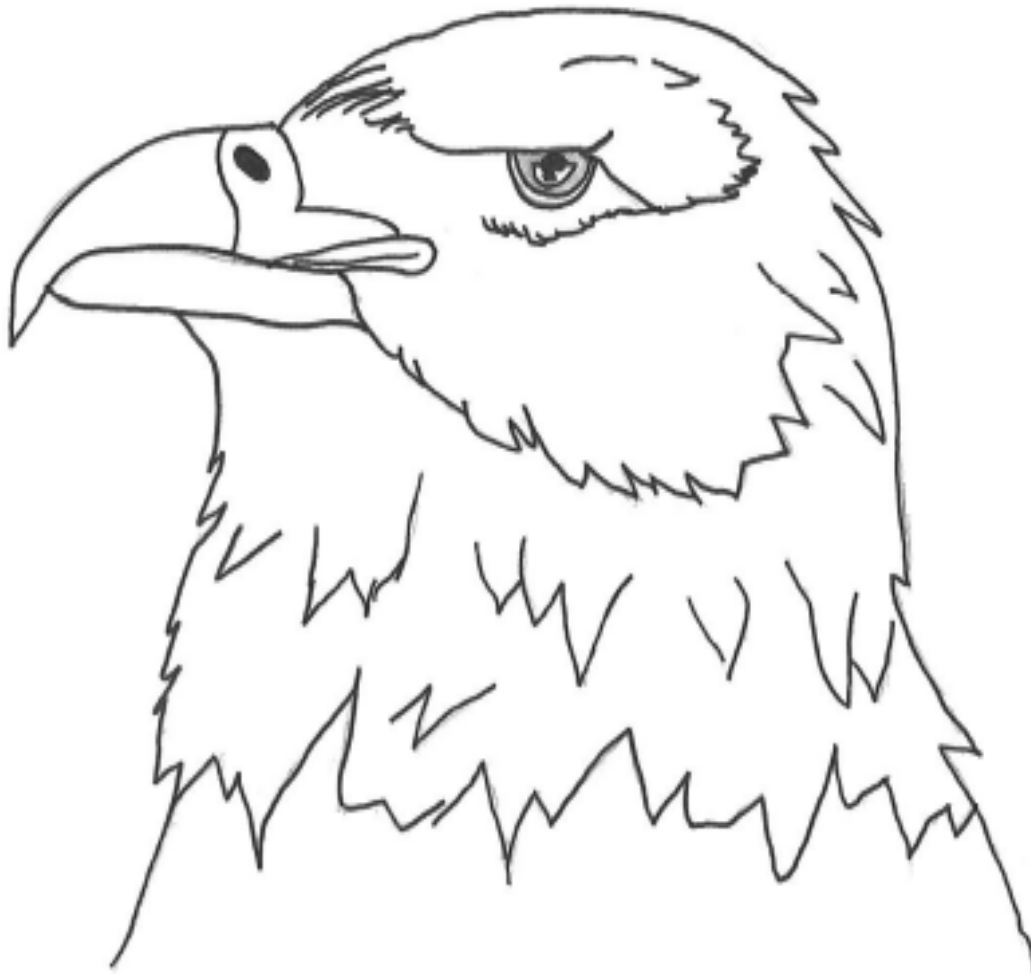


Downsville Central School

By: Julia Duffton– 7th Grade



PreK-12 Student & Parent Handbook
2021-2022

Our Mission

Excellence
Achievement
Growth
Life-long learning
Equity
Strength of character

Always soaring upward!



The Eagle Way

- Recognize and value individual strengths
- Learn from our mistakes
- Enforce rules consistently and fairly Be accountable for our decisions and actions
- Encourage success in each other Model respect, responsibility, and passion for learning

Expectations of our Students

Dear Students,

As the year begins, we would like all of you to know what we expect from you as a student.

We expect you to work to the best of your ability.

We expect you to treat others with dignity, worth, and respect.

We expect you to keep our school beautiful and clean.

We expect you to follow all rules and regulations developed by you, your teachers, and the school.

We expect you to work to keep a positive relationship with parents, teachers, and friends.

We expect you to reach beyond your grasp and learn new things.

We expect you will make all of us very proud.

Have a great year!

In keeping with the Downsville Central School District Mission Statement, we are working to provide an enjoyable, safe and productive environment in which members of the school community understand and accept the challenge to learn, to grow and mature as individuals, and to achieve personal and professional goals.

As a diverse community, we must work together to create a school which ensures individual safety, provides equal access to a quality education, and is responsive to student needs. In order to fulfill this mission, all members of the DCS community must agree to follow a set of basic expectations.

These expectations are:

Showing respect for the educational mission of the school

Showing respect for people, property, and environment

Taking responsibility for our own words and actions

These basic expectations can be met by having a clear understanding of our rights and responsibilities.

Our Rights at DCS:

To be educated.

To learn and to teach free from the distraction of others.

To be spoken to in a dignified and respectful manner.

To be listened to.

To experience physical and emotional safety.

To attend and to work in a clean school.

Our Responsibilities at DCS:

To do our jobs as students and staff.

To not distract others from learning.

To speak to others in a non-threatening and humane manner.

To practice self-discipline and self-control.

To listen to others.

To keep a clean and orderly school.

Dear Parents/Guardians:

You are the first, most-long-lasting teachers in your child's life. Research shows that parent involvement is high on the list of factors contributing to a student's success in school. That is why we continually ask for your help and support in providing the best educational program possible.

Show your child you are interested and concerned. Take time each afternoon or evening to talk about the school day. Your consistent interest and encouragement will result in increased motivation and desire to learn. Let your child know that you are working together with the teachers and the school to help make education pleasant and beneficial in every way.

During the school day, students will have the opportunity to grow intellectually, physically, and socially. It is our hope that with your help we can foster an environment at both home and school that will promote this growth. We then hope that this growth will be measured in the pride, care and respect each child demonstrates now and in the future.

We would like to wish each of you a pleasant school year. If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact us.

Sincerely,

DCS Board of Education & Staff

Important Phone Numbers

District Office363-2100

Principal's Office363-2111

Guidance Office363-2109

Health Office 363-2120

Bus Garage363-2130

Dear Parents/Guardians and Student:

We have prepared this handbook as an informational guide for grades PK-12. Please read and review this handbook with your child.

After you have read the handbook and gone over it with your child, sign this form and send it back to your child's teacher. Affirming the fact you and your child are aware of the basic rules and procedures is the first step in improved communication between school and home. If you have any questions feel free to contact us. On the previous page of the handbook you will find important phone numbers. We look forward to a rewarding year of growth.

Sincerely,

The Board of Education and Staff of Downsville Central School

We have thoroughly read and discussed the Parent /Student Handbook and will work together to ensure a positive learning experience.

Student (Print) _____

(Signature) _____ Date: _____

Parent /Guardian (Print) _____

(Signature) _____ Date: _____

Parent /Guardian (Print) _____

(Signature) _____ Date: _____

Please read and sign/ initial both sides of this page, detach and return to teacher.

