school sponsored events. Harassment, intimidation and bullying are defined as any intentional written, verbal or physical act directed towards another student that:

- A. Causes mental or physical harm to the other student; and
- B. Is sufficiently severe, persistent, or pervasive that it creates an intimidating, threatening, or abusive educational environment for another student.

Discipline for any substantiated incidents of bullying, harassment, or intimidation will be prescribed in accordance with the appropriate section of the Student Discipline Code. The School also prohibits retaliation against any person who reports an incident, files a complaint, or otherwise participates in an investigation. Filing false charges is also prohibited and will result in appropriate disciplinary sanctions. Suspected retaliation should be reported in the same manner as bullying, harassment, and intimidation detailed below.

Students should report incidents of bullying, harassment, or intimidation to the principal, assistant principal, or the Superintendent, teachers, or counselors. Complaints about the principal should be filed with the Superintendent, and complaints about the Superintendent should be filed with the School Board President. All complaints will be reduced to writing and the student will have the option of either signing the complaint or affirming its veracity in front of two (2) administrators.

The administrator or Board official receiving the report will conduct a prompt investigation. The parents of any child involved in prohibited conduct will be notified and permitted to view any reports related to the conduct subject to laws governing student privacy. A meeting between all concerned parties will be held within five (5) work days after receipt of a complaint. Any findings based on this meeting will be reduced to writing. At the close of the investigation, a written decision, including any disciplinary action, will be made and the Superintendent will be notified.

A complaining student who is not satisfied with the conclusion of the investigation may file an appeal with the Superintendent or designee within ten (10) days of receipt of the decision. The Superintendent or designee will arrange a meeting between all affected parties to discuss the appeal. Within ten (10) days of the appeal being filed, the Superintendent or designee will provide a written decision.

If the complaining student is not satisfied with the decision of the Superintendent or designee an appeal can be made to the Board within ten (10) days of receipt of the latest decision. The Board will conduct a hearing within twenty (20) days, and will issue a written decision within ten (10) days after the close of the hearing.

The school believes that every individual deserves to be able to come to School without fear of demeaning remarks or actions. The harassment/bullying of other students or members of the staff, or any other individuals is not permitted. This includes any speech or action that creates a hostile, intimidating, or offensive learning environment.

Conduct constituting harassment may take different forms, including but not limited to the following:

### **Sexual Harassment**

Sexual harassment may include, but is not limited to:

A. Unwelcome sexual propositions, invitations, solicitations, and flirtations;

- B. Physical and/or sexual assault;
- C. Threats or insinuations that a person's academic grade, promotion, classroom work or assignments, academic status, participation in athletics or extra-curricular programs or events, or other conditions of education may be adversely affected by not submitting to sexual advances;
- D. Unwelcome verbal expressions of a sexual nature, including graphic sexual commentaries about a person's body, dress, appearance, or sexual activities; the unwelcome use of sexually degrading language, jokes or innuendoes; unwelcome suggestive or insulting sounds or whistles; obscene telephone calls;
- E. Sexually suggestive objects, pictures, videotapes, audio recordings or literature, placed in the educational environment, which may embarrass or offend individuals;
- F. Unwelcome and inappropriate touching, patting, or pinching; obscene gestures;
- G. A pattern of conduct, which can be subtle in nature, that has sexual overtones and is intended to create or has the effect of creating discomfort and/or humiliation to another;
- H. Remarks speculating about a person's sexual activities or sexual history, or remarks about one's own sexual activities or sexual history;
- I. Inappropriate boundary invasions by a Corporation employee or other adult member of the School Corporation community into a student's personal space and personal life;
- J. Verbal, nonverbal or physical aggression, intimidation, or hostility based on sex or sex-stereotyping that does not involve conduct of a sexual nature;
- K. In the context of employees, consensual sexual relationships where such relationship leads to favoritism of a subordinate employee with whom the superior is sexually involved and where such favoritism adversely affects other employees or otherwise creates a hostile work environment.

**Not all behavior with sexual connotations constitutes unlawful sexual harassment. Sex-based or gender-based conduct must be sufficiently severe, pervasive, and persistent such that it adversely affects, limits, or denies an individual's employment or education, or such that it creates a hostile or abusive employment or educational environment. Race/Color/Religion/National Origin/Age/Disability/Other Protected Forms of Harassment**

**A. Verbal:**

1. Written or oral innuendoes, comments, jokes, insults, threats, or disparaging remarks concerning a person's gender, national origin, religious beliefs, etc. toward a fellow student, staff member, or other person associated with the Corporation, or third parties.
2. Conducting a "campaign of silence" toward a fellow student, staff member, or other person associated with the Corporation, or third parties by refusing to have any form of social interaction with the person.

**B. Nonverbal:**

Placing insulting or threatening objects, pictures, or graphic commentaries in the School environment or making insulting or threatening gestures toward a fellow student, staff member, or other person associated with the Corporation, or third parties.

**C. Physical Contact:**

Any intimidating or disparaging action such as hitting, pushing, shoving, or spitting on a fellow student, staff member, or other person associated with the Corporation, or third parties.

Any student who believes that s/he is the victim of any of the above actions or has observed such actions taken by another student, staff member, or other person associated with the Corporation, or third parties should make contact with one of two or three staff members selected by each building principal with whom the students would most likely be comfortable in discussing a matter of this kind.

The student may make contact either by a written report or by telephone or personal visit. During this contact, the reporting student should provide the name of the person(s) whom s/he believes to be responsible for the harassment and the nature of the harassing incident(s). A written summary of each such report is to be prepared promptly and a copy forwarded to the Assistant Principal, Mr. Idlewine (ridlewine@svcs.k12.in.us).

Each report received by a designated person shall be investigated in a timely and confidential manner. While a charge is under investigation, no information is to be released to anyone who is not involved with the investigation, except as may be required by law or in the context of a legal or administrative proceeding. No one involved is to discuss the subject outside of the investigation.

The purpose of this provision is to:

1. Protect the confidentiality of the student who files a complaint, to the extent feasible;
2. Encourage the reporting of any incidents of sexual or other forms of harassment;
3. Protect the reputation of any party wrongfully charged with harassment.

**20. Possession of Electronic Equipment**

Students are not allowed to bring radios, "boom-boxes", portable TV's, or electronic toys, and the like without the permission of administration. Any forbidden equipment will be confiscated and disciplinary action will be taken. Responsible use of ear buds are permitted.

