

# DREW CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL

## STUDENT HANDBOOK 2023 - 2024



### **VISION**

*Drew Central High School is providing a quality education to all students in preparing them to be college, career and community engagement ready.*

### **MISSION**

*Drew Central High School strives to educate the whole person by ensuring an outstanding and safe learning environment which nurtures the unique talents of the individual student.*

**Drew Central Board of Education**

Gary Lucas, President

Laura Whitaker, Vice President

Rene' Knowles, Secretary

Curley Jackson, Member

Bruce Hackett, Member

Kimbraly Barnes, Superintendent of Schools

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Drew Central School District Website

<http://www.drewcentral.org>

Telephone Numbers/Fax:

Drew Central Elementary Office	870-367-6893
Drew Central Middle School	870-367-5235
Drew Central High School	870-367-6076
Superintendent's Office	870-367-5369
Special Education LEA Fax	870-367-4339
Superintendent's Fax	870-367-4330
Drew Central Gym & Cafeteria	870-367-6011
Bus Shop	870-367-4150

## **Consequences for Handbook Infractions**

\* The Student Handbook policies were approved by the Drew Central School Board on July 27, 2023.

The policies listed below are located in the Drew Central School District handbook. Consequences for any infractions listed in the student handbook can be, but not limited to, any combination of the following at the administrator's discretion.

- warning
- student conference with an administrator, counselor, and/or teacher
- parent conference with an administrator, counselor, and/or teacher
- before school, lunch, or after school detention
- loss of recess
- in school suspension (ISS)
- out of school suspension (OSS)
- reverse suspension
- corporal punishment
- mental health recommendation
- law enforcement contact
- expulsion
- confiscation
- retention
- FINS

## DAILY SCHEDULE 2023 - 2024

1st Period	7:52 - 8:42
2nd Period	8:46 - 9:36
3rd Period	9:40 - 10:30
4th Period	10:34 - 11:24
11/12 Lunch & 9/10 RTI	11:24 - 11:54
9/10 Lunch & 11/12 RTI	11:54 - 12:24
5th Period	12:28 - 1:18
6th Period	1:22 - 2:12
7th Period	2:16 - 3:06

### **Drew Central High School Faculty and Staff**

Brandi Anthony, Business  
Chris Bayless, Band  
Maggie Brown, Special Needs  
Christopher Bussell, EAST Facilitator, Computer Science  
Laikyn Preslee Carter, Science, Cheer  
Gabrielle Causey, English  
Rebecca Dominquez-Ganoa, Math  
Trent Fisher, In-School Suspension  
Aaron Goad, Health and P.E., Baseball  
Michael Goad, Dean of Students, Girls Basketball  
LaReina Grundy, English  
Allison Harris, Social Studies  
Susan Hennell, Math

Toni Jacobs, Counselor  
Lee Ann James, Science, Department Chair, Testing Coordinator  
Tara Lee, Administrative Assistant  
Brittney Leek, Agriculture  
Michelle Lloyd, Paraprofessional  
Randy Luper, Registrar  
Chandler Mercer, Social Studies, Asst. Basketball/Football  
Lisa Michele McInnis, Math  
Nancy McKeown, Administrative Assistant  
Katie Meier, Art  
Allison Neill, Math  
Madison Phillips, Choir, Madrigals  
Kenny Pennington, Principal  
Tyler Raines, Science  
Vanessa Rangel, Paraprofessional  
DarShauna Shepherd, Assistant Principal, Cheer  
Elizabeth Simpson, Paraprofessional  
Emily Smith, English  
Angela Snuffer, English  
Stephanie Teel, Media Specialist, Journalism, Yearbook  
Penny Vance, Family & Consumer Science  
Charles (CJ) Watson, PE, Boys Basketball, Football  
Larry White, Football, ALE Director, Math  
Chris Williams, Business, Asst. Football  
Colton Williams, Social Studies, Girls Basketball, Asst. Softball



## **TABLE OF CONTENTS**

- 3.15 - INSULT OR ABUSE OF A TEACHER
- 4.10 - CLOSED CAMPUS
- 4.15 - CONTACT WITH STUDENTS WHILE AT SCHOOL
- 4.19 - CONDUCT TO & FROM SCHOOL & TRANSPORTATION ELIGIBILITY
- 4.21 - STUDENT ASSAULT OR BATTERY
- 4.22 - WEAPONS AND DANGEROUS INSTRUMENTS
- 4.23 - TOBACCO, ELECTRONIC NICOTINE DELIVERY SYSTEMS (VAPE) & RELATED PRODUCTS
- 4.24 – DRUGS & ALCOHOL
- 4.25 – STUDENT DRESS & GROOMING
- 4.30 - SUSPENSION FROM SCHOOL
- 4.33 - STUDENT VEHICLES
- 4.35 - MEDICATIONS
- 4.36 - STUDENT ILLNESS/ACCIDENT
- 4.39 - CORPORAL PUNSHINMENT
- 4.43 - BULLYING
- 4.44 - NATIONAL ANTHEM
- 4.45 - SMART CORE CURRICULUM & GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS FOR CLASS OF 2024 & 2025
- 4.45.1 - SMART CORE CURRICULUM & GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS FOR CLASS OF 2026
- 4.45.2 - SMART CORE CURRICULUM & GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS FOR CLASS OF 2027 & THEREAFTER
- 4.46 - PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
- 4.47 - POSSESSION & USE OF CELL PHONES & OTHER ELECTRONIC DEVICES
- 4.48 - VIDEO SURVEILLANCE AND OTHER STUDENT MONITORING
- 4.56 - EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITY – SECONDARY SCHOOLS
- 4.56.2 - EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITY ELIGIBILITY FOR HOME SCHOOLED STUDENTS
- 4.60 - STUDENT BEHAVIORAL INTERVENTION & RESTRAINT
- 4.7 - ABSENCES
- 4.8 - MAKE-UP WORK
- 4.9 - TARDIES
- 5.11 - DIGITAL LEARNING COURSES
- 5.13 - HOMEWORK
- 5.16 - HONOR GRADUATES
- 5.19 - ARKANSAS COURSE CHOICE PROGRAM
- 5.21 - ADVANCED PLACEMENT, INTERNATIONAL BACCALAUREATE, & HONORS COURSES
- COLLEGE COURSES
- 5.24 - ALTERNATIVE LEARNING ENVIRONMNET
- 6.4 - VOLUNTEERS
- 6.5 - VISITORS TO THE SCHOOLS
- ACADEMIC IMPROVEMENT PLAN (AIP)
- ARKANSAS ACADEMIC CHALLENGE SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM
- ARKANSAS MATH AND SCIENCE SCHOOL (ASMS) SENIORS
- ARSON
- ATHLETICS
- BEHAVIOR NOT COVERED

BETA CLUB  
CHEATING/PLAGIARISM  
CLASS OFFICERS  
COLLEGE DAY OUT  
COMMUNICATING A DEATH THREAT  
COMMUNICATING FALSE ALARMS  
CONDUCT GRADES  
CORRESPONDENCE WORK  
DAMAGE OR DESTRUCTION OF SCHOOL PROPERTY  
DEAD WEEK  
DETENTION HALL  
DISCIPLINE FOR STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES  
EXAMINATION EXEMPTION POLICY  
EXCEPTIONAL SENIOR AWARD  
FAMILY, CAREER AND COMMUNITY LEADERS OF AMERICA (FCCLA)  
FIGHTING  
FIREWORKS  
FOOD AND DRINK IN CLASSROOMS  
FUTURE BUSINESS LEADERS OF AMERICA (FBLA)  
FUTURE FARMERS OF AMERICA (FFA)  
GAMBLING  
GIFTED AND TALENTED/ADVANCED PLACEMENT  
GRADING POLICY  
GUIDANCE DEPARTMENT  
HOME ACCESS CENTER (HAC)  
HOMECOMING  
HONOR ROLL  
HONORS DIPLOMA  
IN SCHOOL SUSPENSION  
INSUBORDINATION-DISRESPECTFULNESS  
JR/SR PROM  
LIBRARY CLUB  
LOCKERS  
MONIES OWED TO SCHOOL, CLUBS OR CLASSES  
MUSIC ACTIVITIES  
NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY (SENIOR)  
NONDISCRIMINATORY POLICY NOTIFICATION  
PARENTAL CONSENT FOR MEDICAL/DENTAL TREATMENT ON SCHOOL TRIPS  
PARENTAL NOTIFICATION OF STUDENT MISCONDUCT  
PARKING PERMIT POLICY  
PERIOD OF SILENCE  
PUBLIC DISPLAYS OF AFFECTION  
QUALIFICATIONS FOR HOLDING OFFICE  
QUIZ BOWL  
RACIAL OR ETHNIC SLURS  
REPEATING COURSES  
SCHEDULE CHANGES  
SECTION 504  
SPECIAL REPORTS  
STUDENT AUTOMOBILES

STUDENT BEHAVIOR ON SCHOOL TRIPS  
STUDENT COUNCIL  
STUDENT EXPENSES ON SCHOOL TRIPS  
TEACHER REMOVAL OF STUDENT FROM CLASS  
TEACHER/PARENT CONTACTS  
TELEPHONES  
TEXTBOOKS  
THE PIRATE YEARBOOK  
THEFT  
TITLE IX POLICY  
TRUANCY  
UNCONDITIONAL ADMISSION TO AN ARKANSAS PUBLIC COLLEGE OR UNIVERSITY

### **3.15 INSULT OR ABUSE OF A TEACHER**

Definitions:

"Assault" is the willful attempt or threat to inflict injury upon the person of another, coupled with the apparent present ability to do so. Any display of force that would give the victim reason to fear bodily harm is assault, even if touching or striking does not occur.