2021-2022 Parent/Guardian Permission Slip

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Please initial the appropriate statements, sign and return this page verifying your acceptance or permission of the following items: technology use & media outlet.

Thank You,

The Board of Education and Staff of Downsville Central School

Technology Use Form

_____ (initial here) We have thoroughly read and discussed the internet usage policy in this handbook and will work together to ensure compliance throughout the year. We understand that the school's technology, devices and Internet are to be used solely for educational purposes and that the school district reserves the right to monitor all Internet activity performed in school and/or on school devices including the transmission and receipt of email. Any violation of this policy may result in disciplinary actions as stated in the Code of Conduct.

Annual Notification Regarding Directory Information

Student directory information includes: name, address, photographs, telephone listing, date, grade, place of birth, major field of study, participation in officially recognized activities and sports, weight and height (if members of athletic teams), and degrees and awards received. Only name, photographs, grade, major field of study, participation in officially recognized activities and sports, weight and height (if members of athletic teams), and degrees and awards received will be released to local newspapers. Downsville Central School will use "student directory information" in its yearbooks, on school bulletin boards, internet web pages, educational channel, school newspapers, school newsletters, and media outlets (newspaper, radio, TV stations). Captions accompanying photographs on internet web pages will not identify students by name.

As a parent, legal guardian, or student over the age of 18, you have the right to refuse the release of student directory information. If you consent, you need not take additional action. If you DO NOT wish for your child to be included in any media outlet, please initial below.

_____ I **refuse** participation of my student in any media outlet.

Parent /Guardian (Print) _____

(Signature) _____ Date: _____

Downsville Central School District Academic Calendar

2021-2022

JULY						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

AUGUST						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

SEPTEMBER						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

- Students First Day
- School Closed - Holiday/Recess
- No School - Students/Staff (offices open)
- Staff Dev. Day (No school for students)
- P/T Conference (early dismissal for students)
- Regents Exams
- State Testing
- P/T Conferences -full day

OCTOBER						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	
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10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

NOVEMBER						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

DECEMBER						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

- July
- 5 - Independence Day
- September
- 1- Staff Development Day
 - 6 - Labor Day
 - 7 - First Day for Students
- October
- 8- Staff Development
 - 11 - Columbus Day
- November
- 11 - Veteran's Day
 - 12 - P/T Conferences -full day
 - 24-26 - Thanksgiving Break (24 - Offices Open)

JANUARY						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

FEBRUARY						
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20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28					

MARCH						
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20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

- December
- 23-31 - Christmas Break (23, 28-30 Offices Open)
- January
- 17 - MLK, Jr. Day

APRIL						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
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17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

MAY						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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29	30	31				

JUNE						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

- February
- 18 - P/T Conference (early dismissal for students)
 - 21 - President's Day
- March
- 18 - Staff Development Day
- April
- 15 - Good Friday
 - 11-18 - Spring Break (Offices Open)
- May
- 30 - Memorial Day

* School is in session during Regents weeks unless otherwise cancelled by the district
 Total Days 184 + 4 = 188
 If 2 or fewer snow days remain by 4/8, then 4/18 will a regular day of school

Additional days may be removed from Spring Break if the number of emergency closings exceed the number allotted for the year

- June
- 20 Juneteenth
 - 23 Last Day of School For Students
 - 24 - Graduation/Last Day for Instructional Staff

WHAT TO DO...

1. IF YOU ARE ABSENT

Parents are required to call in their child's absence before 8:30 a.m. Please contact the Health Office at 363-2120.

2. IF YOU HAVE BEEN ABSENT

Report to the Health Office with your excuse signed by your parent or guardian. You are responsible for any missed assignments.

3. IF YOU ARE TARDY

Report to the Health Office with your excuse signed by your parent/guardian. Students arriving after 7:50 a.m. are tardy.

4. IF YOU ARE ILL DURING CLASS

Ask to be excused by your classroom teacher. Report to the Health Office for examination to determine the next step.

5. IF YOU MUST LEAVE SCHOOL EARLY

Bring a signed request from your parents **at the beginning of the day** that you are excused. You will be issued a pass slip from the Nurse's office. Then you must get assignments for any class you would miss before you leave school. You must be signed out by a parent/designee. *Every effort should be made to make appointments after school hours.*

6. IF YOU ARE LATE TO CLASS

Obtain a pass from the teacher who detained you, present it to the teacher of your next class. Passes will NOT be issued by any of the Office personnel, the Principal, or Guidance Counselor.

7. IF YOU FIND A LOST ITEM

Hand it in to the Health Office. Physical Education equipment should be handed in to PE teachers.

8. IF YOU ARE UNABLE TO PARTICIPATE IN PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Get an excuse from your doctor and present it to the Health Office.

9. IF YOU RECEIVE AN INCOMPLETE GRADE

An "incomplete" may be given to students who have been unable to complete assignments due to medical excuses. All incomplete grades must be made up within a two (2) week period.

10. IF YOU MISS A CLASS

Report to the teacher whose class you missed for any missed work. School work missed on account of any absence will be considered failed until it has been made up in a manner satisfactory to the teacher.

11. IF YOU HAVE TO BE IN THE HALL

Students should have a pass when they are in the hallway during class time. Students should not leave class to go to their lockers or the bathroom except in an emergency.

12. IF YOU WILL BE RIDING A DIFFERENT BUS HOME

Please write a note for your son/daughter stating which bus and the date (this must be done for any student PK-12 wishing to ride another bus). These notes need to be taken to the main office in the morning.

13. IF YOU ARE INVITING A GUEST TO DANCES

There is a form in the Principal's Office that you need to obtain and have signed by the appropriate people and returned to the Principal's Office so they can do a reference check and then approve or deny.

14. OVERTOWN & SIGNING OUT PERMISSION

For those seniors who are eligible there is a form in the Principal's Office that you need to obtain and have signed by your parents and return to the Principal's Office for final approval.

15. IF YOU DRIVE A CAR TO SCHOOL

Students must park in the designated student parking areas.

COMMUNICATION BETWEEN SCHOOL AND HOME

Downsville's formal reporting system includes report cards and/or forms developed by the professional staff and issued periodically, SchoolTool online gradebook, scheduled conferences between parents and teachers, phone calls, emails and progress reports issued as needed or required. Parents are urged to visit the school and to meet with school counselors and teachers whenever necessary. Please schedule all such visits in advance.

PARENT CONFERENCES

Parent-teacher conferences are an important element in reporting student progress to parents. Time permits only a limited number of conferences on days that are set aside for this purpose. Therefore, parents and teachers should schedule meetings in advance.

Parents may initiate a conference by calling the school office and making an appointment with the teacher, counselor, or Principal. When a parent requests a conference with a teacher, the teacher will make every effort to arrange a mutually convenient time. Such conference will be planned around the teacher's schedule so as not to interfere with class time.

If a parent cannot attend a scheduled conference, he/she should notify the school as far in advance as possible so that another conference time may be arranged.

GUIDANCE PROGRAMS

Guidance programs are available for all students PreK-12 to ensure effective participation in their current and future educational programs.