Students are, however, permitted to have Personal Communication Devices, as defined in in their possession during the school day. The use of the PCDs is to be consistent with the Board's adopted policies. Students who use PCDs in violation of the adopted board policies are subject to discipline and confiscation of the device.

**21. Use of an Object as a Weapon**

Any object that is used to threaten, harm, or harass another may be considered a weapon. This includes but is not limited to padlocks, pens, pencils, laser pointers, jewelry and so on. Intentional injury to another may result in a report to the police as well as discipline by the school. This violation may subject a student to expulsion.

## **22. Knowledge of Deadly or Dangerous Weapons or Threats of Violence**

Because the school board believes that students, staff members, and visitors are entitled to function in a safe school environment, students are required to report knowledge of deadly or dangerous weapons or threats of violence to the Principal. Failure to report such knowledge may subject the student to discipline.

## **23. Bullying**

Bullying as defined in State law means overt, repeated acts or gestures, including verbal or written communications transmitted, physical acts committed, or any other behaviors committed by a student or group of students against another student with the intent to harass, ridicule, humiliate, intimidate, or harm the other student. This type of behavior is a form of harassment, although it need not be based on any of the legally protected characteristics, such as sex, race, color, national origin, marital status, or disability. It would include, but not be limited to, such behaviors as stalking, intimidation, menacing, coercion, name-calling, taunting, threats, and hazing, as well as the use of digital or electronic communications to engage in such behaviors. However, Indiana law exempts certain specific behaviors from the definition "bullying". These exceptions are set forth in Board Policy 5517.01 - Bullying.

Additionally, the prohibition of bullying in Policy 5517.01 - Bullying applies regardless of the physical location when:

- A. The individual committing the bullying behavior and any of the intended targets of the bullying behavior are students attending a school within the corporation; and
- B. The bullying behavior results in a substantial interference with school discipline or an unreasonable threat to the rights of others to a safe and peaceful learning environment.

Any student who believes s/he has been or is currently the victim of bullying should immediately report the situation to the building principal or assistant principal, or the Superintendent. The student may also report concerns to a teacher or counselor who will be responsible for notifying the appropriate administrator or board official. Complaints against the building Principal should be filed with the Superintendent. Complaints against the Superintendent should be filed with the Board President.

Every student is encouraged, and every staff member is required, to report any situation that they believe to be bullying behavior directed toward a student. Reports may be made to those identified above.

If, during an investigation of reported acts of bullying and/or harassment, the investigator believes that the reported misconduct may have created a hostile learning environment and may have constituted unlawful discriminatory harassment based on sex, race, color, national origin, religion, or disability, the investigator will report the act of bullying and/or harassment to one (1) of the Corporation's Compliance Officers so that it may be investigated in accordance with the procedures set forth in Policy 5517 - Anti-Harassment.

## **24. Offensive Language**

The use of inappropriate or offensive language and/or gestures in school is unacceptable. The use of profanity will not be tolerated. Students using such gestures or language will face disciplinary action including possible expulsion. Profanity that is directed at a faculty or staff member will result in disciplinary action up to expulsion.

**25. Insubordination/Disorderly Conduct**

When any student intentionally fails to comply with the direction of teachers, supervisors, or administrators during any period of time when he/she is under the school supervision, the student will be subject to disciplinary actions up to and including expulsion.

**26. Fighting**

Defined as: "Intentionally causing or attempting to cause physical injury or intentionally behaving in such a way as could reasonably cause physical injury to any person."

Charges will be filed with the proper law enforcement agencies. When in such instances the administration deems the physical injury severe, the student(s) will be suspended and recommended for expulsion on the first occurrence.

**27. School Fire Alarm**

Misuse of the school fire alarm is a violation of state laws and school policy and is an expellable offense.

**28. Book Bags/Outerwear**

Book bags, duffle bags and anything similar are banned in the classroom. Likewise, outerwear (coats, jackets, etc.) are also prohibited in the classrooms.

**29. Public Display of Affection**

Simple handholding and a basic hug will be permitted. Any other type of physical contact shall be cause for disciplinary action ranging from a detention to 10 days of suspension and a recommendation for expulsion.

**Dress Code**

Personal appearance should not disrupt the educational process, call undue attention to the individual, violate federal, state or local health and obscenity laws, or affect the welfare and safety of the student or his/her classmates.

Appropriate dress in a secondary school has an effect upon the attitude of a student toward school and his/her school work. Let us always at South Vermillion High School dress in a fashion that will reflect the pride we feel in our school. A copy of the dress code guidelines is posted in classrooms and the Main Office. It is a responsibility of each student to be aware of the dress code guidelines of South Vermillion High School and dress accordingly.

1. No shorts or skirts are to be worn that are shorter than the extended fingertips. If fingers touch skin, the skirt or short is too short. This includes slits in skirts.
2. Sleeveless tops are allowed if shoulder areas are completely covered. No shirts of sheer materials are to be worn. No tank tops, no crop tops, no cut-off shirts or tops with bare midriiffs, low necklines or bare backs are to be worn.
3. No coats, jackets, backpacks, purse backpacks, or bags are to be worn in the building between the first and last bell.
4. No hats, sunglasses, bandannas, caps, or full head coverings are to be worn in the building during school hours upon entering the building. This does not include headwear worn for religious or documented medical purposes.

5. No article of clothing or accessory will be allowed that promotes, encourages, or advertises alcohol, drugs, tobacco products, violence, and/or sexual content. Clothing that intimidates, threatens, or disgraces a fellow student or staff member by means of a symbol or sign is not allowed. T-shirts that display the Confederate Flag or read "Interstate 420" are examples of inappropriate attire.
7. No jeans/pants with rips, tears, or holes (above fingertip length) or long fringe are allowed. Jeans are to be worn no lower than hip level. Sagging is not permitted. Apparel is to be appropriate and not present a danger to other students.
8. Students are not allowed to wear spiked chains, bracelets, belts, etc. In addition, pocket or wallet chains are also not to be worn.
9. No sleep-wear clothing or slippers (unless on specified days).
10. The administration reserves the right to judge any student's dress appropriate or inappropriate and the prerogative of handling the situation as deemed necessary. After considerable distribution and discussion of the dress code, detentions will be administered to those students who fail to comply with the guidelines.