"Battery" is similar to assault, but requires unexcused physical touching or injury.

"Abuse" means to wrong in speech, reproach coarsely, disparage, revile, or malign. Use of profanity or vulgar expressions directed at another person is considered abuse.

Consequences: Parent contact and Out of School Suspension, or expulsion may be administered as a consequence. Criminal charges may be filed.

### **4.7 ABSENCES**

Please see the Drew Central School District policy.

#### **ADMITTANCE PROCEDURES FOLLOWING AN ABSENCE:**

1. Students must have a note from a parent/guardian or a doctor containing the student's first and last name, date of the absent and the reason for the absence, a parent/guardian's signature, a phone number where parent/guardian can be reached for verification on the day he/she returns to school or the absence may be considered unexcused.
2. Students are to pick up their admittance note at the office window at the 7:45 bell in the morning before the go to class bell rings. Failure to obtain an admit slip on the day the student arrives back to campus will result in an assignment to noon detention.
3. Students who do not bring a note from a parent/guardian or doctor's office on the first day back to school will be given 24 hours to bring the note to the office window. Students who do not bring a note will be given noon detention once the 24-hour time or next day has expired.
4. Students who arrive on campus any time after the first period tardy bell must sign in at the office window and receive a pass before reporting to class.

5. Students must make arrangements for any missed assignments with their teachers.
6. A student shall not forge or falsify any note, hall pass, student scheduling information forms.

**A student is absent if the student is not:**

1. present for onsite instruction provided by the district,
2. participating in a planned district-approved activity, or
3. engaged in scheduled instruction at an off-site location, including remote learning.

**EXCUSED ABSENCE FOR DRIVER LICENSE TEST**

**Only one** excused absence shall be allowed to take the Driver's License written test, and **one** excused absence to take the Driver's License road test. Documentation must be presented.

**4.8 MAKE UP WORK**

Please see the Drew Central School District policy.

**4.9 TARDIES**

Prompt arrival at school and to each class is expected of all students. High School students are not allowed to gather with middle school students during mornings or during the school day at any time. Late arrival disrupts class and causes loss of instructional time. Students arriving after the tardy bell will be marked tardy. Consequences will be assigned to students who arrive late to their assigned location.  
\*A student will not be counted tardy due to the arrival of a late bus on which the student is riding.

Students who are tardy for any period must come to the office to check-in and pick up a tardy slip to present to their teacher. If a student is 15 minutes late, this will be considered an absence. Students are expected to be present for class on time and prepared with all necessary materials to participate in class.

Violation of this policy within a nine-week grading period will result in:  
First (1) Unexcused Tardy: One (1) day of Detention Hall  
Two (2) Unexcused Tardies: Two (2) days of Detention Hall  
Three (3) Unexcused Tardies: Three (3) days of Detention Hall  
Four (4) Unexcused Tardies: Two (2) days of in In School Suspension (ISS).  
Five (5) Unexcused Tardies: Three (3) days of In School Suspension (ISS).  
Six (6) Unexcused Tardies: Five (5) days of In School Suspension (ISS).

A student who accumulates more than 6 unexcused tardies in a nine-week grading period will be placed under administrative review of their placement in school through a parent conference. Tardies start over every nine weeks.

#### 4.10 - CLOSED CAMPUS

Drew Central High School has a closed campus. Students are expected to remain on campus throughout the school day. Students with a medical appointment should present a written note or have a parent/guardian telephone the office before the student will be allowed to leave campus.

Parents are discouraged from checking students out of school for reasons other than medical appointments or emergencies. Students who check out of class during any part of a class period will be marked absent from that class period unless the student presents a note from a doctor, dentist, or court officer upon their return to school verifying that a student had a bona fide appointment that required the student to be checked out of class. Other class periods missed as a result of the appointment will be marked as absent. Students who become sick during class hours may be evaluated at the NURSE'S OFFICE, but must check out through the PRINCIPAL'S OFFICE: students will not be allowed to go home unless a parent is notified by phone or in person and gives permission.

Students are to check in and out through the PRINCIPAL'S OFFICE when arriving at school late or leaving early during the school day. Students who are to leave campus for any reason during school hours must obtain permission from the PRINCIPAL'S OFFICE; "sign out" in the office and "sign in" when he/she returns. **Students may not be checked out by text message.**

A student's parent/guardian will be required to telephone the office before a student is allowed to "sign out". Failure to "sign out" will result in violation of the truancy policy. **The lunch time student "Sign In" and "Sign Out" policy will require the parent/guardian to come, in person, to give permission to leave campus for the lunch period. Students also need to sign in at the principal's office when they return to campus.**

**If lunch is brought to the student, it must be eaten inside the cafeteria.**

#### 4.15 CONTACT WITH STUDENTS WHILE AT SCHOOL

Section 1. (a) In order to avoid continuing child custody controversies from involving public school personnel, and to avoid disruptions to the educational atmosphere in our public schools, the transfer of a child between the child's custodial parent and non-custodial parent, when both parents are present, is prohibited from taking place on the property of a public elementary or secondary school on normal school days during normal hours of school operations.

Section 1. (b) The provisions of this act shall not prohibit one parent (custodial or non-custodial) from picking the child up from school at pre-arranged times on pre-arranged days if prior approval has been made with the school's principal.

Come to school, meet us, talk to us and volunteer your time and energy. Your involvement will show your children that you value their education.

Parents count! Let's work together!

#### 4.19 - CONDUCT TO & FROM SCHOOL & TRANSPORTATION ELIGIBILITY

The District's Student Code of conduct applies to students while traveling to and from school or to and from a school activity to the same extent as if the students were on school grounds. Appropriate disciplinary actions may be taken against commuting students who violate the District's Student Code of Conduct.

## 4.21 STUDENT ASSAULT OR BATTERY

The principal or principal designee will have discretion in administering other consequences for the student's conduct, based on the severity of the situation.

## 4.22 - WEAPONS AND DANGEROUS INSTRUMENTS

### Definitions

"Firearm" means any device designed, made, or adapted to expel a projectile by the action of an explosive or any device readily convertible to that use.

"Possession" means having a weapon on the student's body or in an area under the student's control.

"Weapon" means any:

- Firearm;
- Knife;
- Razor;
- Ice pick;
- Dirk;
- Box cutter;
- Nunchucks;
- Pepper spray, mace, or other noxious spray;
- Explosive;
- Taser or other instrument that uses electrical current to cause neuromuscular incapacitation; or
- Any other instrument or substance capable of causing bodily harm.

No student, except for Military personnel (such as ROTC cadets) acting in the course of their official duties or as otherwise expressly permitted by this policy, shall possess a weapon, display what appears to be a weapon, or threaten to use a weapon before or after school while:

- In a school building;
- On or about school property;
- At any school sponsored activity or event;
- On route to or from school or any school sponsored activity; or
- Off the school grounds at any school bus stop.

If a student discovers prior to any questioning or search by any school personnel that he/she has accidentally brought a weapon, other than a firearm, to school on his/her person, in a book bag/purse, or in his/her vehicle on school grounds, and the student informs the principal or a staff person immediately, the student will not be considered to be in possession of a weapon unless it is a firearm. The weapon shall be confiscated and held in the office until such time as the student's parent/legal guardian shall pick up the weapon from the school's office. Repeated offenses are unacceptable and shall be grounds for disciplinary action against the student as otherwise provided for in this policy.

Except as permitted in this policy, students found to be in possession on the school campus of a firearm shall be recommended for expulsion for a period of one (1) year. The superintendent shall have the discretion to modify such expulsion recommendation for a student on a case-by-case basis.

Parents or legal guardians of students expelled under this policy shall be given a copy of the current laws regarding the possibility of parental responsibility for allowing a child to possess a firearm on school property. Parents or legal guardians shall sign a statement acknowledging that they have read and

understand said laws prior to readmitting the student. Parents or legal guardians of a student enrolling from another school after the expiration of an expulsion period for a firearm policy violation shall also be given a copy of the current laws regarding the possibility of parental responsibility for allowing a child to possess a firearm on school property. The parents or legal guardians shall sign a statement acknowledging that they have read and understand said laws prior to the student being enrolled in school.

The mandatory expulsion requirement for possession of a firearm does not apply to a firearm brought to school for the purpose of participating in activities approved and authorized by the district that include the use of firearms. Such activities may include ROTC programs; hunting safety or military education; or before or after-school hunting or rifle clubs. Firearms brought to school for such purposes shall be brought to the school employee designated to receive such firearms. The designated employee shall store the firearms in a secure location until they are removed for use in the approved activity.

The district shall report any student who brings a firearm to school to the criminal justice system or juvenile delinquency system by notifying local law enforcement.

#### **4.23 - Tobacco, Electronic Nicotine Delivery Systems (Vape), and Related Products**

Smoking or use of tobacco or products containing tobacco in any form (including, but not limited to, cigarettes, cigars, chewing tobacco, and snuff) in or on any real property owned or leased by a District school, including school buses owned or leased by the District, is prohibited. Students who violate this policy may be subject to legal proceedings in addition to student disciplinary measures.

With the exception of recognized tobacco cessation products, this policy's prohibition includes any tobacco or nicotine delivery system or product. Specifically, the prohibition includes any product that is manufactured, distributed, marketed, or sold as e-cigarettes, e-cigars, e-pipes, or under any other name or descriptor.

#### **4.24 – DRUGS AND ALCOHOL**

An orderly and safe school environment that is conducive to promoting student achievement requires a student population free from the deleterious effects of alcohol and drugs. Their use is illegal, disruptive to the educational environment, and diminishes the capacity of students to learn and function properly in our schools.