In addition, the guidance program provides the following services:

1. An annual review of each student's educational progress and career plans;
2. Instruction to help students learn about curriculum options and careers;
3. Individual and/or group counseling assistance to help students develop and implement postsecondary education and career plans; and
4. Individual or group counseling assistance to help students who exhibit any attendance, academic, behavioral or adjustment problems.

The Guidance Counselor will be as readily available for conferences as is possible. Students should report to their assigned location before asking the teacher to go to the Guidance Office. Students may come to the Guidance Office either individually or in groups. Students should make every attempt to schedule appointments for study halls and to obtain a pre-signed pass. We also have a school psychologist and Preventive Case Manager available to meet counseling needs.

Whenever possible students, staff and parents are asked to schedule appointments with the Guidance Counselor or School Psychologist in advance.

EMERGENCY CLOSINGS

The Superintendent of Schools may close the schools or dismiss students/staff early when hazardous weather or other emergencies threaten health or safety.

Parents are requested to avoid calling schools on days of poor weather; it is important to keep school phone lines open. School closing and delayed starting times will be announced over local radio stations and on the school's website, the school social media accounts, the text message service and the All Call System. The following television/radio stations will carry information regarding emergency closings:

-Radio: 92.1 FM WDLA Walton

-Television: WBNG Channel 12 Binghamton, WSKG Channel 46 Binghamton

-Internet: Downsville Central School Facebook page, www.dcseagles.org

* If no report is heard, it can be assumed the schools are opening on time.

ACCIDENTS

Accidents should be reported immediately to the teacher who is in charge of the class or activity and to the Nurse. It is important that both the teacher and the Nurse are notified, so that emergency measures may be taken and insurance forms filled out accurately.

EMERGENCY/FIRE DRILLS

The School District is responsible for conducting fire drills and lockdown drills in order to instruct students and staff in exiting the school building in an emergency in the shortest time possible and without confusion and panic. Fire drills and lockdown drills shall include instruction on exits and fire alarm boxes, as well as fire drill and lockdown drill procedures.

All students are expected to cooperate with staff members during all drills, and to leave the buildings in a quiet and orderly manner. The exit route is posted in each room and instructions are given for remaining for the lockdown drills. Students must stay with their teacher. Distracting behavior will be subject to either teacher or administrative discipline. This also pertains to emergency drill procedures.

AFTER SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

Students in grades PK-4 must be accompanied by and remain with an adult (over age 18). Students in grades 5 and 6, through specific arrangements with the principal, may attend some activities alone. Parents must make such arrangements with the Principal prior to the child's unsupervised attendance at any activity.

SCHOOL DANCES AND OTHER FUNCTIONS

1. Students who are absent from school due to illness or who have an unexcused absence are not permitted to attend any extracurricular activity.
2. Upon entering the building for a dance and other after school activity, students must remain in the building. Students who leave the building for any reason, unless previously arranged with the chaperones, will not be allowed to re-enter. Students who leave the building must also leave school grounds.
3. Students who violate the code of conduct in any manner may be denied the privilege of attending future dances and school functions. The Superintendent or designee will make such a decision based on reports from chaperones and other relevant sources.
4. Parents of students who misbehave or violate the code of conduct will be notified immediately upon the chaperones learning of the infraction and will be expected to pick their child up from the dance or function.
5. Rest rooms in the immediate vicinity of the dance or other function will be accessible. The use of all other rest rooms is prohibited and subject to removal from the dance or other function and denial from attending future dances and school functions.

REGULAR DAILY SCHEDULE

The school building is open to students at 7:30 a.m. Students in grades PreK-6 arriving at this time should report to the cafeteria while students in grades 7-12 should report to the auditorium if they are not getting breakfast. PreK-12 students are not allowed in their classrooms until 7:50 a.m. Students in grades 7-12 will be allowed upstairs at 7:45 a.m. Dismissal time is 2:44 p.m.

PARKING AND TRAFFIC REGULATIONS

1. Vehicles must move at a proper speed or operation will not be allowed on the school grounds. This includes automobiles and motorcycles.
2. No vehicles other than school busses are allowed in the bus loop area from 7:35-8:10 a.m. and 2:35-3:10 p.m.
3. Parking spaces in front of the building that face the building are to be used for visitors to the school (i.e. FIRST program parents/guardians).
4. Parents who drop students off must pull into a parking spot and not block traffic from entering the drop off area.

ATTENDANCE

It is the responsibility of the parent / guardian to notify the School Attendance Officer, Mrs. Odell, in the event a student will be absent from school. Parents may call 363-2120 or email godell@dcseagles.org at any time before 8:15 am and leave a message with your child's name and reason for his/her absence.

COMPREHENSIVE ATTENDANCE POLICY

A. Objectives—The objectives of the Comprehensive Attendance Policy are:

1. to accurately track the attendance, absence, tardiness and early departure of student to and from the school;
2. to ensure sufficient pupil attendance of classes so that pupils may achieve State mandated education standards; this includes regents week unless excused by Principal or a BOE resolution;
3. to track student location for safety reasons and to account to parents regarding the location of children during school hours.

B. Definitions—Whenever used within the Comprehensive Attendance Policy, the following terms shall mean:

1. Scheduled instruction: Every period that a pupil is scheduled to attend instructional or supervised study activities during the course of a school day during the school year.
2. Absent: The pupil is not present for the entire period of the pupil's scheduled instruction.
3. Tardy: The pupil arrives later than the starting time of the pupil's scheduled instruction.
4. Early departure: The pupil leaves prior to the end of the pupil's scheduled instruction.
5. Excused: Any absence, tardiness, or early departure for which the pupil has a valid school approved excuse. Such excused nonappearance shall include: personal illness, illness or death in the family, religious observance, quarantine, required court appearances, attendance at health clinics or other medical visits, approved college visits, military obligations, absences approved in advance by the Principal, and other reasons as may be approved by the Commissioner of Education.
6. Unexcused: Any absence, tardiness or early departure for which the pupil has no valid school approved excuse. Such unexcused nonappearance shall include shopping trips to the local mall, family vacation, oversleeping, skipping class, and any other absence that is not excused. *The Commissioner of Education has ruled that parental consent to a student's absence does not preclude the School District from enforcing its attendance policy against students violating the school attendance policy.*
7. Half Semester Course: Half semester courses include but are not limited to the following: home economics courses, health, physical education, technology courses, and participation in government, music courses, driver education, and other electives.
8. Full Semester Course: Full semester courses include but are not limited to the following: math, science, English, and social studies core courses, business courses, band, chorus, and some elective courses.
9. Full Year Course: Include but are not excluded to any course offered every day in our 40 minute block throughout the school year.

C. In order to encourage student attendance, the following strategies and incentives shall apply:

1. Minimum Attendance for Course Credit
 - a. A student must be noted as present at 92% of a course's scheduled classes in order to earn credit for the course. Any excused absence, for which the student has completed assigned make up work, will not be counted as an absence for the purposes of determining whether the student has attended sufficient classes to receive course credit under this provision.