## **Student Rights of Expression**

The school recognizes the right of students to express themselves. With the right of expression comes the responsibility to do it appropriately. Students may distribute or display, at appropriate times, non-sponsored, non-commercial written material, buttons, badges, or other insignia; and the like. All items must meet School guidelines.

- A. A material cannot be displayed or distributed if it:
  1. Is obscene to minors, libelous, indecent, or vulgar,
  2. Advertises any product or service not permitted to minors by law,
  3. Is intended to be insulting or harassing,
  4. Tends to incite fighting, or
  5. Presents a clear and present likelihood that, either because of its content or manner of distribution or display, it will cause or is likely to cause a material and substantial disruption of school or school activities, a violation of school regulations, or the commission of an unlawful act.

Students who are unsure whether or not materials they wish to display meet school guidelines may present them to the Principal or Assistant Principal twenty-four (24) hours prior to display.

- B. Materials may not be displayed or distributed during passing times between classes. Permission may be granted for display or distribution during lunch periods and/or before or after School in designated locations, as long as exits are not blocked and there is proper access and egress to the building.

## Enforcement of the Code of Conduct

- A. The standards and the Code of Conduct will be enforced by school administrators, teachers, teacher aides, bus drivers, and any other adult authorized by the School to supervise students.
- B. The objectives of the enforcement of these standards and the Code of Conduct are:
  - 1. To protect the physical safety of all persons and prevent damage to property;
  - 2. To maintain an environment in which the educational objectives of the School can be achieved;
  - 3. To enforce and instill the core values of the South Vermillion School Corporation and its school community.
- C. The seriousness of the offense and nature and extent of any discipline utilized to enforce student behavior standards and Code of Conduct will be determined by:
  - 1. The nature and extent of any potential or actual injury, property damage, or disruption;
  - 2. The student's prior disciplinary history and the relative success of any prior corrective efforts;
  - 3. The willingness and ability of the student and the student's parents to participate in any corrective action;
  - 4. The interest of other students in the School in a school environment free from behavior that violates the School's behavior standards;
  - 5. Any other aggravating or mitigating factor or circumstance including but not limited to zero tolerance policies.

In compliance with State law, the board may expel any student who possesses a deadly or dangerous weapon in a weapon-free school zone or commits either arson or rape in a corporation building or on corporation property, including school buses and other school transportation. It will make no difference whether or not the weapon belongs to someone else, unless the student can provide convincing evidence that the weapon was placed in the student's possession without his/her knowledge. If it can be confirmed that a weapon belonged to a student other than the one who possessed the weapon, that student shall also be subject to the same disciplinary action.

A weapon includes conventional objects like guns, pellet guns, knives, or club type implements. It may also include any toy that is presented as a real weapon or reacted to as a real weapon. Criminal charges may be filed for this violation. Possession of a weapon may subject a student to expulsion.

- A. A firearm is defined as any weapon that is capable of or designed to or that may readily be converted to expel a projectile by means of an explosion.
- B. A deadly weapon is defined as:

1. A loaded or unloaded firearm;
2. A weapon, device, taser or electronic stun weapon, equipment, chemical substance, or other material that in the manner it is used, or could ordinarily be used, or is intended to be used, is readily capable of causing serious bodily injury.

Students with disabilities eligible under the IDEA or Section 504 shall be expelled only in accordance with Board Policy 5605, AG 5605A, AG 5605B, and Federal due process rights appropriate to students with disabilities. Students who qualify for service under IDEA or Section 504 may be expelled only after a manifestation determination has been held.

A student who has been expelled may apply for reinstatement in accordance with guidelines, which are available in the Principal's office.

## **Search and Seizure**

Search of a student and his/her possessions, including vehicles, may be conducted at any time the student is under the jurisdiction of the Board of School Trustees, if there is a reasonable suspicion that the student has violated the law or school rules. A search may also be conducted to protect the safety of others. All searches may be conducted with or without a student's consent by school authorities.

Students are provided lockers, desks, and other equipment in which to store materials. It should be clearly understood that this equipment is the property of the school and may be searched at any time if there is reasonable suspicion that a student has violated the law or school rules. Locks are to prevent theft, not to prevent searches. Anything that is found in the course of a search that may be evidence of a violation of School rules or the law may be taken and held or turned over to the police. The school reserves the right not to return items which have been confiscated.

### **Use of Dogs**

The board authorizes the use of specially-trained dogs to detect the presence of drugs and devices such as bombs on school property.

The dog may be allowed to examine school property such as lockers or students and items in their possession, but any search of a student's person will be based upon individualized reasonable suspicion in addition to any information resulting from the dog's examination.

### **Use of Breath-Test Instruments**

The Principal may arrange for a breath test for blood-alcohol to be conducted on a student whenever there is a reasonable suspicion to believe that a student has consumed an alcoholic beverage.

The student will be taken to a private administrative or instructional area on school property with at least one other member of the teaching or administrative staff present as a witness to the test.

The purpose of the test is to determine whether or not the student has consumed an alcoholic beverage. The amount of consumption is not relevant, except where the student may need medical attention.

There is the possibility that a “false-positive” result could be obtained. If the student believes that the test is inaccurate s/he may request an immediate retest be administered by local law enforcement authorities.

If the result indicates a violation of school rules as described in this handbook, the student will be disciplined in accordance with disciplinary procedures described in this handbook. If a student refuses to take the test, s/he will be advised that such refusal is a violation of school rules and will subject the student to disciplinary action. The student will then be given a second opportunity to take the test.

## **Discipline**

It is important to remember that the school's rules apply going to and from school, at school, on school property, at school-sponsored events, and on school transportation. In some cases, a student can be suspended from school transportation for infractions of school bus rules. The board has also extended the authority for school administrators to impose discipline for unlawful activity by students that occurs on or off school property if the activity interferes with school purposes or the educational function of the school. This authority applies to unlawful activity that may occur on weekends, holidays, and other school breaks including summer recess.

Ultimately, it is the Principal's responsibility to keep things orderly. In all cases, the school shall attempt to make discipline prompt and equitable and to have the punishment match the severity of the incident.