Therefore, no student in the Drew Central School District shall possess, attempt to possess, consume, use, distribute, sell, buy, attempt to sell, attempt to buy, give to any person, or be under the influence of any substance as defined in this policy, or what the student represents or believes to be any substance as defined in this policy. This policy applies to any student who: is on or about school property; is in attendance at school or any school sponsored activity; has left the school campus for any reason and returns to the campus; or is on route to or from school or any school sponsored activity.

Prohibited substances shall include, but are not limited to: alcohol, or any alcoholic beverage; inhalants or any ingestible matter that alter a student's ability to act, think, or respond; LSD, or any other hallucinogen; marijuana; cocaine, heroin, or any other narcotic drug; PCP; amphetamines; steroids; "designer drugs"; look-alike drugs; or any controlled substance.

The sale, distribution, or attempted sale or distribution of over-the-counter (OTC) medications, dietary supplement or other perceived health remedy not regulated by the US Food and Drug Administration, or prescription drugs is prohibited. The possession or use of OTC medications, dietary supplement or other perceived health remedy not regulated by the US Food and Drug Administration, or prescription drugs is prohibited except as permitted under Policy 4.35—STUDENT MEDICATIONS.

#### 4.25 – STUDENT DRESS & GROOMING

The Drew Central Board of Education recognizes that dress can be a matter of personal taste and preference. At the same time, the District has a responsibility to promote an environment conducive to student learning. This requires limitations to student dress and grooming that could be disruptive to the educational process because they are immodest, disruptive, unsanitary, and unsafe, could cause property damage, or are offensive to common standards of decency. Legal Reference: A.C.A. § 6-18-502(c)(1) A.C.A. § 6-18-503(c) APPROPRIATE DRESS FOR SCHOOL:

1. Shorts, skirts or dresses which have no holes, slits, tears that show skin and have a hemmed bottom edge(s) no shorter than three inches (the height of a \$1 bill horizontally) from the top of the knee when standing; no spandex will be allowed.
2. Pants/slacks with no holes, slits, tears that show skin three inches (the height of a \$1 bill horizontally) from the top of the knee.
3. "NO SAGGING". Sagging is defined as wearing the waistband of slacks, pants, shorts or skirts below the natural waistline. Sagging will be determined by the outermost layer of clothing. A belt is required for oversized pants.
4. Tops must have at least two-inch-wide straps, no sagging armholes, and a body length which will cover the waist. Tank-type tops, halter tops, Crop tops, Tube tops, and/or spaghetti strap tops are not acceptable for school wear.
5. Clothing with no vulgar, obscene, suggestive or offensive messages or which advertise or support drugs, alcohol or tobacco.
6. Caps, hats, visors, scarves, bandannas, and sunglasses are not to be worn in any school building by either boys or girls. Those items worn inside any building will be taken and kept by the principal.
7. Blouses and shirts must cover the buttocks when worn with leggings and meet the requirements of #1 above.
8. Shoes will be worn at all times while at school.
9. Jewelry depicting drugs or other inappropriate symbols will not be allowed.
10. Any see-through, low-cut, or extremely tight clothing which makes underclothing visible, or is suggestive, will be prohibited.
11. All clothing must be properly worn. (Snaps snapped, buckles buckled, buttons buttoned, zippers zipped, etc.)
12. House shoes, pajamas, blankets and bath robes are not to be worn at school.
13. Students are prohibited from wearing, while on the grounds of a public school during the regular school day and at school-sponsored activities and events, clothing that exposes underwear, buttocks, or the breast of a female.

### **4.30 - SUSPENSION FROM SCHOOL**

Students who are not present at school cannot benefit from the educational opportunities the school environment affords. Administrators, therefore, shall strive to find ways to keep students in school as participants in the educational process. There are instances, however, when the needs of the other students or the interests of the orderly learning environment require the removal of a student from school. The Board authorizes school principals or their designees to suspend students for disciplinary reasons for a period of time not to exceed ten (10) school days, including the day upon which the suspension is imposed. The suspension may be in school or out of school. Students are responsible for their conduct that occurs:

- At any time on the school grounds;
- Off school grounds at a school-sponsored function, activity, or event; and
- Going to and from school or a school activity.

While assigned to In School or Out of School Suspension, a student may not participate in or attend any school activities involving Drew Central Schools at home or away. If a student attempts to do so, he/she will be asked to leave and will be assigned one extra day of In School or Out of Suspension.

#### **In-School Suspension**

The purpose of In School Suspension is to provide an opportunity for the student to re-evaluate his/her role as a student. The In-School Suspension is a structured environment using the "merit" system. If the student follows the rules of In School Suspension, that student will "merit" the right to return to the regular classroom after the original assignment has been completed. The assignment to In School Suspension can and will be extended if the student's conduct is not satisfactory.

Each day missed of an In-School Suspension assignment due to excused or unexcused absences must be made up. All absences will result in making the day up and serving one extra day.

If a student transfers to another school district before completing his/her In School Suspension assignment, that student will be required to complete the assignment before returning to regular classes at Drew Central.

### **4.33 - STUDENT VEHICLES**

A student, who has presented a valid driver's license and proof of insurance to the appropriate office personnel, may drive his/her vehicle to school. Vehicles driven to school shall be parked in the area designated for student parking. Parking on school property is a privilege which may be denied to a student for any disciplinary violation, at the discretion of the student's building principal.

Students are not permitted to loiter in parking areas and are not to return to their vehicles for any reason unless given permission to do so by school personnel.

It is understood that there is no expectation of privacy in vehicles in parking areas. Drivers of vehicles parked on a school campus will be held accountable for illegal substances or any other item prohibited by District policy found in their vehicle. The act of a student parking a vehicle on campus is a grant of permission for school or law enforcement authorities to search that vehicle.

## **STUDENT AUTOMOBILES**

Students may drive automobiles to school as they and their parents see fit. Students are to drive in a safe and orderly manner. Student parking will be limited to the parking lot adjacent to the high school building. **Students are to stay out of their automobiles from the time they arrive in the morning until school is out.** This is interpreted to mean *not sitting in the automobile before school and during the noon hour as well as not driving the automobile during these times.*

Students enrolled in the internship program and driving to OEC for that purpose must have proper papers signed and approval given before driving to OEC. No passengers are allowed in these instances unless approved by both the principal and OEC. All students driving vehicles to school and parking on campus must meet state law. This requires all students to have a valid Arkansas Driver's License and liability insurance. A copy of driver's license and liability insurance must be filed in the counselor's office. The Student Council is responsible for issuing parking permits at a cost of \$10.00 each.

Students are to park their vehicles and leave the parking lot when they arrive on campus and are not allowed to go back to them without permission from faculty or administration. Students should cross the street only when buses are unloading and are not to go to cars of other students.

Students can leave campus in their own vehicles after school is out until the first bus pulls up to leave the campus and then they are to stop leaving until all buses are off the campus, then they are allowed to leave at a safe rate.

## **PARKING PERMIT POLICY**

The student council will be responsible for selling parking permits and policing the parking lots during the 7:45 a.m. to 3:15 p.m. school day. All students must register their vehicle with the student council, in the senior high counselor's office. The cost of the permit will be \$10.00. The permit must be displayed for identification and proof of registration to gain access to the DCHS parking lots. The student will provide proof of drivers' license and liability insurance in order to receive a permit. A copy of these rules signed by the student and parent will be required to be on file.

Cars without permits will be ticketed. Permits may be temporarily transferred to another vehicle by permission. Students parking improperly in the handicapped spaces will be ticketed.

## **4.35 MEDICATIONS**

Please see the Drew Central School District policy.

## **4.36 STUDENT ILLNESS/ACCIDENT**

Please see the Drew Central School District policy.

## **4.39 CORPORAL PUNISHMENT**

Please see the Drew Central School District policy.

#### 4.43 BULLYING

“Bullying” means the intentional harassment, intimidation, humiliation, ridicule, defamation, or threat or incitement of violence by a student against another student or public-school employee by a written, verbal, electronic, or physical act that may address an attribute of the other student, public school employee, or person with whom the other student or public school employee is associated and that causes or creates actual or reasonably foreseeable:

- Physical harm to a public school employee or student or damage to the public school employee's or student's property;
- Substantial interference with a student's education or with a public school employee's role in education;
- A hostile educational environment for one (1) or more students or public school employees due to the severity, persistence, or pervasiveness of the act; or
- Substantial disruption of the orderly operation of the school or educational environment;

Examples of "Bullying" include, but are not limited to, a pattern of behavior involving one or more of the following:

1. Cyberbullying;
2. Sarcastic comments "compliments" about another student's personal appearance or actual or perceived attributes,
3. Pointed questions intended to embarrass or humiliate,
4. Mocking, taunting or belittling,
5. Non-verbal threats and/or intimidation such as “fronting” or “chesting” a person,
6. Demeaning humor relating to a student's actual or perceived attributes,
7. Blackmail, extortion, demands for protection money or other involuntary donations or loans,
8. Blocking access to school property or facilities,
9. Deliberate physical contact or injury to person or property,
10. Stealing or hiding books or belongings,
11. Threats of harm to student(s), possessions, or others,
12. Sexual harassment, as governed by policy 4.27, is also a form of bullying, and/or
13. Teasing or name-calling related to sexual characteristics or the belief or perception that an individual is not conforming to expected gender roles or conduct or is homosexual, regardless of whether the student self-identifies as homosexual or transgender (Examples: “Slut”, “You are so gay.”, “Fag”, “Queer”).

"Cyberbullying" means any form of communication by electronic act that is sent with the purpose to:

- Harass, intimidate, humiliate, ridicule, defame, or threaten a student, school employee, or person with whom the other student or school employee is associated; or
- Incite violence towards a student, school employee, or person with whom the other student or school employee is associated.