- i. For purposes of minimum attendance requirements, a student shall not be counted as present for a class if the student misses more than half of class, whether through tardiness or early departure.
- ii. Students of compulsory attendance age suspended from school instruction may not be marked as absent unless they fail to attend scheduled alternative education on that day. Tutors need to turn attendance into Attendance Officer.
- iii. Students over compulsory attendance age suspended from school instruction will be marked absent unless they have been assigned alternative education. If alternative education has been assigned, only failure to attend scheduled alternative education shall count as an absence. Tutors need to turn attendance into Attendance Officer.

b. In order to prevent loss of credit for failure to attend, the district will take the following steps:

- i. when a student has been marked absent for 3% of a course's classes (3 days during 1/2 semester and 6 days during full year course), the district shall notify the student and his/ her parent(s) or persons in parental relation that the student is approaching the limit of absences for losing course credit for failure to attend class. The notice will include the school's attendance for credit policy, the actual number of classes the student may miss before forfeiting the right to earn credit, and the actual number of classes missed to date;
- ii. a student and his parent(s) or persons in parental relation will be advised one month before the completion of the course if the student is in jeopardy of losing credit for failure to attend, The notice will include the school's attendance for credit policy, the actual number of classes missed to date;
- iii. teachers will provide makeup work upon request so that students who are in jeopardy of forfeiting class credits due to excused absences have the opportunity to earn credit for the course;
- iv. where a student is in jeopardy of losing credit for excessive absences, the Building Principal shall be responsible for reviewing attendance records, determining eligibility for makeup work for excused absences, and arranging student makeup opportunities with teachers, including deadlines.
- v. if a student is sick and has a medical excuse of 3 days or more to stay home from school, Downsville Central School will provide a tutor to the student. The request for the tutor must come from the child's parent/guardian to the Guidance Office. The tutor can be sent to the home during the time absent or time can be made up after school. Medically excused absences can be made up within two weeks of the date of the absence. No medically excused absences can be made up if more than two weeks has passed since the absence occurred. (example: a medically excused absence in November cannot be made up in January).

Sample Time Line:

- a. Student A is absent for 3 days by doctor's orders (has a doctor's note).
- b. Parents of student A call the guidance office and requests a tutor.
- c. Parents of student A bring the doctor's note to the health office.
- d. The guidance office lines up a tutor and the absence must be made up within two weeks of absence.

3. Notices of Absences—The Pupil’s parent(s) or person in parental relation shall be notified of a pupil’s unexcused absence, tardiness or early departure according the following:
 - a. Where a pupil has not been marked as present for the first period of scheduled instruction and the school has not been previously notified of the absence, the district shall attempt to contact the pupil’s parent(s) or person in parental relation to learn the nature of the pupil’s absence and notify the parent that the pupil has not arrived at school;
 - b. for every 3 unexcused absences, tardies, early departures, or any combination thereof, the pupil’s parent(s) or persons in parental relation shall receive a notice containing the dates, times, and the nature of the pupil’s unexcused non-presence.
4. Disciplinary Procedures—The pupil may be subject to disciplinary procedures for unexcused absence, tardiness, or early departure, including verbal and written warnings, detentions, in-school suspensions, and loss of extracurricular privileges, as described in the Code of Conduct.
5. Incentives—District teachers shall work with the Building Principal and Attendance Supervision Officer to create and implement classroom based incentive programs for excellent attendance, including but not limited to extra credit and additional privileges.
6. Intervention Strategy Development — The Building Principal shall meet each marking period with the Attendance Supervision Officer and other administrators and teachers as the Principal determines necessary to review student attendance records, address identified patterns of unexcused pupil absence, tardiness and early departure, and review current intervention methods. Where the Principal shall notify the Board of Education prior to its annual review of the building’s attendance records, of both insufficient practices and any proposed changes needing Board approval to implement.
7. Counseling— The District shall provide consistent counseling to students with chronic attendance problems.

Adopted: 5/13/02

PROCEDURES FOR RETURNING TO SCHOOL FOLLOWING ABSENCES AND WHEN LEAVING SCHOOL

1. Students absent for any reason must bring an excuse stating the specific reason for the absence upon returning to school.
2. Students returning to school following an absence must report to the Nurse’s Office before proceeding to any other place in the building.
3. Students who fail to bring excuses for more than three (3) school days will be subject to disciplinary action through the Building Principal.
4. Students who are to be excused for part of the day must present a written excuse at the Nurse’s Office upon arriving at school in the morning. If approved by the Building Principal, the student will be given a pass to be released at the proper time and will appear on the attendance list for early release.
5. Students returning to school late and students who are tardy must report to the Nurse’s Office before proceeding to any other place in the building. Two unexcused tardies will result in lunch detention. Three unexcused absences will result in after-school detention.
6. Students who become ill during the school day should report to the Nurse’s Office. Parents will be called to come for the student, if possible. Students cannot call their parents and leave school without reporting to the Nurse’s Office.

OUTDOOR RECESS PROCEDURES

1. Recess will be held inside if the temperature is below 20°F (including wind chill).
2. Recess will be held indoors in the event of precipitation (rain, sleet, or freezing rain).

Please be sure your child is dressed appropriately for recess according to the weather conditions.

HOMEWORK

Homework provides excellent opportunities for developing good study habits, providing for individual differences and abilities, and encouraging self-initiative on the part of the student.

Parents and the school share the responsibility for student learning. Parents can assist their child(ren) with homework by:

- providing a study area free of distractions and with good lighting;
- asking questions about the content of student homework;
- giving requested assistance, but letting the student do his or her own work;
- avoiding undue pressure; and
- helping create a “homework habit” at the same time each night.

Downsville Central School believes that parental involvement in students’ homework is essential to making homework an integral part of the educational program. Parents should encourage and monitor homework assignments.

PROMOTION AND RETENTION OF STUDENTS

Downsville Central School will make every effort to communicate potential promotions or retentions of students to their parent /guardian. Parent conferences to discuss mutual concerns are encouraged and there are days set aside each year for these conferences—refer to the yearly district calendar.

PreK-4

All available resources will be used to determine a child’s promotion or retention, including class achievement, standardized test scores, attendance and teacher observations and recommendations.

GRADES 5-8

1. Students who pass all subjects will be promoted automatically.
2. Students who fail up to two subjects will have the failure evaluated and a determination made as to the reason for the failure. The student may be required to repeat the subject, or attend and successfully complete courses in summer school. The decision shall be arrived at by consensus from a case conference approach involving the 5-8 grade teachers, building principal, and school counselor.
3. Students who fail three or more subjects may fail for the year or may have to participate in credit recovery programming. These cases will also be considered on an individual basis as explained in 2 above.

GRADES 9-12

In general, promotion from one class to the next shall be contingent upon the passing of all required subjects and Regents exams. Summer school and credit recovery programming may be an option but for no more than two courses if they are offered.

TEXTBOOKS

Textbooks and/or library books are furnished free by the school for use by all students when necessary. These books must be returned in good condition. In the event of unreasonable wear, a charge will be made. Any books which are not returned must be paid for before report cards are issued. All books must be turned in at the time of the final or Regents examination.