## **Progressive Discipline System**

South Vermillion High School uses a progressive system of discipline. The system is based on the idea that as a student commits more violations of school policy, the penalties become more severe. The overall goal is to teach and promote appropriate behavioral skills, thereby enhancing the learning environment and helping to insure a safe educational setting. All disciplinary cases that are referred to the office are logged. A hierarchy of various consequences may be imposed including:

1. Reprimands
2. Counseling
3. Parent Contact
4. Revocation of Privilege
5. Morning Detention
6. Lunch Detention
7. Tuesday Extension
8. In-School Behavior Modification
9. Saturday School
10. Out of School Suspension
11. Alternative Suspension Program (ASAP)
12. Behavior/Attendance Contract
13. Hall Restrictions
14. Expulsion

## **Disciplinary Actions**

### **Morning Detention**

1. Detentions will be held from 7:45 am – 8:15 am
2. Transportation to school is responsibility of students and parents.
3. Refusal or failure to properly serve will result in a discipline report for failure to serve and appropriate consequences will follow.

4. Lunch Detention is an acceptable alternative to Morning Detentions.

### **Tuesday Extension**

1. Tuesday Extension will be conducted each Tuesday as needed from 3:25 pm until 5:25 pm. Students need to report to the designated area immediately after school.
2. Students will be required to read, study or complete assignments the entire time period. Students who fail to attend or comply with the rules and regulations will not be given credit for attending and will result in a discipline report for failure to serve and appropriate consequences will follow.
3. Transportation from Tuesday Extension is the responsibility of students and their parents.

### **In-School Behavior Modification (ISBM)**

In-school behavior modification will be used at the discretion of the administration. Students will report to the front office at 8:20 am and will stay with the ISBM coordinator throughout the school day. While in ISBM, students will work on school assignments, additional activities, and will receive credit for work completed. In addition students will conduct community service around SVHS if needed. Failure to comply with the conditions of ISBM will result in additional consequences.

### **Saturday Detention**

Saturday school will be conducted twice a month from 8:30-11:30 AM. Lunch will not be provided. Students must provide their own transportation. A failure to serve will result in ASAP.

### **Administrative No-Contact Order**

In cases where warranted, the administration can issue a No-Contact Order between 2 or more students that is effective during school hours, when the student(s) are in attendance at, or participating in, school activities and non-school hours when contact leads to a disruption of the educational environment as determined by the SVHS administration. Possible reasons for issuing a No-Contact Order may include, but are not limited to, bullying, harassing, threatening, fighting, physically attacking, false reporting, inciting or encouraging violence, or drug-related offenses. No contact is defined as:

- No verbal communication with the named student(s) except in the classroom and only about the relevant educational topic(s).
- No non-verbal or physically gestured communication with the named student(s).
- No electronic, Internet, cellular, or written communication with the named student(s) during school hours, at school activities, or in a manner that could interfere with the educational environment.
- No physical contact with the named student(s).
- No third party communication with the named student(s). Third party is defined as those persons acting negatively on your behalf toward others as determined by the SVHS administration.
- Violators of this order may be suspended from school and may be subject to legal action, depending on the nature of the given case. Continued violations may lead to expulsion.

### **Alternative Suspension Program**

When student behavior dictates a student may be required to enter the Alternative Suspension Program (ASAP). When placed in this program, the student and their parent/guardian will be required to stand before the Vermillion County Judge at 8:00 am. Students will then be required to complete school work which they will be given credit for. In addition students will conduct community service. Students in ASAP will not be counted absent from school. Students are responsible for transportation to and from ASAP, and are responsible for bringing lunch. ASAP is housed in the PVETI building located at 615 E. Strawberry Road in Montezuma, IN.

## **Suspensions**

There are times when an offense requires separation from the school atmosphere. When such conduct warrants, a student may be suspended from attending school for a maximum of ten (10) days. Students who are suspended out of school may not attend extra-curricular activities. Upon completing suspension, students are provided the opportunity to make-up any missed coursework. Making up any missed coursework will be the responsibility of the student. Students on school property or at school activities while on suspension or expulsion will be subject to arrest. Under the Indiana Law, the school is to report a second suspension to the Bureau of Motor Vehicles to revoke a student's driver's license or learner's permit if they are under the age of 18.

## **Expulsions**

An expulsion is a removal from school attendance and any school function for a period of more than ten (10) consecutive school days.

### **Expulsion For Firearm Possession**

Any student who is found to possess a firearm on school property shall be reported immediately to law enforcement officials. In addition, s/he shall be subject to expulsion for a period of one (1) year.

## **Due Process Rights**

Before a decision is made as to whether or not to suspend or expel a student from school, the School will follow specific procedures.

### **Suspension from School**

When a student is being considered for a suspension, the administrator in charge will notify the student of the reason. The student will then be given an opportunity to explain his/her side. After that informal hearing, the administrator in charge will make a decision whether or not to suspend. If a student is suspended, his/her parents will be notified, in writing, of the reason for and the length of the suspension.

When a student is suspended, s/he may make-up work missed after returning to school or while on suspension.

Any learning that cannot be made up such as labs, field trips, skill-practices, and the like or any learning that the student chooses not to make-up may be reflected in the grades earned. Two (2) suspensions for truancy or an expulsion may result in the revocation of the student's driver's license.

### **Expulsion from School**

If, in the Principal's opinion, the alleged infraction warrants a longer period of removal from school, s/he shall refer the case to the Superintendent for consideration for expulsion. The Superintendent shall review the case and may appoint a designee to conduct the expulsion meeting. This person may be an attorney or an administrator who has not been involved in the particular expulsion case or circumstances leading to it.

### **Notice of Expulsion Meeting**

The student and/or the parent(s) will be notified of the time and place of the expulsion meeting and their rights in connection with that meeting as well as their right to waive the meeting if they choose to do so. The expulsion examiner, appointed by the Superintendent, will issue a written decision following the expulsion meeting.

## **Appeal of an Expulsion**

Upon receipt of a written appeal, the board shall hold a meeting to consider the written evidence and arguments presented at the expulsion meeting. The board may then decide to uphold the expulsion, authorize alternative disciplinary action, or decide no disciplinary action is necessary.

The student or his/her parents may appeal the board's decision to the appropriate court.

## **Failure to Serve**

Consequences are assigned for violating school rules. These punishments are non-negotiable and essential to the creation of an educationally sound environment. The school administration does recognize that in rare circumstances, the need arises to reschedule an assigned disciplinary consequence.