Cyberbullying of School Employees includes, but is not limited to:

- a. Building a fake profile or website of the employee;

- b. Posting or encouraging others to post on the Internet private, personal, or sexual information pertaining to a school employee;
- c. Posting an original or edited image of the school employee on the Internet;
- d. Accessing, altering, or erasing any computer network, computer data program, or computer software, including breaking into a password-protected account or stealing or otherwise accessing passwords of a school employee;
- e. Making repeated, continuing, or sustained electronic communications, including electronic mail or transmission, to a school employee;
- f. Making, or causing to be made, and disseminating an unauthorized copy of data pertaining to a school employee in any form, including without limitation the printed or electronic form of computer data, computer programs, or computer software residing in, communicated by, or produced by a computer or computer network;
- g. Signing up a school employee for a pornographic Internet site; or
- h. Without authorization of the school employee, signing up a school employee for electronic mailing lists or to receive junk electronic messages and instant messages.

Cyberbullying is prohibited whether or not the cyberbullying originated on school property or with school equipment, if the cyberbullying results in the substantial disruption of the orderly operation of the school or educational environment or is directed specifically at students or school personnel and maliciously intended for the purpose of disrupting school and has a high likelihood of succeeding in that purpose.

“Harassment” means a pattern of unwelcome verbal or physical conduct relating to another person's constitutionally or statutorily protected status that causes, or reasonably should be expected to cause, substantial interference with the other's performance in the school environment; and

“Substantial disruption” means without limitation that any one or more of the following occur as a result of the bullying:

- Necessary cessation of instruction or educational activities;
- Inability of students or educational staff to focus on learning or function as an educational unit because of a hostile environment;
- Severe or repetitive disciplinary measures are needed in the classroom or during educational activities; or
- Exhibition of other behaviors by students or educational staff that substantially interfere with the learning environment.

Respect for the dignity of others is a cornerstone of civil society. Bullying creates an atmosphere of fear and intimidation, robs a person of his/her dignity, detracts from the safe environment necessary to promote student learning, and will not be tolerated by the Board of Directors. Students who bully another person shall be held accountable for their actions whether they occur on school equipment or property; off school property at a school sponsored or approved function, activity, or event; going to or from school or a school activity in a school vehicle or school bus; or at designated school bus stops.

Students are encouraged to report behavior they consider to be bullying, including a single action which if allowed to continue would constitute bullying, to their teacher or the building principal. The report may be made anonymously. Teachers and other school employees who have witnessed, or are reliably

informed that, a student has been a victim of behavior they consider to be bullying, including a single action which if allowed to continue would constitute bullying, shall report the incident(s) to the building principal, or designee, as soon as possible. Parents or legal guardians may submit written reports of incidents they feel constitute bullying, or if allowed to continue would constitute bullying, to the building principal, or designee.

Students found to be in violation of this policy shall be subject to disciplinary action up to and including expulsion. In determining the appropriate disciplinary action, consideration may be given to other violations of the student handbook which may have simultaneously occurred. In addition to any disciplinary actions, the District shall take appropriate steps to remedy the effects resulting from bullying.

Copies of this policy shall be available upon request.

The Principal (or designee) will have discretion in administering the consequences for the student's conduct, based on the severity of the situation.

#### **4.44 NATIONAL ANTHEM**

Please see the Drew Central School District policy.

#### **4.45 SMART CORE CURRICULUM & GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS FOR THE CLASS OF 2024 AND 2025**

Please see the Drew Central School District policy.

#### **4.45.1 SMART CORE CURRICULUM & GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS FOR THE CLASS OF 2026**

Please see the Drew Central School District policy.

#### **4.45.2 SMART CORE CURRICULUM & GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS FOR THE CLASS OF 2027 & THEREAFTER**

Please see the Drew Central School District policy.

#### **4.46 PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Please see the Drew Central School District policy.

#### **4.47 POSSESSION & USE OF CELL PHONES & OTHER ELECTRONIC DEVICES**

Students are responsible for conducting themselves in a manner that respects the rights of others. Possession and use of any electronic device, whether district or student owned, that interferes with a positive, orderly classroom environment does not respect the rights of others and is expressly forbidden.

#### **4.48 VIDEO SURVEILLANCE AND OTHER STUDENT MONITORING**

Please see the Drew Central School District policy.

#### **4.56 EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITY - SECONDARY SCHOOLS**

Please see the Drew Central School District policy.

#### **NCAA Guidelines for Freshmen (Division I)**

**Full Qualifier** • Complete 16 core courses.

- English (4 Years)
- Math (3 Years)
- Science (2 Years)
- Additional English, Math, or Science (1 Year)
- Social Science (2 Years)
- Additional Courses from English, Math, Science, Foreign Language or Comparative Religion/Philosophy (4 Years)

- Ten of the 16 core courses must be completed before the seventh semester (senior year) of high school.
- Seven of the 10 core courses must be in English, math or natural/physical science.
- Earn a core-course GPA of at least 2.300.
- Earn the ACT/SAT score matching your core-course GPA on the Division I sliding scale.
  - Graduate high school.

#### **NCAA Guidelines for Freshmen (Division II)**

**Full Qualifier** • Complete 16 core courses.

- English (3 Years)
- Math (2 Years)
- Science (2 Years)
- Additional English, Math, or Science (3 Years)
- Social Science (2 Years)
- Additional Courses from English, Math, Science, Foreign Language or Comparative Religion/Philosophy (4 Years)

- Earn a core-course GPA of at least 2.200.
- Earn the ACT/SAT score matching your core-course GPA on the Division II full qualifier sliding scale.
  - Graduate high school.

#### **4.56.2 EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITY ELIGIBILITY FOR HOME SCHOOLED STUDENTS**

Please see the Drew Central School District policy.

#### **4.60 STUDENT BEHAVIORAL INTERVENTION & RESTRAINT**

Please see the Drew Central School District policy.

### **5.11 DIGITAL LEARNING COURSES**

#### **Definitions**

For the purposes of this policy:

“Blended Learning” is education in which instruction and content are delivered through supervised instruction in a classroom and online delivery of instruction with some element of student control over time, place, path, or pace.

“Digital Learning” means a digital technology or internet-based educational delivery model that does not rely exclusively on compressed interactive video (CIV). Digital learning includes online and blended learning.

“Instructional Materials” means:

1. Traditional books, textbooks, and trade books in printed and bound form;
2. Activity-oriented programs that may include:
  - a. Manipulatives;
  - b. Hand-held calculators;
  - c. Other hands-on materials; and
3. Technology-based materials that require the use of electronic equipment in order to be used in the learning process.

“Online Learning” is education in which instruction and content are delivered primarily over the Internet. The term does not include print-based correspondence education, broadcast television or radio, videocassettes, compact disks and stand-alone educational software programs that do not have a significant Internet-based instructional component.

“Public School Student Accessing Courses at a Distance” means a student who is scheduled for a full course load through the District and attends all classes virtually.

#### **Digital Course Offerings**

The District shall offer one or more digital learning course(s) through one or more District approved provider(s) as either a primary or supplementary method of instruction. The courses may be in a blended learning, online-based, or other technology-based format and shall be tailored to meet the needs of each student.

All digitally offered courses shall meet or exceed the State Board of Education's curriculum standards and

requirements and be capable of being assessed and measured through standardized or local assessments. Additionally, the District shall ensure there is sufficient infrastructure to handle and facilitate a quality digital learning environment.

The District shall annually determine what District created digital learning courses it will provide to our students.<sup>1</sup> The District may also choose to provide digital learning courses by contracting with outside providers of such courses, who have been pre-approved as part of the Arkansas Course Choice Program by the Division of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE). The School Board shall determine the provider method or combination of methods for the District. The Superintendent shall ensure that all digital learning courses provided to District students, regardless of the source of the course, have been approved by DESE.

District created digital courses and any digital courses the district purchases from outside providers shall adhere to the guidelines for the use of digitally transmitted copyrighted materials set forth in Policy 5.8—USE OF COPYRIGHTED MATERIALS as well as applicable statutory requirements.

The District shall require all outside providers to incorporate Policy 5.8 as a condition of the service contract. Failure of the outside provider to abide by Policy 5.8 shall constitute a breach of contract and the outside provider shall be responsible for any costs resulting from such breach.

A student may elect to take any scheduled courses digitally if offered digitally by the District or, if applicable, through the Arkansas Course Choice Program. The student's attendance in the student's digital course(s) shall be determined in accordance with Policy 4.7—ABSENCES.<sup>2</sup>

The District is responsible for providing all instructional materials for each student who enrolls in a District approved digital learning course.<sup>3</sup>

Except as required by Policy 5.19, the District may restrict a student's access to digital courses when the student's building principal determines the student's participation in such a course would not be academically appropriate based on the student's past performance in digital courses. Furthermore, the student's building principal may revoke a student's eligibility to continue taking a digital learning course if the student's performance during the semester indicates the student is not succeeding in the course.<sup>4</sup>

### **5.13 HOMEWORK**

Homework is a beneficial adjunct to the in--school instructional program. Students learn through homework, self-discipline and good study habits. Homework may be assigned in each class, for practice, for skills taught and as research using content appropriate to the course.

### **5.16 HONORS GRADUATES**

Honor graduates are determined on the basis of accumulated grade point, which must be 3.50 to be computed at the end of the eight semesters of school. Honor graduates must take the Honors Diploma course of study. No remedial courses will be accepted. Final academic grade point average must be 3.50 or higher.