COMPUTERS

Students in grades PK-12 are each assigned a 1:1 electronic device to use during the school day. Students are responsible for any intentional damage or misuse of the computers or other computer hardware or software. Misuse or damage will result in a loss of computer use privileges and any damage to computer hardware or software will be charged to the student who used the items.

Internet use requires the assignment of a username and password. Any student wishing to use the Internet must have a signed Internet use form on file before use will be allowed. Using another person's username and password will be considered a violation of the code of conduct and each party may be subject to consequences.

CELL PHONE & ELECTRONIC DEVICE USAGE

The following guidelines will be enforced concerning cell phone use and possession during school. The school will not be responsible for lost or stolen cell phones.

- PK-6 grade students will be allowed to bring cell phones/electronic devices to school but must put them in their backpacks at all times during the school day. They will be permitted in grades 5 & 6 at lunch time.
- 7-12 grade students will be allowed to bring and use cell phones in the hall during class transition periods and during lunch. During this time, they are to be used appropriately and use of such devices is not an excuse to be tardy to class. They are not permitted to be used during classes unless specifically instructed to do so by a teacher.
- Earbuds or headphones may not be worn in the hallway.
- Any student using a cell phone during an unapproved time will be asked to give it to a staff member who will deliver it to the office. For the first offense, the student may pick it up at the end of the day. For the second offense, a parent or guardian must pick up the cell phone after school or the next morning. If a student refuses to give a faculty member the phone then this will be considered insubordination and will be dealt with at the Principal's Office.

LOCKERS

All students in grades 7-12 are assigned lockers in which to keep books, class materials and coats. Students are not allowed to change lockers at any time during the year unless authorized by the Principal. Lockers should not be used to store valuables. Lockers are also available in locker rooms for PE classes. All lockers are effective only if locked; locks are provided and all lockers must be locked. All lockers remain the exclusive property of the school, and students should have no expectation of privacy with respect to lockers.

Students are expected to maintain and preserve the condition of lockers; stickers and adhesives are not to be applied to lockers, inside or outside. Graffiti inside or outside of the locker is not allowed. Should a locker be vandalized the student will forfeit their right to use a locker.

DISCIPLINE PROCEDURE

In most instances, the teacher assigns consequences as needed. Teachers will contact parents when they are concerned with a student's behavior. At times, however, students who continually break rules or commit a serious offense are referred to the office. When student behavior warrants a referral, parents will be notified.

If a child is referred to the office for disciplinary action, an attempt is made to gather all available information regarding the situation. This may involve discussions with other students or staff.

If formal discipline is necessary, it may involve lunch detention, after school detention, in school suspension, out of school suspension or alternative instruction.

SUMMARY VERSION OF THE CODE OF CONDUCT FOR STUDENTS, PARENTS AND VISITORS

STUDENT RIGHTS

The District is committed to safeguarding the rights given to all students under State and Federal Law. In addition, to promote a safe, healthy, orderly and civil school environment, all district students have the right to:

1. Take part in all district activities on an equal basis regardless of race, color, creed, national origin, religion, gender or sexual orientation or disability.
2. Present their version of the relevant events to school personnel authorized to impose a disciplinary penalty in connection with the imposition of the penalty.
3. Access school rules and, when necessary, receive an explanation of those rules from school personnel.

STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES

All district students have the responsibility to:

1. Contribute to maintaining a safe and orderly school environment that is conducive to learning and to show respect to other persons and to property.
2. Be familiar with and abide by all district policies, rules and regulations dealing with student conduct.
3. Attend school every day unless they are legally excused and be in class, on time and prepared to learn. All students are required to be in attendance during Regents exam week unless specifically excused by the Principal or Superintendent.
4. Work to the best of their ability in all academic and extracurricular pursuits and strive toward their highest level of achievement possible.
5. React to direction given by teachers, administrators and other school personnel in a respectful, positive manner.
6. Work to develop mechanisms to control their anger.
7. Ask questions when they do not understand.
8. Seek help in solving problems that might lead to discipline.
9. Dress appropriately for school and school functions.
10. Accept responsibility for their actions.
11. Conduct themselves as representatives of the District when participating in or attending school-sponsored extracurricular events and to hold themselves to the highest standards of conduct, demeanor, and sportsmanship.
12. Students must be conscious that younger students follow the example of older students. Such examples should enhance school environment.

PARENT RESPONSIBILITIES

All parents are expected to:

1. Recognize that the education of their child(ren) is a joint responsibility of the parents and the school community.
2. Send their children to school ready to participate and learn.
3. Ensure their children attend school regularly and on time.
4. Ensure absences are excused.
5. Insist their children be dressed and groomed in a manner consistent with the student dress code.
6. Help their children understand that in a democratic society appropriate rules are required to maintain a safe, orderly environment.
7. Know school rules and help their children understand them.
8. Convey to their children a supportive attitude toward education and the District.
9. Build good relationships with teachers, other parents and their children's friends.
10. Help their children deal effectively with peer pressure.
11. Inform school officials of changes in the home situation that may affect student conduct or performance.
12. Provide a place for study and ensure homework assignments are completed.

STUDENT & STAFF DRESS CODE

We recognize that the school has the responsibility to maintain a safe and orderly environment conducive to learning. Furthermore we recognize that part of one's education is learning when where, how and why appropriate dress is important. All students must be dressed in appropriate clothing and protective equipment as required for the various learning environments. Students and their parents have the primary responsibility for appropriate dress and appearance. The district personnel will exemplify and support students in understanding of appropriate clothing based on the various learning environments.

A student's dress, grooming and appearance shall be safe, appropriate and not disrupt or interfere with the educational process. This includes the wearing of appropriate and safe footwear. Wearing of hats is left to teacher discretion unless medical or religious purposes determine necessity. Articles of clothing or jewelry that in any way reference vulgarity, obscenities, stereotyping, discrimination (to race, color, religion, gender or disability), sex, sexual orientation, violence and drug related inferences including alcohol and tobacco will not be permitted. Additionally, all clothing must cover cleavage, midriff and buttocks.

Students will be expected to dress respectfully and appropriately when on a field trip and all other related events in which they are representing our school. Students are encouraged to wear sports uniforms or school apparel to emphasize school spirit.

If district personnel request that a student change due to a concern of safety or appropriateness, students are expected to respectfully comply with the request; remain compliant for the remainder of the school day and not wear the item again to avoid reoccurrence. Failure or refusal to comply will result in a referral for insubordination.

(Updated 2018)

Procedure for enforcement of dress code by teachers and staff

1. Upon noticing students violating the dress code, the teacher or staff person will immediately direct the student to change their clothing. If student does not have a change of clothing, they will be directed to the Nurse's Office to be issued clothing from the lost and found.
2. Hats and headgear will be sent to the Principal's Office to be picked up at the end of the day.
3. Second offense is a referral to the Principal's Office and parents/guardians will be called.