## **Habitual Offender**

When a student repeatedly fails in a substantial number of instances to comply with direction of teachers, or other school personnel during any period of time when he/she is properly under their supervision, where such failure constitutes an interference with school purposes or an educational function, the student will be subject to suspension, and/or expulsion. For clarification, any student with more than 10 behavior infractions in one semester will be considered a Habitual Offender and may be recommended for expulsion.

## **Attendance**

### **School Attendance Policy**

It is imperative that students be in attendance each school day in order not to miss a significant portion of their education. Important learning results result from active participation in classroom and other School activities, which cannot be replaced by individual study.

- A. The school is also concerned about helping students develop a high quality work ethic, which will be a significant factor in their success with future employers. One of the most important work habits that employers look for in hiring and promoting a worker is his/her dependability in coming to work every day and on time. This is a habit the School wants to help students develop as early as possible in their school careers.
- B. In order for a student to receive perfect attendance they must be present for 180 days between 8:20-3:20. Non-certified and certified absences count against perfect attendance. School related events do not count against perfect attendance.
- C. Students involved in extra-curricular activities must be in school by 11:00 am in order to participate unless otherwise authorized by the Principal.
- D. Junior and Senior students will be allowed to take "College Visits" during the academic year except for the month of May.

### **Truancy**

Unexcused absence from School (truancy) is not acceptable. A student shall be considered a "habitual truant" when the student is chronically absent by having unexcused absences from school for more than ten (10) school days in one (1) school year. Students who are truant will receive no credit for schoolwork that is missed. Habitual truancy can result in:

- A. Assignment to an alternative placement with loss of participation in school activities and events;

- B. A loss of driver's license through the Bureau of Motor Vehicles;
- C. A report to juvenile authorities;
- D. A report to local authorities concerning lack of parental responsibility in providing proper care and supervision of a child.

## **Excused Absences**

### **Certified Absences**

Students may be excused from school for one of the following reasons and will be provided an opportunity to make-up missed school work and/or tests:

- A. Members of and students who participate in the Indiana wing of the Civil Air Patrol
- B. Death in the immediate family
- D. Bona-fide religious holiday
- E. Professional appointments that cannot be scheduled at non-school times
- F. Absence approved by the principal for good cause
- G. Statutory reasons as provided by Indiana Code 33-2-14, -15, -16, -17, 17.2 and -17.5  
(Note: Absences for any of these statutory reasons are excused.)

### **Non-Certified**

Students may be excused from school for one of the following reasons and will be provided an opportunity to make-up missed school work and/or tests:

- A. Parent call-in

Students with a health condition that causes repeated absence are to provide the school office with an explanation of the condition from a licensed physician or other qualified practitioner as provided in Indiana Code 20-33-2-18.

### **Reporting an Absence**

Parents must provide an explanation for their child's absence on the day of the absence or by the following day. They are to call Attendance Secretary at 765-832-2653 and explain the reason for the absence. A voice message can be left. If the absence can be foreseen and the "good cause" is to be approved by the Principal, the parent should arrange to discuss the matter as many days as possible before the absence will occur so that arrangements can be made to assist the student in making up the missed School work.

### **Frequently Absent**

Students who are excusably absent for more than 10 days in a grading period, regardless of the reasons, will be considered "frequently absent". If there is a pattern of frequent absence for "illness", the parents will be required to provide a statement from a physician describing the health condition that is causing the frequent illness and the treatment that is being provided to rectify the condition. Without such a statement, the student's permanent attendance record will indicate "frequent unexplained absence".

Statutory reasons for excused absences as provided by Indiana Code 20-33-2-14, -15, -16, -17, -17.2 and -17.5 include:

- A. Service as a page or as an honoree of the Indiana General Assembly.
- B. Service on the precinct election board or as a helper to a political candidate on election day.
- C. In response to a subpoena to appear in court as a witness.
- D. Active duty with the Indiana National Guard for not more than ten (10) days in a school year.

- E. Service as a member of the Indiana wing of the civil air patrol under the terms stated in Indiana Code 20-33-2-17.2.
- F. Authorized attendance at an educationally related non-classroom activity under the terms stated in Indiana Code 20-33-2-17.5.

### **Attendance Policy**

At South Vermillion High School, attendance is taken each class period and entered into the computer by the teacher. When a student is absent from any class five times and eight times, the Attendance Office will send an e-mail to the parents and a letter home with the student if no e-mail is available. Ten absences (combination of unexcused and non-certified) in one or any class in a semester will result in a student signing an attendance agreement.

### **Attendance Agreements**

When a student has missed one or more classes 10 times or more (combination of unexcused and non-certified), the Assistant Principal will review the attendance agreement with the student and both will sign the agreement.

A letter describing the signed attendance agreement will be e-mailed home to the parent/guardian of the student. A copy of this attendance agreement is available in the SVHS attendance office.

Students who violate the attendance agreement for the first time will be placed in Lunch Detention for one day. A second violation will result in a Tuesday Extension, a third violation will result in a Saturday Detention, a 4<sup>th</sup> violation will result in ASAP. A violation is any absence that is not documented for medical purposes as he/she has already used their allotted absences for the semester. A student who continues to violate the SVHS attendance policy is subject to further disciplinary action up to and including suspension, Vermillion County ASAP program, a loss of credits and expulsion from SVHS for 1 semester.

Students who are placed on an attendance agreement must have all further absences documented as certified.

A student who has entered an Attendance Agreement will not be allowed to participate in any extra-curricular activities at SVHS including the following but not limited to: attending and participating in any school sponsored events, homecoming activities, and prom.

### **Prosecutor Referral**

When a student reaches 16 absences in a semester (combination of unexcused and non-certified) he or she will be referred to the prosecutor's office for a violation of compulsory education laws

## **Homework**

Homework is an integral part of a student's education, and should therefore be completed as per the instructions of the individual teacher. If a student has an excused absence, he/she will have one day for each day missed to make up any missed work for full credit. Parents requesting homework for students are asked to make said request one day prior to picking up materials.

## **Tardiness**

Students will be allowed 5 cumulative tardies, without penalty, per 9 weeks. Students will be assigned a morning detention after a 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> tardy. An 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> tardy will result in a Tuesday Extension. A student receiving a 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> tardy will result in a Saturday Detention. A 12<sup>th</sup> & 13<sup>th</sup> tardy will result in hall restrictions. Any further tardy will result in ASAP. If the tardiness continues, the

progressive discipline policy will take effect. A student who is late to class ten or more minutes will be counted absent and may be considered truant.