## **GRADUATING WITH HONORS**

Students who earn an Honors Diploma will be recognized at graduation, based on the cumulative Grade Point Average (GPA), as graduating with honors (cum laude), with high honors (magna cum laude), or with highest honors (summa cum laude) as listed below:

<b>Summa Cum Laude</b>	3.90 and above
<b>Magna Cum Laude</b>	3.75 to 3.89
<b>Cum Laude</b>	3.50 to 3.74

Honor Graduates are determined on the basis of cumulative Grade Point Average over eight semesters of high school work. No correspondence courses or summer school courses will be accepted to meet the Honor Graduate requirements. The diploma will include a seal indicating the honor level at graduation.

Class rank will only be calculated for the purpose of applying for scholarships that are awarded on the basis of rank in a graduating class. Class rank, however, will not be used to determine any honors or recognition.

Students ranked #1 and #2, by GPA, will speak at graduation. The Pledge of Allegiance, the Invocation and the Benediction will be given by the #3, #4, and #5 ranked students. Should one of the top five (5) students decline to participate, the next ranked student will be asked to participate.

### **5.19 ARKANSAS COURSE CHOICE PROGRAM**

District students are eligible to take courses through the Arkansas Course Choice Program (ACCP) if the student is:

- Seeking to take a course not offered by the District; or
- Attending a District school that received a school letter grade of C, D, or F.<sup>1</sup>

The ACCP course catalog shall be made available to all students during student course selection.<sup>2</sup> The District shall not actively discourage, intimidate, or threaten a student during course selection to not take a course through the ACCP.

A student attending courses through the ACCP shall enroll in at least one (1) course at the District, which may be either in person or a digital course offered by the District.

A District student attending courses through the ACCP is entitled to the following services as if the student were attending courses at the District:

1. Required assessments, including without limitation:
  - a. Statewide assessments;
  - b. Advanced Placement; and
  - c. International Baccalaureate,
2. Participation in extracurricular or cocurricular activities; and
3. Special education services pursuant to the student's individualized education program.

Credits earned through the ACCP shall appear on a student's official transcript and count fully towards the student's graduation requirements.

### **5.21 Advanced Placement, International Baccalaureate, and Honors Courses**

Please see the Drew Central School District policy.

#### **COLLEGE COURSES**

Students in grades 9-12 who enroll in college courses for credit: a 3-semester hour college course will be equal to 1 unit of credit.

#### **GIFTED AND TALENTED/ADVANCED PLACEMENT**

One of the goals of the Drew Central School is to provide educational programs for the gifted and talented. Selection of students for this program is based on Act 106 passed by the General Assembly of Arkansas and Public Law 91-230 that generated the following definition:

Gifted and talented students are those of high potential or ability whose learning characteristics require qualitatively differentiated educational experience.

Possession of those talents will be evidenced through an interaction of above average intellectual ability, task commitment and creative ability.

Students may be nominated for screening for this program by teachers, parents, peers (secondary level), self and standardized test scores. Students nominated to the program may require further testing to determine qualifications for the program.

If you have any questions about this program or would like a nomination form, please contact the counselor of your school.

#### **ARKANSAS MATH AND SCIENCE SCHOOL (ASMS) SENIORS**

Students who attended Drew Central High School prior to acceptance to the Arkansas School for Mathematics and Sciences may elect to participate in graduation activities the year they graduate, including class composite picture, prom, and graduation exercises.

Students who attend ASMS will be sent a questionnaire at the beginning of their fourth year of high school in which they will indicate the activities they plan to attend. The questionnaire will be sent to the last address of record in the school district records. Failure to return the form by October 1 will constitute a waiver of the election to participate.

Students who will graduate early and who intend to participate in any activities must notify the high school principal in writing by October 1 that they will graduate early and plan to participate in graduation activities.

ASMS students will be responsible for the costs of these activities to the same extent that *Drew Central*

*High School* students, and agree by participating to abide by the provisions of the Student Handbook at these functions. ASMS students who violate provisions of the handbook at senior activities may be barred from attending future events upon recommendation of the high school principal, subject to appeal to the superintendent, whose decision shall be final.

ASMS students who participate in graduation exercises upon presentation of an official transcript from ASMS by April 15 will be recognized as an honor graduate if appropriate and based on criteria of the Drew Central School District for honor graduates. ASMS students who choose to participate in graduation ceremonies will not receive diplomas issued by the Drew Central School District, but instead will be presented with certificates of recognition.

### **HONORS DIPLOMA**

Each student must have a 3.0 GPA after 8 semesters of high school work to receive the Honors Diploma. These courses must come from the Smart Core curriculum. In addition, students must complete one unit of Fine Arts. Beginning with the graduating class of 2022, students must pass at least two (2) Advanced Placement (AP) or Concurrent Credit courses and complete at least one math course each year of high school to receive the Honors Diploma. The total number of AP/Concurrent Credit courses necessary to receive the Honors Diploma will be two (2).

No correspondence courses or remedial courses will be accepted to meet the Honors Diploma requirements. College courses will be accepted to meet the Honors Diploma elective requirements. A 2.75 GPA is required to get a state seal on the diploma.

### **GRADUATION COLORS**

Honors Graduates will wear the gold cord at graduation. Students who earn a cumulative GPA of 3.0 or higher on the Honors Diploma curriculum will wear the gold tassel at graduation. National Honor Society members will be recognized by wearing the NHS stole at graduation.

### **GRADING POLICY**

Grades assigned to students reflect educational objectives only.

	Grading Scale:		
	Grade	Value:	
90-100	=	A	4 Points
80-89	=	B	3 Points
70-79	=	C	2 Points
60-69	=	D	1 Point
59 and below	=	F	0 Points

### **GRADE POINT**

GPA will be computed by dividing the number of grade points or quality points by the number of semesters of work.

**Normal Grade****Weighted Grade**

Point System  
 For all classes  
 Except AP, IB  
 and ADE-approved  
 honors classes  
 A = 4  
 B = 3  
 C = 2  
 D = 1  
 F = 0

Point System  
 for AP, IB and  
 ADE-approved  
 honors classes\*  
 A = 5  
 B = 4  
 C = 3  
 D = 2  
 F = 0

\*Weighted credit/additional quality points for designated AP courses is contingent upon the teacher completing training required by the Arkansas Department of Education and the student taking the applicable AP exams

Quality points for AP are contingent on student testing.

**CLASSIFICATION**

Students are classified according to the year in high school:

<b>Year 1</b>	9 <sup>th</sup> Grade-Freshman
<b>Year 2</b>	10 <sup>th</sup> Grade-Sophomore
<b>Year 3</b>	11 <sup>th</sup> Grade-Junior
<b>Year 4</b>	12 <sup>th</sup> Grade-Senior

**CLASS RANK**

Honors and general track and remedial track will be computed for class rank in that order.

**5.24 ALTERNATIVE LEARNING ENVIRONMENT**

Please see the Drew Central School District policy.

**6.4 VOLUNTEERS**

Please see the Drew Central School District policy.

**6.5 VISITORS TO THE SCHOOLS**

Please see the Drew Central School District policy.

## TEACHER/PARENT CONTACTS

It shall be the policy of the *Drew Central School District* to provide opportunities for communication personally with students' parent(s) or guardian(s) once each semester. The following procedure will be used each year in reporting student performance:

1. One parent/teacher conference day will be held each semester to talk with parents about student performance.
2. Progress reports will be sent home by each child at the end of each 4 ½ week grading period.
3. Report cards will be sent home at the end of each nine-week grading period. (Progress Reports will be available at each Parent/Teacher Conference day)
4. Additional parent/teacher contacts may be necessary for some students. These conferences will be at the discretion of the parent and/or teacher. Appointments for additional conferences will be made through the principal's office. **The teacher will be notified at least one day prior to the appointment.**
5. Parents will be asked to sign an attendance form when they attend a parent/teacher conference. This signature will assist the school in keeping up with personal contacts made either by the school or parent(s)/guardian(s) of the child.

## LOCKERS

Lockers are rented to students at a charge of \$6.00 (non-refundable) per year. Locks are provided with the locker and are subject to administrative search. Each student will be held responsible for any damage, writing, or defacing the locker.

## TEXTBOOKS

Textbooks are furnished free of charge to all students at *Drew Central High School*. Books that are lost or damaged will be paid for by the student who is assigned the book. Replacement costs\* will be charged if the book is lost or unusable.

## MONIES OWED TO SCHOOL, CLUBS OR CLASSES

Any student owing money to the school, clubs, or classes will not receive end of the year grades until the money is paid. Credit cannot be withheld because of class dues; however, students who do not participate in club or class activities may be excluded from club or class functions. The club or class sponsor will notify the parent by mail of any outstanding charge at least one week before report cards are issued. Report cards and transcripts will not be released until accounts are cleared. A student who owes money will not be eligible to participate in any club activities the following year until the amount due is paid.

## PARENTAL CONSENT FOR MEDICAL/DENTAL TREATMENT ON SCHOOL TRIPS

A form must be signed and on file in the high school office giving consent for Medical/Dental treatment when the parent or guardian cannot be contacted, before a student can participate in a school trip.

## TELEPHONES

Telephones in the offices are for school purposes only.

## **PERIOD OF SILENCE**

A public school in this state shall observe a one (1) minute period of silence at the beginning of school each school day. During the period of silence, a student may, without interfering with or distracting another student:

1. Reflect;
2. Pray; or
3. Engage in a silent activity

A teacher or school employee in charge of a public-school classroom shall ensure that all students remain silent and do not interfere with or distract another student during the period of silence.

## **GUIDANCE DEPARTMENT**

It is important that every student has plans and purpose for his/her life. The Guidance Staff of *Drew Central High School* wish to participate in helping each student reach the limits of his/her potential. None can be ignored because each student will grow and either be an asset or liability to the society. Any person who does not feel a part of his society, who is not accepted in it, is a source of danger to it and its members.