PROHIBITED STUDENT CONDUCT

Students may be subject to disciplinary action, up to and including suspension from school, when they:

- A. Engage in conduct that is disorderly. Examples of disorderly conduct can be found in the full version of the code of conduct.*
- B. Engage in conduct that is insubordinate. Examples of insubordinate conduct can be found in the full version of the code of conduct.*
- C. Engage in conduct that is disruptive. Examples of disruptive conduct can be found in the full version of the code of conduct.*
- D. Engage in conduct that is violent. Examples of violent conduct can be found in the full version of the code of conduct.*
- E. Engage in any conduct that endangers the safety, morals, health or welfare of others. Examples of such conduct can be found in the full version of the code of conduct.*
- F. Engage in misconduct while on the school bus.*
- G. Engage in any form of academic misconduct. Examples of academic misconduct can be found in the full version of the code of conduct.*

If a student engages in prohibited student conduct which may constitute a crime, the building principal or designee must notify the appropriate local law enforcement agency as soon as practical. *Please contact Superintendent's Office for a full version of the Code of Conduct.

PUBLIC DISPLAYS OF AFFECTION POLICY

Since Downsview Central School is a public facility, intimate relations have no place in the school buildings, school transportation or on school property. Celebration hugs and hand-holding are permitted, but intimate embraces and groping will not be allowed. Use your judgement and avoid the embarrassment that may be involved when a teacher or administrator has to speak to you about your behavior. Disregard of this policy will result in the following disciplinary actions.

1. verbal warning
2. letter home and after-school detention
3. parent conference

PENALTIES

In assessing disciplinary penalties, school personnel will consider the following:

1. The student's age;
2. The nature of the offense and the circumstances which led to the offense;
3. The student's prior disciplinary record;
4. The effectiveness of other forms of discipline;
5. Information from parents, teachers or others, as appropriate;
6. Other extenuating circumstances.

As a rule, discipline will be progressive. This means that a student's first violation will usually merit a lighter penalty than subsequent violations. Discipline penalties will be assessed in compliance with IDEA and NYS Law where the student is a student with a disability.

Students found to have violated the District's code of conduct may be subject to one or more of the following penalties.

1. Oral Warning
2. Written Warning
3. Written notification to parent
4. Detention
5. Suspension from transportation

6. Suspension from athletic participation
7. Suspension from social or extracurricular activities
8. Suspension of other privileges
9. In-school supervision
10. Removal from classroom
11. Short term suspension from school
12. Long term suspension from school
13. Permanent suspension from school

The amount of due process a student is entitled to receive before a penalty is imposed depends on the penalty being imposed. In all cases, regardless of the penalty imposed, the school personnel authorized to impose the penalty must inform the student of the alleged misconduct and must investigate, to the extent necessary, the facts surrounding the alleged misconduct. All students will have an opportunity to present their version of the facts to the school personnel imposing the disciplinary penalty in connection with the imposition of the penalty.

HAZING, BULLYING AND INTERNET BULLYING

Hazing, bullying, and internet bullying are behaviors that will not be tolerated at DCS.

“Hazing” by definition means committing an act against a student, or coercing a student into committing an act, that creates a risk of emotional, physical or psychological harm to a person, in order for the student to be initiated into or affiliated with a student organization or for any other purpose. This might include humiliation, any hurtful, aggressive or destructive behavior, or substance abuse.

Bullying and internet bullying by definition is a variety of negative acts which are carried out repeatedly over time. It is characterized by an imbalance of power which can include physical, verbal and/or psychological. This can be done in a direct fashion where a more powerful child or group attacks a less powerful student or by cyber bullying which might include instant messaging, emails, chat rooms, cell phones, where a child is verbally harassed to the point that it interferes in the function of the school.

Hazing, bullying, and internet bullying will not be tolerated and will be dealt with by the principal. Any person observing this kind of behavior will need to report these acts to the principal who will handle all situations. Specific consequences are outlined in the Code of Conduct.

MINIMUM PERIODS OF SUSPENSION

1. Students who bring a weapon to school will be subject to suspension from school for at least one calendar year unless otherwise determined by the superintendent.
2. Students who commit violent acts other than bringing a weapon to school shall be subject to suspension from school for at least five days unless otherwise determined by the superintendent.
3. Students who are repeatedly substantially disruptive of the educational process or repeatedly substantially interfere with the teacher’s authority over the classroom will be suspended from school for at least five days. For purposes of the code of conduct, “repeatedly substantially disruptive” means engaging in conduct that results in the student being removed from the classroom pursuant to Education Law 3214(3)(a) and this code on multiple occasions.

REFERRALS

1. Guidance shall handle all referrals of students to counseling.
2. PINS Petitions may be filed on any student under the age of 18 who demonstrates (s)he requires supervision by:
 - a. being habitually truant and not attending school as required;
 - b. engaging in an ongoing or continual course of conduct which makes the student ungovernable, or habitually disobedient and beyond the lawful control of the school;
 - c. knowingly and unlawfully possessing marijuana in violation of the Penal Law.
3. The superintendent is required to refer the following students to the County Attorney for a juvenile delinquency proceeding before the Family Court:
 - a. any student under the age of 16 who brought a weapon to school;
 - b. any student 14 or 15 years old who qualifies for juvenile offender status.
4. The superintendent is required to refer students age 16 or older to the appropriate law enforcement officials.

VISITORS TO THE SCHOOL

The building principal or designee is responsible for all persons in the building and on the grounds. For these reasons, the following rules apply to all visitors to the schools:

1. Anyone not a regular staff member or student will be considered a visitor.
2. All visitors must sign the visitors’ book at the front entrance. If no one is there, the visitor must report to the Main Office to sign in. Anyone visiting a secondary student must first secure permission from the Building Principal. All visitors must

be issued and must wear a visitor's identification badge. Visitors must sign out and return the badge upon leaving the premises.

3. Visitors attending school functions that are open to the public are not required to sign in.
4. Parents or citizens who wish to observe a classroom while school is in session are required to arrange such visits in advance with the classroom teacher.
5. Teachers are not expected to take class time to discuss individual matters with visitors.
6. Any unauthorized person on school property will be reported to the principal. Unauthorized persons will be asked to leave. The police will be contacted if necessary.
7. All visitors are expected to abide by the rules for public conduct on school property contained in this code of conduct.

PUBLIC CONDUCT ON SCHOOL PROPERTY

All persons on school property or attending a school function shall conduct themselves in a respectful and orderly manner. In addition, all persons on school property or attending a school function are expected to be properly attired for the purpose they are on school property.

No person shall:

1. Intentionally injure any person or self or threaten to do so;
2. Intentionally damage or destroy school district property or the personal property of a teacher, administrator, other district employee or any person lawfully on school property.
3. Disrupt the orderly conduct of classes, school programs or other school activities;
4. Distribute or wear materials on school grounds or at school functions that are obscene, advocate illegal action, appear libelous, obstruct the rights of others, or are disruptive to the school program;
5. Intimidate, harass or discriminate against any person on the basis of race, color, creed, national origin, religion, age, gender, sexual orientation, or disability;
6. Enter any portion of the school premises without authorization to remain in any building or facility after it is normally closed.
7. Obstruct the free movement of any person in any place to which this code applies;
8. Violate the traffic laws, parking, regulations or other restrictions on vehicles;
9. Possess or use weapons in or on school property or at a school function;
10. Possess, consume, sell, distribute or exchange alcoholic beverages, controlled substances or be under the influence of either on school property or at a school function;
11. Loiter on or about school property;
12. Smoke or use tobacco products in school buildings, on school grounds or in vehicles;
13. Use profane or lewd language;
14. Refuse to comply with any reasonable order of identifiable school district officials performing their duties;
15. Willfully incite others to commit any of the acts prohibited by this code;
16. Violate any federal or state statute, local ordinance or board policy while on school property or while at a school function.