## **Prohibited Substances**

### **Tobacco**

Students are not permitted to use or be in possession of any type of tobacco on school grounds. Each tobacco offense will result in progressive disciplinary action

### **Drugs and Alcohol**

Drugs and alcohol infractions are very serious disruptions of the educational process at South Vermillion High School, and will be dealt with severely. The following are violations of the disciplinary code of South Vermillion.

1. No student may possess, use, transmit, or be under the influence of any narcotic drug, hallucinogenic drug, amphetamine, barbiturates, marijuana, alcoholic beverages, stimulant, depressant, or intoxicant of any kind, or any item that closely resembles or is represented to be any of the foregoing items.
2. No student may provide, by sale or otherwise, any substance which he/she represents to be a narcotic drug, hallucinogenic drug, amphetamine, barbiturate, marijuana, alcoholic beverage, stimulant, depressant, or intoxicant of any kind.
3. Students are prohibited from possessing, using, transmitting, or being under the influence of caffeine-based pills, substances containing phenylpropanolamine (PPA), or stimulants of any kind, be they available with or without prescription.
4. No student may possess, provide to another person, or consume any substance referred to as "non alcoholic" beer or wine.
5. No student may be in possession of paraphernalia on school grounds, on the way to school, or on the way home. No student shall construct any items that could be used as paraphernalia in any class.
6. Prescription drugs not prescribed to the student in possession or any transfer of prescription or over-the-counter medications are not permitted.

## **Random Drug Testing Policy**

The drug testing program recommended by the high school drug testing committee emphasizes three primary objectives: 1) to assure the safety of students, 2) to create a positive learning environment, and 3) to ensure that those students who represent South Vermillion High School are drug free.

Safety is a necessity any time students are involved in or en route to a school sponsored activity, and drug free students are necessary for a positive learning environment, whether that environment is the classroom, athletic field or other school related activities. It is illegal, a danger to physical and mental health, and it is an insurmountable obstacle to learning.

### **Introduction**

This program will not affect the policies, practices, or rights of the High School in dealing with drug and/or alcohol possession or use where reasonable suspicion is obtained by means other than the random sampling provided herein. South Vermillion High School reserves the right to test any student, outside the random selection, who at any time exhibits cause for reasonable suspicion of drug and/or alcohol usage. "Reasonable suspicion" is defined to mean that the school believes the behavior, speech, odor, and/or previous test results of a student are indicative of the use of drugs or alcohol.

## **Purpose and Goals**

The primary purpose of this program is not intended to be disciplinary, but rather is intended as a medical diagnostic aid in disclosing possible drug-related problems and as an extension of the school's educational substance abuse programs. Continuing substance abuse obviously is inconsistent with participation in extra-curricular activities, driving, or in the classroom. This substance abuse program includes appropriate procedures for dealing with any such problems.

## **Obligation to Govern the Medical Condition of Students**

Indiana Code 20-8.107 sets out health measures to be governed by school officials. Most specifically, IC 20-8.1-7-2 establishes the responsibility of schools to assist students found to be ill or in need of treatment.

## **School and Community Partnership**

The elimination of drug and alcohol abuse is the goal of this program. Due to the objective facts described above, and considering the established need to identify effective alternatives to address this problem, the substance abuse program at South Vermillion High School needs to be comprehensive enough to ensure the health and safety of our students. A substance abuse-free environment must be the stated goal of the school district. The support and cooperation of the entire community is essential if the goal is to be realized.

## **Result Usage**

The purpose of this program is to identify a student with drug residues in his/her body, to provide notification to the custodial parent/guardian, to educate, and to direct students away from drug and alcohol abuse problems. Our goal is to move toward a healthier, safer, and drug free school environment.

A laboratory certified nurse under the auspices of the Clinical Laboratory Improvement Act (CLIA) and the Joint Commission of Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations (JCAHO) will provide training and directives to those who supervise the testing program and those who guarantee samples.

In the event a student tests positive, he/she along with the custodial parents/guardians will meet with the Principal (or designee), the school nurse (or designee), and/or the athletic director (or designee). During this meeting the positive tests will be reported and the exclusion from activities and/or driving to school will be imposed. Enrollment in a drug education class and/or counseling will also be discussed.

## **Procedure**

Any student in grades 9-12 and his/her parents/guardians must sign a drug testing permission form for the student to be eligible for extra-curricular activities and/or driving to school or athletics.

A urine specimen will be given on site and will involve supervision by the Principal and/or the school nurse, or athletic director. The students to be tested will be escorted from class to the nurse's office. The test result will remain confidential. Only the Principal, Assistant Principal, school nurse, and the Athletic Director (if a school athlete is involved), along with the student and his/her parents will know the results. The student and parents will not be notified if the test is negative.

Students will be tested randomly and are selected by the lab on a weekly basis. Testing can take place on any given day of the week, Monday through Saturday. Students should be aware that they can be tested at any time during the year. Each student will be assigned a number and that number will be placed in the weekly drawing pool. After a student's number is drawn, it will be returned to the pool of students and may be drawn more than once during the year.

A strict method of collecting specimens will be adhered to, so as to eliminate the possibility of tampering with the specimens, which could result in invalid tests. Each student will remain under school supervision until he/she has produced an adequate specimen. If he/she cannot produce a urine specimen, the student will be given one eight-ounce glass of water. If he/she is still unable to produce a specimen within two hours, the student will no longer be eligible for any of the activities/privileges referred to earlier. In addition, parents/guardians will be telephoned and informed of the student's inability to provide a specimen for the testing procedure. The parents will be informed that the student may be tested at a later date to be reinstated for eligibility.

All specimens registering below 90.5 degrees or above 99.8 degrees Fahrenheit will be invalidated. There is a heat strip on each specimen bottle indicating the validity of the urine sample. If this occurs, the student must give another sample. If it is proven that tampering or cheating has occurred during the testing, the student will be ineligible for all privileges/activities described in this document for the remainder of the school year. Parents will be notified as soon as possible. Immediately after the specimen is taken, the student may return to class with an admit slip indicating the time he/she left the testing area.