Therefore, within the limitations of time, space, and personnel; the counselor and staff will strive to meet the needs of each student. Regardless of what your sex, color, race or creed might be, you are always welcomed in the counselor's office. Your problems, regardless of size, whether they may be educational, vocational, or personal warrant our time.

## **SCHEDULE CHANGES**

Schedule changes will only be permitted in cases of conflict.

## **EXAMINATION EXEMPTION POLICY**

Students may be exempt from the final examination of the fall and spring semesters for each class if they meet the following requirements:

1. Must have an "S" in conduct.
2. ALL students must have a "B" average for the semester.
3. No more than six (6) absences.
4. No ISS or Out of School Suspension assignments.

Students may take a semester exam in an effort to improve their final grade.

## **COLLEGE DAY OUT**

Students must arrange with his/her teachers and the Principal before the visit and must secure a letter from the Admissions Office of the college stating that the student visited on a given date. The student must then present this statement to the Principal the day following the visit for the visit to be considered (excused) College Day Out. If a student fails to present the statement on the day following the visit, it will be counted as an absence.

Seniors will be allowed four (4) days to visit colleges during their senior year. All college visits must be approved prior to May 1.

Juniors are allowed two (2) days to visit colleges during their junior year.

### **DEAD WEEK**

The week of Semester Exams will be considered Dead Week. No after-school activities, including athletic events, will be scheduled during Dead Week. Dead Week is defined as Sunday through the end of the regular scheduled semester exams.

### **UNCONDITIONAL ADMISSION TO AN ARKANSAS PUBLIC COLLEGE OR UNIVERSITY**

Students who graduate from high school must complete the following coursework for unconditional admission to an Arkansas public college or university

4 units of English

3 units of Natural Science

4 units of Mathematics

3 units of Social Studies

### **EXCEPTIONAL SENIOR AWARD**

The faculty will make nominations for the exceptional senior award. The senior should have outstanding academic ability, contributions to the community, participation in extracurricular activities and rapport with peers and staff. Absenteeism and discipline will also be considered. The senior with the most votes from the faculty will be the recipient of the award.

### **REPEATING COURSES**

A student may repeat a course for credit purposes only. Both grades from the course will be used in computing the GPA and class rank.

### **CONDUCT GRADES**

Conduct grades are assigned by each teacher in the classroom.

### **SPECIAL REPORTS**

Four-week progress reports will be sent home between the nine week grading periods.

### **HONOR ROLL**

There will be an "All A" Honor Roll, an "A/B" Honor Roll, and a "B Average" Honor Roll. A student with D's or F's in a class will not be eligible for the Honor Roll. A student may not be on the Honor Roll if he/she has a "U" or two "N's" in conduct even if he/she has appropriate grades.

## ARKANSAS ACADEMIC CHALLENGE SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

The Academic Challenge Program provides scholarships to Arkansas residents pursuing a higher education. Funded in large part by the Arkansas Scholarship Lottery, The Academic Challenge Scholarship is available to students regardless of their academic status, whether just graduating from high school, currently enrolled in college, enrolling in college for the first time, or re-enrolling after a period of time out of college.

The requirement to receive the scholarship is a minimum superscore of nineteen (19) on the ACT or ACT equivalent score (FAFSA required-<https://fafsa.ed.gov/index.htm>).

"Superscore" means the final composite score that is calculated according to a combination of the highest individual section scores across all of the ACT tests taken by an individual.

### Academic Challenge Award Amounts

	4 Year School	2 Year School
Year 1	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00
Year 2	\$4,000.00	\$3,000.00
Year 3	\$4,000.00	
Year 4	\$5,000.00	

## CORRESPONDENCE WORK

Students may earn no more than two (2) units of credit through correspondence work. Students may not complete correspondence work or any internet based educational program for a course that is offered at Drew Central High School without written prior approval from the principal. Final grade in a correspondence course must be received at Drew Central no later than the due date for senior grades in order for a senior to participate in graduation exercises. Correspondence courses will not be used in determining grade point and class rank.

## SECTION 504

Section 504 status applies to students with disabilities. The student may be considered disabled if he/she has a physical or mental impairment which substantially limits one or more major life activities. Examples of such disabilities are temporary disabling conditions such as an accident or injury requiring the student's extended absence from school, communicable diseases, attention deficit disorder, behavior disorders, chronic asthma or severe allergies, physical disabilities, and diabetes. Upon evaluation and

recommendation, reasonable accommodations in the student's instructional program and services are provided. Contact the 504 coordinator at 367-6076 for more information.

### **ACADEMIC IMPROVEMENT PLAN (AIP)**

All students must participate in appropriate End of Year assessments as established by the state board of education. Each student identified as not meeting the satisfactory proficient levels in the immediate previously administered assessment shall participate in his or her remediation activities as required in his or her individualized academic improvement plan beginning in the school year the assessment results are reported.

Any student required to take an End of Year assessment that is identified as not meeting the satisfactory proficient levels for a particular assessment shall participate in his or her remediation activities as required in his or her individualized academic improvement plan in the school year that the assessment results are reported in order to receive credit on his or her transcript for the course related to the End of Year assessment.

The individualized academic improvement plan shall include remediation activities focused on those areas in which a student failed to meet proficient levels on an end-of-course assessment.

### **ATHLETICS**

It is the desire of the coaching staff and administration that every boy and girl have a chance to participate in interscholastic athletics.

**BOYS:** DCHS boys' sports consist of football, cross country, basketball, baseball, tennis, track and field and cheerleading.

**GIRLS:** DCHS girls' sports consist of cross country, basketball, tennis, track and field, cheerleading, and softball.

### **CLASS OFFICERS**

At the beginning of each school year, time shall be set for campaigning and campaign speeches before the student body for students wishing to run for class office.

An election will be held by secret ballot and if no student gets a simple majority, there will be a runoff between the top two candidates.

Class officers should realize that they are accepting the responsibility of that office when elected. Sponsors may appoint a student to an open position if there are no candidates for that position.

### **QUALIFICATIONS FOR HOLDING OFFICE**

All officers of any school organization shall have at least a 2.00 grade point average in academic subjects, the recommendation of five teachers and an administrator, and no ISS assignments.

A student must maintain a 2.00 grade point average in order to remain in office. A student may be removed from office if he/she is assigned to In School Suspension, suspended, or expelled from school.

A committee composed of the superintendent, three teachers, one administrator, and one counselor shall hear all pertinent facts and make the final determination to remove a person from his/her office as a club officer.

### **BETA CLUB**

The Drew Central High School Beta Club is an educational, non-profit, youth organization dedicated to encouraging and rewarding academic achievement, and promoting the qualities of character that makes for good citizenship. Students in grades 10th-12th with a cumulative GPA of 3.0 and who have not received in-school or out of school suspension during the school year, will be invited to join the DCHS Beta Club.

### **FAMILY, CAREER AND COMMUNITY LEADERS OF AMERICA (FCCLA)**

The FCCLA is an extracurricular activity of DCHS, enjoyed by the students who are taking or have taken family and consumer science courses. Chapter meetings are held once a month. The chapter also chooses different members, according to the work done by each individual, to attend the district and state meeting. The local chapter president must be enrolled in a FACS class.

### **FUTURE BUSINESS LEADERS OF AMERICA (FBLA)**

FBLA is a national youth organization for high school students who are or have been enrolled in business subjects. FBLA is sponsored by the National Business Education Association. It operates as a part of the school program under the guidance of a business teacher. It is democratically organized and designed to provide young adults with educational, vocational, and leadership experiences. It encourages improvement in scholarship and strengthens the confidence in their work.

### **FUTURE FARMERS OF AMERICA (FFA)**

The FFA is an organization consisting of members who are taking Vocational Agriculture or who have completed all the courses offered. Being a FFA member enables one to participate in judging contests on district, state and national levels. The purpose of this organization is to promote agriculture, leadership, citizenship and ability to work efficiently. Activities include spending a week at Camp Couchdale, going to the State Livestock Show, and various Chapter programs and activities. The following list of officers' help keep FFA a national organization: President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, Reporter, Sentinel, Jr. Advisor and Student Council Representative.

### **LIBRARY CLUB**

The DCHS LMC Club is a service organization to promote the library media center, life-long learning and reading for academic purposes and for pleasure.

### **MUSIC ACTIVITIES**

The choral music activities are open to all Drew Central students (grades 9-12) who wish to participate. The choral groups perform regularly at school assemblies, community activities and district and state festivals.

Beginner and advanced band are available to students in grades 9 - 12.

## **NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY (SENIOR)**

The National Honor Society was started by J.G. Masters in the early nineteen hundreds in secondary schools in several sections of the country. The object of the Drew Central Chapter of Honor Society is to render service to the school, to create an enthusiasm for scholarship, to promote worthy leadership and to encourage the development of character in pupils of *Drew Central High School*.

Membership in this organization is based on scholarship, service, leadership, citizenship and character. Candidates for membership must have completed one semester in *Drew Central High School*, be members of the junior or senior class, and be enrolled in Honor Diploma courses.

One must have a cumulative GPA of not less than 3.50 and retain it to remain in the society.

## **QUIZ BOWL**

The Senior High Quiz Bowl Team competes under the auspices of the Arkansas Governor's Quiz Bowl Association, whose purpose is to promote academic team competition throughout the state and at all education levels. Team members must maintain AAA eligibility to participate. The Drew Central Senior High Quiz Bowl Team travels to several invitational tournaments throughout the state, starting in the late fall semester. We compete in the 3A South Regional in March. In 2011 the team hosted the first Drew Central Senior High Quiz Bowl Invitational, which is intended to be an annual event. Practice begins in the fall semester. The team practices after school, at least once per week, throughout the season. All interested students are encouraged to attend the organizational meeting and open-practice sessions.