PENALTIES

Persons who violate this code shall be subject to the following penalties:

1. Visitors will have their authorization to remain on school property revoked and they will be directed to leave the premises. If they refuse to leave, they will be ejected.
2. Students will be subject to disciplinary action as the facts may warrant.
3. Employees may be subject to disciplinary measures as detailed by law and as dictated by the facts.

STUDENT CONDUCT ON SCHOOL BUSES

Buses are provided when distance from school or health concerns make the service appropriate. Riding a school bus is a privilege; students who misuse this privilege will lose the privilege.

Children should be instructed in the following rules of behavior:

1. Students shall remain well back from the roadway while awaiting the arrival of the bus. They should refrain from throwing things or playing at a bus stop.
2. Students shall enter the bus in an orderly fashion and go directly to a seat and remain seated until the destination is reached.
3. Younger students should be permitted to enter first.
4. The bus driver may assign seats. Students are expected to follow the seating arrangements, even when a substitute driver is present.
5. Students shall keep their hands, arms, and heads inside the bus.
6. There shall be no shouting, roughhousing, or throwing things on the bus.
7. All articles such as athletic equipment, books, musical instruments, etc. must be kept out of the aisles.
8. The emergency door must be used for emergency only. Children shall not touch safety equipment on the bus.
9. When you arrive home, do not leave seats until bus has stopped.

10. Students who must cross the street from a bus stop shall not do so until they receive a signal from the bus driver. When crossing a street is necessary, it will always be done in front of and far enough ahead of the bus so that the driver may adequately observe them. This means the student shall be able to see the face of the bus driver and follow his / her direction when to cross. The driver shall hold the bus with warning lights flashing until the crossing has been completed.
11. Food is not to be taken or eaten on the bus without permission from the driver, coach or advisor.
12. All directions given by the bus driver are to be followed.
13. All aspects of the Students Bill of Rights & Code of Conduct also apply to behavior on the bus.

INTERNET USE - POLICY # 4328

Internet access from school district computers is reserved solely for educational purposes.

The school district reserves the right to monitor all Internet activity including transmission and receipt of e-mail.

A violation of this policy will be treated as a violation of the student discipline code and specifically as a violation of that section of the code which subjects a student to disciplinary action for failure to comply with the directions of a teacher, administrator, or other school employee. A violation of this policy may also result in disciplinary actions based upon other sections of the student discipline code.

No student who gains access to the Internet from any access point within the school district shall:

1. Access, transmit, or retransmit material which promotes violence or advocates destruction of property including, but not limited to, access to information concerning the manufacturers of destructive devices such as explosives, fireworks, smoke bombs or incendiary devices or the like.
2. Access, transmit, or retransmit any information containing pornographic or other sexually oriented material. Pornographic is defined as pictures or writings that are intended to stimulate erotic feeling by the description or portrayal of the nude human form or sexual activity.
3. Access, transmit, or retransmit material which advocated or promotes violence or hatred against particular individuals or groups of individuals or advocates or promotes the superiority of one racial group over another.
4. Use or possess bootleg software. Bootleg software is defined as any software in possession or a user which has been downloaded from the network or is otherwise in possession of the user without the appropriate registration of the software including the payment of any fees owing to the owner of the software.
5. Use encryption software from any access point within the school district.
6. Transmit credit card information or other personal information from an access point within the school district.
7. Transmit e-mail through an anonymous remailer.
8. Access the Internet from a school district access point using a non-school district Internet account.
9. Commit or attempt to commit any willful act involving the use of the network which disrupts the operation of the network within the school district or any network connected to the Internet including use or attempted use or possession of computer viruses.

In addition to those penalties set forth in the student discipline code, a violation of this Internet policy may also result in loss of Internet privileges.

All students will have access to the Internet unless the parent of said student requests, in writing, that access be denied within 14 days of receipt of this notice. Access to the Internet will continue to be denied until the parent requests in writing the Internet access be reinstated. The denial shall include access to the Internet for any reason including assignments for any class.

GRADING POLICY

-Parents should obtain access to the online PowerSchool gradebook via the Internet or the app in order to check student progress on a daily basis.

-Progress Reports—are mailed five (5) weeks into each quarter for grades 7-12 for any class where student averages are 70% or below or a significant change is noted.

-Report Cards—are mailed home every 10 weeks for grades 7-12. Please consult the school calendar for the specific dates.

STUDENT EXEMPTION FROM FINAL EXAMS

As an academic incentive, any student who achieves an average of 95 or higher for a given class may be exempted from taking the final exam in that class. This would apply only for school exams and only for students in grades 7-12. For final average purposes that student would be given the average achieved without the exam.

PROCEDURE FOR DETERMINING CLASS RANK

It is recognized that a student's overall grade point average and class rank must be calculated prior to graduation per college applications, scholarship applications, military enlistments, job applications, etc. For these purposes, students' overall grade point averages will be calculated at the end of every semester from 9th grade to 12th grade. However, class rank will not be estimated until the end of Junior Year and will not be officially determined until the 30 week mark of Senior Year.

CUMULATIVE GRADE POINT AVERAGE

Physical education grades are not calculated into the cumulative grade point average. All other courses taken in grades 9-12, regardless of location, will calculate into the cumulative grade point average. In addition, courses taken in 8th grade for high school credit (i.e. Spanish I) will calculate into the cumulative grade point average.

The following terms are used in determining cumulative grade point average:

- credit: a course that meets for 108 hours per year
- half-credit: a course that meets for 54 hours per year
- quality points: final class average multiplied by course credit/half-credit
- grade point average: sum of quality points divided by sum of credits

Example of Grade Point Calculation

English 11 final average of 98 for 1 credit = 98 quality points (98 multiplied by 1)

Chorus final average of 96 for ½ credit = 48 quality points (96 multiplied by ½)

Cumulative grade point average = 97.33 (98 + 48 divided by 1 ½)

WEIGHTED GRADE POINT AVERAGE

The weighted grade point average adds an additional 10% of the quality points earned for courses taught at the honors or college level. Please see the guidance office for the list of courses that currently meet this requirement.

Example of Weighted Grade Point Calculation

Honors English final average of 92 for 1 credit = 101.2 weighted quality points (92 multiplied by 1 credit and multiplied by 1.10)

Chorus final average of 96 for ½ credit = 48 quality points (96 multiplied by ½)

Cumulative weighted grade point average = 99.46 (101.2 + 48 divided by 1 ½)

SIMPLE GRADE POINT AVERAGE VS. WEIGHTED GRADE POINT AVERAGE

The simple (unweighted) cumulative grade point average appears on report cards, transcripts, etc. The weighted grade point average determines class rank.