If a student exhibits signs of being under the influence of drugs or alcohol, the Principal (or designee) may call the student's parents and ask that he/she be tested. Factors leading to suspicion of being under the influence will include, but are not limited to: 1) excessive discipline problems, and/or (2) excessive absences from school. A parent may also request testing of his/her child at their expense. Any student who is placed in a testing pool will remain in that pool until he/she has notified South Vermillion High School. The student and custodial parents/guardians must sign a "withdrawal of consent" form before a student's name will be removed from the pool. Once the form is signed and the name is removed, all corresponding privileges will be null and void to the student for 365 days. After the 365 days has elapsed, he/she may re-enter the testing pool by signing a Drug Testing Consent Form.

When a student transfers to South Vermillion High School, he/she would be eligible for activities/privileges upon completion of transfer forms, SVHS Driver's Form and Drug Testing Consent Form.

### **Penalty for Positive Test for Nicotine**

1<sup>st</sup> Positive Test – An administrator (or designee) will contact the student and the parent(s). There will be NO penalty involving drivers or extra-curricular activities. The sponsor, director, or coach may penalize the student for his/her activity. The student must agree to another test (at the student's/parent's expense) within 30 days. If the student refuses the second test, he/she loses activity/driving privileges for 42 days.

2<sup>nd</sup> Positive Test – An administrator (or designee) will notify the student and parent(s). The student will lose activity/driving privileges for 42 days. The student will be tested again (at the student's/parent's expense) in order to regain lost privileges. If the student refuses this test he/she loses activity/driving privileges for ONE CALENDAR YEAR.

3<sup>rd</sup> and Subsequent Positive Test(s) – An administrator (or designee) will contact the student and the parent(s). The student will lose activity/driving privileges for ONE CALENDAR YEAR. The student will be tested again (at the student's/parent's expense) at the end of the penalty in order to regain privileges.

## **Penalty for Positive Test for Drugs and Alcohol**

In the event a student tests positive, he/she along with the custodial parents/guardians will meet with the Principal (or designee), Athletic Director (or designee), or Sponsor (or designee). During this meeting, the positive testing will be discussed and the exclusion of activities will be stated.

The student and custodial parents/guardians will be told that a restriction from participating in any of the listed activities and/or driving to school will be implemented for at least 42 days.

The student or his/her custodial guardians may appeal by requesting the urine sample (kept by the analyzing lab for 1 year) be tested again by an approved at the cost of the student and his/her custodial parents/guardians.

To be able to resume the privileges of participating in activities and/or driving to school, the student will be tested again at the expense of the student or his/her custodial parents/guardians. This testing will occur at the conclusion (or soon after) of the 42 day restriction from activities. Upon reinstatement to activities, the student will be tested periodically (perhaps monthly) for the next three months at the expense of the student or custodial parents/guardians.

If the student tests positive a second time, the student will be restricted for activities and/or driving to school for ONE CALENDAR YEAR. This restriction begins from the time the student and custodial parents/guardians are notified. Multiple positive results from testing are indicative of continued substance use and will mean that the student will be referred for professional evaluation by the parent.

## **Test Results Reporting Procedure**

The drug-testing program seeks to provide needed help for students who test positive. The school will also administer action in accordance with the school policy. The safety factor will be the primary reason for restricting students from participating in driving to school and school activities.

The school nurse or the Principal (or designee) will be notified by the lab if a sample tests positive. The student, along with the custodial parent/guardian, will meet in person with the Principal (or designee), and/or the Athletic Director (or designee). The meeting will occur in the administrator's school office. The administrator will discuss the positive test and inform the student and parents of the loss of privileges and request that they seek professional help for the student. The administrator (or designee) will provide the parents with the names of agencies that can be of help to the student. The Principal, Assistant Principal, school nurse, or Athletic Director, the student who tested positive, and the parents/guardians will be the only persons aware of the positive test. Information on a positive test result will be share on a need-to-know basis with the appropriate coach and/or sponsor.

## **Discipline Chart**

Discipline violations and penalties are based upon the entire school year. The chart below does not encompass all potential violations of the disciplinary code. Some example infractions and normal penalties are shown, but the known facts of a violation may alter the final penalty assessment. The school administration reserves the right to change/alter any discipline violations and penalties in a situation not involving state or federal statutes. Law enforcement officials will be contacted on any instances deemed necessary.

WC	VIOLATION	1 <sup>st</sup> REPORT	2 <sup>nd</sup> REPORT	3 <sup>rd</sup> REPORT

<b>Minor Offenses</b>				
<b>1</b>	Distractive body piercing	Warning and appropriate change	1 day MD	TE to ISBM
<b>2</b>	Improper attire	Warning/change. Use of class time unexcused	1 day MD	TE to ISBM
<b>3</b>	Inappropriate display of affection	1 day MD	1 day TE	1 -3 days of ISBM
<b>4</b>	Cell phone violation	Cell phone confiscated and returned after school	Cell phone confiscated 1 days MD	Cell phone confiscated and 1 day TE
<b>6</b>	Inappropriate language	1 day MD	1 day TE	2 days TE to ISBM
<b>7</b>	Vandalism (minor)	1 day TE	2 days TE	ISBM
<b>8</b>	Uncooperative with school personnel/Insubordination	1 day TE	ISBM	SS to ASAP
<b>9</b>	Sleeping in class	Warning and teacher contact with parents	1 day MD	1 day TE to 1-3 days of ISBM
<b>Disruptive Behavior Offenses</b>				
<b>10</b>	Classroom talking or misbehavior	1 day MD	1 day TE	ISBM/SS
<b>11</b>	Disruptive in hallways, office, or on school grounds	1 day MD	1 day TE	ISBM/SS
<b>12</b>	Improper conduct in the cafeteria	1 day MD	1 day TE	ISBM/SS
<b>Attendance Offenses</b>				
<b>13</b>	Excessive tardies (based on nine weeks)	<b>Up to 5 total:</b> Warning to student by teacher	<b>Tardy 6 &amp; 7:</b> MD/LD	<b>Tardy 8 &amp; 9:</b> TE
		<b>Tardy 10 &amp; 11:</b> Saturday Detention	<b>Tardy 12 &amp; 13:</b> Hall Restrictions	<b>Tardy 14 and On:</b> ASAP
<b>14</b>	Leaving class without permission	1 day ISBM	Saturday Detention	3 days ASAP
<b>15</b>	Failure to Sign in/out at attendance office	Lunch Detention	1 day TE	Saturday School
<b>16</b>	Cutting class (partial attendance)	1 day ISBM	Saturday School	3 days ASAP
<b>17</b>	Truancy (based on semester)	1 day ISBM	Saturday School	3 days ASAP
<b>18</b>	Writing fictitious attendance notes or phone calls	2 days TE	2 days ISBM	1-5 days ASAP
<b>19</b>	Attending extra-curricular activities w/out attending school	1 day TE	1 day of ISBM	3 days ASAP
<b>Failure to Serve</b>				
<b>20</b>	Failure to attend or complete MD	Makeup MD plus 1 more day of MD	Tuesday Extension	Saturday School
<b>21</b>	Failure to attend or complete TE	Makeup TE plus 1 more day of TE	Saturday School	3 days ASAP
<b>22</b>	Failure to attend or complete ISBM	Saturday School	3 days ASAP	5 days ASAP
<b>23</b>	4 <sup>th</sup> , 5 <sup>th</sup> , 6 <sup>th</sup> , 7 <sup>th</sup> , and additional Failure To Serves will range from ASAP, OSS, or recommendation of Expulsion at the discretion of the administrator.			