## **STUDENT COUNCIL**

The Student Council is an organization which has objectives and works toward those objectives in the most efficient methods possible. The council is not a club. It is a student organization whose members are elected by the student body to represent them and therefore serve their interests. It provides a forum by which students may participate in clearly defined areas of the student program.

In addition, the council supports all school organizations, promotes good citizenship, supports and organizes school activities, manages all assembly programs, and in general, is a service organization to the school.

Student council elections take place each spring. Forms will be available in late April with elections occurring in early May. The election and responsibilities are explained in the constitution. Candidates for office must have a 3.0 GPA for the previous two semesters. The nominees are president, vice president, secretary, treasurer, reporter and two representatives at large, voted on by the student body. If enough candidates are running for offices, there will be a school wide assembly for campaign speeches and then elections.

Activities Student Council is responsible for:

Locker Rental Assistance

Parking Spaces and Tags

Battle of the Classes

Assisting with all Homecoming festivities

Blood Drives

Prom Assistance (younger representatives will help as needed with prom)  
Class Officers and assisting that they are maintaining their responsibilities  
Quarterly School Events (there will be at least four student body fun events planned)  
Daily raising and lowering of the high school flags

### **THE PIRATE YEARBOOK**

The Pirate yearbook is a journalistic record reflecting the life of *Drew Central* students from grades pre K-12. It is produced by a group of high school students in grades 10-12, working under the direction of a faculty member.

Yearbook staff must have a 2.5 GPA and a B in English.

### **FOOD AND DRINK IN CLASSROOMS**

Students may bring water to drink in class as long as the water is in a clear container. No other beverages will be allowed to be consumed in the buildings during the instructional day unless required by a physician for a medical condition.

Eating is not allowed in buildings during the instructional day unless required by a physician for a medical condition or during Breakfast in the Classroom.

### **JR/SR PROM**

The Junior/Senior prom is a formal event and students should dress and act accordingly. Students and guests attending the prom shall abide by the following guidelines:

1. Formal attire must be worn by both male and female students.
2. Prom dresses must completely cover the breasts with no curves showing.
3. Students may bring a date, bring a friend, or attend alone. Guests are subject to approval by junior sponsors.
4. Inappropriate or provocative dancing could be grounds for removal from the prom.
5. Once you leave the prom, even for a short trip to the parking lot, you may not return.
6. Public displays of affection are not allowed. This could be grounds for removal from prom.

### **HOMECOMING**

#### **Eligibility Requirements**

- Female-Seniors eligible for the Homecoming court must have a minimum 2.00 cumulative grade point average, no ISS or OSS assignments during the current or previous semester.
- Males- They must be participating in a sport during the current semester, they must have also participated in a sport the previous semester, have a minimum 2.00 cumulative grade point average, no ISS or OSS assignments during the current or previous semester. Must be senior (12<sup>th</sup> grade) football players. In the event there are not enough eligible senior football players, we will supplement from all eligible senior athletes from all other sports collectively.
- Any misbehavior outside of school that would reflect poorly on your citizenship as a Drew Central Student and would be deemed inappropriate as a representative of our school will result in removal from the eligibility list.

### **Selection - Female**

- A list of eligible candidates will be provided to every student in the 9th, 10th, 11th, and 12<sup>th</sup> grade.
- Students must have been enrolled at Drew Central starting at the beginning of the Spring semester prior to voting.
- Students will choose 8 names (should there be 8 names on the list) and submit their ballot.
- The student with the highest number of votes will be elected Queen
- A Football Sweetheart will be elected by the members of the football team.
- If the elected Football Sweetheart, is chosen by her peers for Homecoming Queen, the second-place candidate elected by the football team will be the Football Sweetheart.
- The 6 students with next highest amount of votes will serve as the Homecoming Court.
- In the case of a tie on the 8th and 9th student, both students will be elected to the Homecoming Court.
- The results will be announced on the same day as voting and all members of the court including queen and football sweetheart will be announced in alphabetical order. Once all are announced, then of the girls announced, the football sweetheart and queen will be announced.

### **Selection – Male**

- Eligible senior athletes will be provided to the student body through the same voting system on google email as female voting. The selection of escorts will be determined from this vote. There will be a total of 7 chosen escorts. The 8<sup>th</sup> escort will be the Football Game Captain. (A survey will be sent to student body and teachers. The data of that survey could aid in adjusting this section).
- A Homecoming King will be elected by popular vote by the student body.
- The Homecoming King will escort the Queen during the day ceremony
- The captain(s) of the Homecoming Football Game will escort the Football Sweetheart during the day ceremony
- All other members of the Homecoming Court will draw the name of the Senior Athlete(s) who will escort her in alphabetical order.

### **Voting**

- Electronic voting will occur. Students will have the link in their google email account
- Photos of each candidate will be provided on the voting platform for the opportunity of the student body to place a face with a name for voting purposes.

### **Responsibilities**

- There will be a homecoming meeting the first week of school with possible candidates
- Females will be presented with responsibilities of court, dates, cost, and a contract that states that if selected they will uphold their responsibilities
- Females and male will also have the option to have their name removed from the ballot if they are not willing to participate in this honor.

- The Homecoming Court is responsible for decorating the auditorium and football field which will take place the week prior to Homecoming, with the help and direction of the Homecoming Coordinator(s).
- The Homecoming Court must attend practice. Practice will be held the Thursday before homecoming right after school. All members must be in attendance.
- The male members of the Homecoming Court must purchase a suit picked out by the homecoming coordinators. Price will be close to previous price of renting. The cost of the suit is the student's responsibility.
- The female members of the Homecoming Court will be responsible for paying for a dress selected by the Homecoming Coordinators. Price will be close to previous year's dress.
- The Football Sweetheart will be responsible for purchasing her own dress for the ceremony. The dress must be red. The dress must be approved by the Homecoming Coordinator(s) and principal before being purchased and picture sent by email or text will suffice in the approval process. Style should be kept in mind when searching for dress. It should be no larger than a typical A-line dress.
- The Homecoming Queen will be responsible for purchasing her own dress for the ceremony. The dress must be white. The dress must be approved by the Homecoming Coordinator(s) and Principal before being purchased and picture sent by email or text will suffice in the approval process
- Homecoming Queen will be responsible for riding in the County Fair Parade and Christmas Parade as a representative of Drew Central (assistance finding a vehicle to ride on will be provided if needed) and the possibility of two Drew Central Events during their Senior Year (i.e. All Drew Central Reunion, Presentation of Speakers during assemblies, as requested)
- For the County Fair Parade, all members of the court including the Football Sweetheart and Homecoming Queen will ride on a float created by the court.
- Any donations made will be split between all involved parties unless otherwise stated by the donor
- All members of court, male and female, unless participating in the Homecoming game, will be required to sit in a place of honor for at least a designated portion of the game as determined by the homecoming coordinator(s)

## **Ceremony**

- In the case of inclement weather, a decision will be made by 4pm the day of the ceremony. If weather is an issue, the evening ceremony will be held in the auditorium.
- The Homecoming Court (male and female) must attend the school ceremony. During the evening ceremony only the females of the Homecoming Court are required to participate in the evening ceremonies due to the football players preparing for the Homecoming Game.
- The Homecoming Court will be escorted by their parents at the evening ceremony. The ladies will be escorted by their biological father, and/or step father of their choice, or other male of their choice.
- A football bearer and crown bearer will be chosen to walk with the Homecoming Queen. They will be students from Drew Central or children of parents that work at Drew Central. They will be K-3<sup>rd</sup> age. The queen will meet with the coordinator to choose attendants.
- A football bearer will be chosen to walk with the Football Sweetheart. He will be a student from Drew Central or children of parents that work at Drew Central. They will be K-3<sup>rd</sup> age. The Football Sweetheart will meet with the coordinators to choose attendants.
- The Homecoming Queen will receive a crown and a football. The Football Sweetheart will receive a

football. The evening male escort will crown the Queen during the day ceremony and the queen will wear her crown during the night ceremony.

- The males will wear a red rose boutonniere.
- The queen will receive six roses, the football sweetheart three roses, and maids one rose.
- If the male and female members of the court would like their evening escort to have a boutonniere/corsage, they are responsible for the cost.

**Homecoming Contract:**

Student signature: \_\_\_\_\_ 7<sup>th</sup> Period: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

*Please select one of the following options:*

\_\_\_\_\_ I \_\_\_\_\_ would like to be included on the ballot for the current Homecoming Election and hereby agree to all the terms above related to my duties if I am selected for an honor.

\_\_\_\_\_ I \_\_\_\_\_ would like to remove my name from the ballot for the current Homecoming Election.

**STUDENT EXPENSES ON SCHOOL TRIPS**

The school will provide transportation on all approved educational trips. All other expenses must be paid by the student or the sponsoring club. Trip approval forms must be completed by the sponsor and turned in to the principal for approval at least five days before the trip.

**PARENTAL NOTIFICATION OF STUDENT MISCONDUCT**

The most effective methods of encouraging appropriate behavior always involve the school and the home working in partnership.

Teachers will file a Discipline Incident Form in the office documenting student misconduct on each occurrence of a violation of classroom rules or school policy that results in a written warning or other disciplinary measure. A copy of the form will be mailed to the parent/guardian.

Parents are encouraged to contact the teacher through the principal's office whenever questions about student behavior arise.

Teachers are also encouraged to contact the parent/guardian whenever classroom behavior becomes a concern to the teacher.

**DETENTION HALL**

Detention Hall: 11:56 a.m. – 12:24 p.m.