VALEDICTORIAN AND SALUTATORIAN

Valedictorian and salutarian are determined at the end of the 3rd quarter of the senior year. Since final grades will not have been determined for some senior year classes, the average at the 30 week mark for senior year classes that are in process will be used.

The student with the highest cumulative weighted grade point average at the 30 week mark of senior year will be named valedictorian for that class. The student with the second highest cumulative weighted grade point average at the 30 week mark of senior year will be named salutarian for that class.

Although rank may be estimated prior to the 30 week mark for the purposes of college applications and scholarships, class rank and the title of valedictorian/salutarian are not officially established until the 30 week mark.

PROMOTING STUDENT SUCCESS PROCEDURES

Promoting Student Success is a group made up of faculty and staff at Downsville Central School who work to provide incentives and rewards for students in grades 5-12 based on academic and character achievements.

Philosophy: The main goal at Downsville Central School is student success. Students should achieve to the best of their ability. A key to student success is attending and participating in classes.

Procedure: At the end of each marking period each 5-12 student's average is examined by the Guidance Office and Honor Level is reported on their Report Card. For 5-12, 65% is a passing score. PE marks are not included in calculating honor level.

Honor Levels are categorized as follows:

- Level 5-average of 95% or above, no grade lower than 85%, no failing grade
- Level 4-Average of 90%-94%, no grade lower than 80%, no failing grade
- Level 3-Average of 85% or above, no grade lower than 75%, no failing grade
- Level 2-average of 80% or above, no failing grade
- Level 1-average of 75% or above, no failing grade

Fall Awards

Promoting Student Success holds a Fall Banquet to recognize students for their effort and achievements from the previous year. Awards are given for achieving honor levels, highest course averages, highest test scores, highest GPA, Character, Courage, Commitment and Attitude.

Activity Day

For Activity Days, various activity choices are planned by staff members in the building in order to reward students.

Activity Day is held as a reward for students approximately 6-7 weeks into a quarter. This is done following Progress Reports, but before Report Cards to provide both time and motivation to students to make improvements and work toward achieving honor levels. Students who have all work completed and approved by their teachers are eligible to choose an activity to attend. Students who have incomplete assignments will be assigned to a structured study hall in which they'll work to complete or improve upon their assignments. Any student who completes all work during the assigned structured study hall is allowed to then join an activity.

Rewards

Other rewards are planned throughout the year for students. Some examples include Bagel & Juice Breakfast and Ice Cream Sundaes. These are planned in conjunction with Quarter 1, 2 & 3 report cards. Students on Honor Levels 3 and higher at the time of these report cards are eligible to participate.

Graduation Awards

Promoting Student Success provides awards for Seniors at graduation. These are given based on achievement on Regents exams and to the Valedictorian and Salutatorian each year.

Graduation Awards

Graduation Awards are given each year based on student achievement in the following areas: Valedictorian, Salutatorian, Local Diploma, Regents Diploma, Regents Diploma with Honors, Advanced Regents Diploma and Advanced Regents Diploma with Honors.

STUDENT COUNCIL

Downsville Central School has a High School Student Council for grades 9-12. The Student Council is a place where student opinions can be expressed and discussed. The Student Council plans activities in the school and provides certain activities for all students. To become a member of the Student Council, a student must be elected by his classmates.

HONOR SOCIETY

Students in grades 8 & 9 may be eligible for membership in the Downsville Central School chapter of the National Junior Honor Society. Students in grades 10-12 may be eligible for membership in the local chapter of the National Honor Society is named in honor of Miss Margaret E. Turnbull, a former science teacher at Downsville Central School. To be selected for membership, a student must meet the minimum academic requirements, and give evidence of good character, leadership potential, and willingness to be of service to the school and community. Students in each age group these requirements are selected by a faculty council of five members on the advice of the secondary faculty. Inductions will take place each fall.

CLASS PROJECTS AND DUES

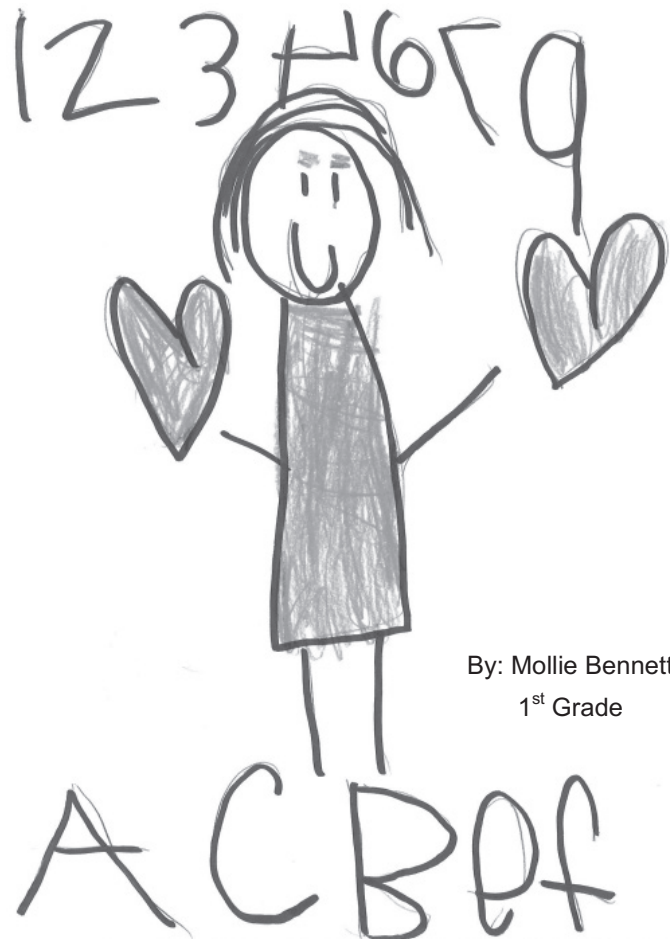
Students in grades 7-12 are assigned Class Advisors. Students in 7th & 8th grades will work on the following with advisors: organization, study skills, transitioning to the upstairs environment, team building and community service. Students in grades 9 through 12 are to be fundraising toward a Senior Trip, but also will work on team building community service projects. All projects must be cleared through the Principal and proper fundraising & event paperwork. Dues structure is determined by individual classes.

SENIOR CLASS TRIP

For eligibility for the Senior Class Trip each student must:

1. Have paid class dues in accordance with the rules set forth by their individual class (i.e. amount, etc.)
2. Contributed towards the cost of the senior trip either by participating in fundraising or paying their own way.
3. Parents and students must attend the Senior Trip meetings.
4. Students with repeated serious discipline referrals may not be eligible for the Senior Class Trip.
5. DCS Code of Conduct applies to all students on all trips. This includes any use of tobacco or alcohol.
6. Students who violate criminal law will be subject to the jurisdiction where the offense occurs.

The advisor(s) will submit a list of eligible students to the Superintendent for final approval.



By: Mollie Bennett
1st Grade



Lydia

By: Lydia Fletcher – 1st Grade



By: Lana Gardner – 8th Grade