<b>Miscellaneous Offenses</b>				
24	Cheating and/or Plagiarism	Grade of "0" for the item	Grade of "0" for the item and 1 day TE	Grade of "0" for item, 1 day Saturday Detention
25	Driving/Parking violation	Warning/penalty or driving suspension	1-3 days TE and driving suspension	Driving privilege revoked
26	Violation of computer policy	Loss of computer privileges to 2 days TE depending on the severity of the violation		
27	Bus infraction	Discipline will be determined by severity of act		
28	Misbehavior during an Emergency Drill	1 day TE	Saturday School	3 days ASAP
29	Horse play resulting in injury	Ranging from Tuesday Extension to ASAP		
<b>Language &amp; Violent Behavior Offenses</b>				
30	Conduct or Language directed at a student	1 day TE to 3 days ISBM/OSS		
31	Conduct or Language directed at a staff member	1-3 day ISBM up to days of ASAP and rec. expulsion		
32	Rude/Insubordinate to school personnel	2 days TE to 2 days ASAP	3 days TE to 3 days ASAP	2-10 days of ASAP and rec. for expulsion
33	Bullying any student, teacher, other school employee, or visitor	1-3 TE to 2-10 days ASAP May rec. expulsion	2-10 days of ASAP May rec. expulsion	5-10 days of ASAP May rec. for expulsion
		Parent notification will be attempted within 1 business day of substantiation of allegations.		
		Offender will serve penalties above, and in addition, will complete bullying education counseling with school Guidance Department. Following completion of school-offered counseling, a follow-up appointment will be made with Guidance Department to gauge progress and monitor any further developments.		
34	Threatening or intimidating any student, teacher, other school employee, or visitor	1-3 days of TE to 2-10 days ASAP/OSS and may rec. expulsion	2-10 days of ASAP/OSS and may rec. expulsion	5-10 days of ASAP/OSS and may rec. for expulsion
35	Threats/harassment to school personnel	2-10 days of ASAP May rec. expulsion	10 days of ASAP/OSS and rec. for expulsion	
36	Physical attack on a student	10 days ASAP/OSS and recommend expulsion		
37	Physical attack on Staff member	10 days ASAP and recommend expulsion		
38	Fighting	3-5 days ASAP	10 days OSS and recommend expulsion	
<b>Prohibited Substance Offenses</b>				
39	Possession/Use/Sale of Tobacco or look-alike subs/including e-cigarettes	1 day ISBM, Referral to Student Assistance Program	3 days of ASAP	10 days of OSS, Recommendation for Expulsion for the remainder of semester
40	Alcohol poss/use/sale, or under the influence (or look-alike substance)	10 days of ASAP/OSS and may recommendation for Expulsion for two semesters		
41	Poss/Sale of Drug Paraphernalia	10 days of OSS and may recommend for expulsion for two semesters		
42	Drug use/huffing/poss/sale or under the influence/or look-alike substance	10 days of OSS and may recommend for expulsion for two semester		
<b>Weapon Offenses</b>				

43	Possession/sale of weapons other than firearms/deadly weapons	3-10 days of ASAP May rec. expulsion	5-10 days of ASAP May rec. expulsion	10 days of ASAP May rec. expulsion
44	Poss/Use/Sale/Threat with deadly weapon other than a firearm.	10 days OSS and recommend expulsion		
45	Poss/Use/Sale/Threat with a handgun loaded or destructive devices	Required expulsion		
46	Poss/Use/Sale/Threat with rifles or shotguns loaded or destructive devices	Required expulsion		
47	Poss/Use/Sale/Threat with other firearms or destructive devices	Required expulsion		
48	Poss/Use/Sale/Threat with Firecrackers & other Explosives	5-10 days ASAP May rec. expulsion		
<b>Other Major Offenses</b>				
49	Vandalism (neglect)	Restitution and 1-2 days TE	Restitution and 1-3 days ISBM	Restitution and 2-10 days ASAP
50	Vandalism (major)	Restitution and 2-10 days of ASAP	Restitution and 10 days of ASAP and may rec. expulsion	
51	Theft	Restitution and/or 2-10 days of ASAP	Restitution and/or/to 10 days of ASAP And may rec. expulsion	
52	Failure or refusal to identify yourself to school personnel	1 day ISBM	2-10 days of ASAP and may rec. expulsion	
53	Gang activity	5-10 days ASAP and may rec. expulsion	10 days ASAP and may rec. expulsion	
54	Falsely pulling fire alarm	Restitution, 10 days ASAP/OSS, may recommend for expulsion		
<b>Habitual Offender Protocol</b>				
55	Excessive TE	3 days of ASAP instead of the 9 <sup>th</sup> incident of TE	5 days ASAP instead of the 10 <sup>h</sup> incident of TE	10 days of ASAP May rec. for expulsion
56	Excessive ASAP	Two incidents of ASAP or an accumulation of more than 10 days of ASAP may result in a recommendation for expulsion		
57	Excessive OSS	Two incidents of OSS will result in recommendation for expulsion. Also, by State Law, the 2 <sup>nd</sup> OSS will result in the school filing to have the student's license invalidated		
58	Habitual/Repeat Offender	An accumulation of 10 disciplinary referrals constitutes a continual disruption to the school and will be grounds for expulsion at the discretion of the principal or his designee		
59	Habitual Failure to Serve	An accumulation of 5 Failure to Serves for failing to attend assigned discipline consequences will result in three days of ASAP or OSS.		