**Students assigned to d-hall will report to the assigned room at 11:56a.m (LUNCH). If a student arrives by 11:57a.m. according to the clock in the room, he/she will not be penalized. If a student arrives after 11:57a.m., he/she will be considered late and will have to serve an extra day. If a student arrives at 12:00pm. or later, he/she will not be allowed to serve and will be assigned to ISS.**

1. The first time a student fails to report to detention hall, he/she will receive three (3) days In-School Suspension. Assignment to In-School Suspension for failure to report to Detention Hall will remove the obligation of the student to serve the Detention Hall assignment.
2. A student showing up late for detention hall or is disruptive in detention hall will serve that day plus one extra day in detention hall.

When a student is assigned to detention hall five (5) times during a semester, he/she will be assigned to ISS. For each subsequent five (5) detention hall assignments, a student will be assigned to ISS.

### **STUDENT BEHAVIOR ON SCHOOL TRIPS**

Extracurricular activities supplement the regular instructional program and afford opportunities for a wide range of experiences, both academically and socially.

\* Extracurricular activities should, when possible, take place outside the regular school day. Students who participate in school approved trips shall be considered as in school while on the trip. (All school rules and policies apply.) Students shall not do anything to cause Drew Central any embarrassment while participating in extracurricular activities.

Violation of this policy will result in disciplinary actions. The principal or designee will have discretion in administering the consequences for the student's conduct, based on the severity of the situation.

1. Penalties applied to student behavior on school trips as assessed under the authority of handbook policies and school rules already established and any that may be added to meet program responsibilities.
2. The administration will review student behavior to assess current and future participation in extracurricular activities or school-sponsored trips. When necessary, the administration will recommend to the school board the expulsion of students due to behavior violations.

### **DAMAGE OR DESTRUCTION OF SCHOOL PROPERTY**

- A. A student shall not cause or attempt to cause damage to school property or steal or attempt to steal school property.
- B. The school district will attempt to recover damages from the student destroying school property.
- C. School discipline including Detention Hall, In School Suspension, Out of School Suspension, or Expulsion may be administered as a consequence of destruction of school property. Criminal charges may also be filed.

Parents of Students may be liable for damages to school property caused by the students.

### **THEFT**

- A. A student shall not steal or attempt to steal property belonging to the school or public or private property while under jurisdiction of the school.
- B. Students shall make restitution of any property stolen by them and shall be subject to other disciplinary measures.
- C. School discipline including Detention Hall, In School Suspension, Out of School Suspension, or

Expulsion may be administered as a consequence of destruction of school property. Criminal charges may also be filed.

Parents of students may be liable for damages to school property caused by the students.

### **TRUANCY**

Students who are on campus or come to campus must attend classes or be authorized to be excused from attending classes. If students do not attend class and have no bona fide permission to be absent from class, they will be considered truant from class. The administration will investigate all charges of truancy. Students who are adjudged to be truant following an administrative investigation will be assigned to In School Suspension. Only the principal or the dean of students has the authority to assign students to In School Suspension.

### **CHEATING/PLAGIARISM**

Any effort to give aid or receive aid during an assessment is considered cheating. Assessments may include tests, homework, lab work, skill evaluations, and other assignments.

Teachers will post their own policy regarding cheating/plagiarism in their classrooms. Penalties may include loss of credit for the test or assignment as well as other punitive actions.

### **INSUBORDINATION-DISRESPECTFULNESS**

A student shall comply with reasonable directions or commands of teachers, student teachers, substitute teachers, teacher aides, principals, administrative personnel, superintendent, school bus drivers, school security officers, or other authorized school personnel. Students will be considered insubordinate when they refuse to obey any rule or regulation of the school or school district or the reasonable instructions of school district personnel.

### **RACIAL OR ETHNIC SLURS**

Students who are guilty of racial slurs, ethnic obscenities, or other derogatory remarks will be disciplined. The principal or principal designee will have discretion in administering other consequences for the student's conduct, based on the severity of the situation.

### **GAMBLING**

A student shall not participate in any activity which may be termed gambling or wagering where the stakes are any other object or objects of value. The principal or principal designee will have discretion in administering other consequences for the student's conduct, based on the severity of the situation.

### **PUBLIC DISPLAYS OF AFFECTION**

Sexual Misconduct: Any inappropriate conduct of a sexual nature will result in appropriate and reasonable punishment to be determined by administration.

Students are to refrain from kissing, sitting in laps, or intimate hugging and touching at school or at school-sponsored activities.

## **FIREWORKS**

A student shall not possess, handle or store firecrackers, smoke bombs, cherry bombs or any other kind of fireworks that reasonably could be a danger to himself/herself or to other students or could be disruptive to the learning climate of the school.

## **ARSON**

The willful and deliberate burning of, or attempting to burn, school property is prohibited. Parents/Guardians and The Monticello Police Department will be immediately notified, and violator(s) will be prosecuted to the fullest extent of the law. (Arkansas Code 6-18-502) A person commits the offense of reckless burning if the person purposely starts a fire or causes an explosion, whether on his or her own property or property of another person, and thereby recklessly:

1. Creates a substantial risk of death or serious physical injury to any person;
2. Destroys or causes substantial damage to an occupiable structure of another person; or
3. Destroys or causes substantial damage to a vital public facility.
4. Reckless burning is a Class D felony. (Arkansas Code 5-38-302)

Law authorities will be contacted. The school administrator will make a recommendation for punishment based on the severity of the incident. Punishment for the student will range from out of school suspension to recommendation for expulsion.

## **FIGHTING**

When students fight or incite a fight, it may be difficult to determine who is at fault. When a cooling off period is needed, both students may be immediately suspended until effort to determine fault is made. If a student is found to have not initiated the fight, he/she should not be suspended. Alternative punishment may apply with regard to actual involvement.

The consequence for fighting will be suspension up to 10 days with the possibility of expulsion at the administrator's discretion.

In keeping with Act 1243 of 1997, all felonies or other violent criminal acts committed against a teacher, school employee or student will be reported to the appropriate local law enforcement agency and school district.

## **COMMUNICATING A DEATH THREAT**

Communicating a death threat concerning a school employee or student is a class D felony. Any student who communicates a death threat under this policy will be reported to the appropriate law enforcement agency.

Additionally, the parent or guardian will, at their expense, provide a psychological examination by a state-licensed psychological examiner to determine if the student is a threat to himself or others. The student will be suspended until the required psychological examination has been delivered to the principal.

If the psychological examination determines that the student is a threat to himself or others, the student will be assigned to the Alternative Learning Environment or recommended for expulsion from school.

## **COMMUNICATING FALSE ALARMS**

Any person who purposely initiates or circulates a report of a present, past or impending bombing, fire, offense, catastrophe or other emergency knowing that the report is false or baseless and could likely result in response by emergency personnel, or cause the evacuation or partial evacuation of a school building is subject to prosecution under Arkansas Law.

Students who issue false alarms as described above will be suspended for a period of not less than five days. Repeated offenses may result in expulsion for the remainder of the current school year with loss of all academic credit.

## **DISCIPLINE FOR STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES**

Students with disabilities who engage in misbehavior are subject to normal school disciplinary rules and regulations. If a student with disabilities requires particular discipline procedures, they shall be adopted for that student and included in the IEP by the IEP team. If a student with disabilities is suspended or expelled from School, an alternative educational program will be provided. The counselor of each school will be the grievance officer to review discipline of students with disabilities if requested by parents or students over the age of 18 years.

All students with disabilities will have an IEP meeting held when the student has been suspended for five (5) days. When a student has been suspended for ten (10) days, his IEP committee will meet, within three (3) days of the occurrence, to determine placement.

## **BEHAVIOR NOT COVERED**

The school district reserves the right to punish behavior which is not conducive to good order and discipline in the schools, even though such behavior is not specified in the preceding written rules.

Any instructions or announcements are enforceable after they appear in the memo one time and a student is subject to disciplinary action after the instruction or announcement appears in the memo three times.

## **HOME ACCESS CENTER (HAC)**

Home Access Center (HAC) is a web application which allows students and parents to view registration, class assignments, report cards, discipline, attendance, and scheduling information. A letter will be mailed home to students and parents that will include their secure login and password to access HAC records.

With HAC: <http://hac23.esp.k12.ar.us>.

- View demographic information
- View address information
- View interim progress reports and report cards for the current grading period
- View attendance information in calendar format with color-coded absence types
- View current schedule
- View class work and assignments
- View discipline infractions
- Access teacher and counselor e-mail



## **TITLE IX POLICY**

It is the policy of the Drew Central School District not to discriminate on the basis of sex or race in the educational program, activities or employment policies as requested by Title IX of the 1972 Educational Amendments. Inquiries regarding compliance with Title IX may be directed to:

Drew Central School District, Attention: Title IX Coordinator, 250 University Drive, Monticello, AR 71655, Phone (870) 367-5369 or Director of the Office of Civil Rights, Department of Health, Education and Welfare, Washington, D.C.

Grievances concerning sex discrimination in the Drew Central School District shall be presented in writing to the Title IX Coordinator, at the above address. The complaint shall contain the reason for the grievance and the name of the person against whom allegations of discrimination are made. All persons involved in the complaint will be notified within five (5) days from the date of the complaint and action taken within ten (10) days to dispose of the complaint.

Any person not satisfied with the disposition of complaints may file an appeal in writing within five (5) days to, Drew Central School Board, Attention: President, 250 University Drive, Monticello, AR 71655.

## **NONDISCRIMINATORY POLICY NOTIFICATION**

It is the policy of the Drew Central School District to provide equal opportunities without regard to race, color, national origin, sex, age, qualified handicap or veteran in its educational programs and activities. This includes, but is not limited to, admissions, educational services, financial aid and employment. Inquiries concerning application of this policy may be referred to:

Drew Central School District, Attention: Equity Coordinator, 250 University Drive, Monticello, AR 71655, Phone: 367-5369