



HANDBOOK

*Truth-Centered Training
for God-given Destiny*

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UNITY

*I dreamed I stood in a studio
And watched two sculptors there,
The clay they used was a young child's mind
And they fashioned it with care.
One was a teacher; the tools he used
Were books and music and art;
One a parent with a guiding hand,
And a gentle, loving heart.
Day after day the teacher toiled,
With touch that was deft and sure,
While the parent labored by his side
And polished and smoothed it o'er.
And when at last their task was done,
They were proud of what they had wrought,
For the things they had molded into the child
Could neither be sold nor bought.
And each agreed he would have failed
If he had worked alone,
For behind the parent stood the school,
And behind the teacher, the home.*

(Author Unknown)

Notice of Non-Discriminatory Policy as to Students

Destiny Christian School admits students of any race, color, national or ethnic origin to all rights, privileges, programs and activities generally accorded or made available to students at the school. It does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national and ethnic origin in administration of its educational policies, admissions policies, scholarship programs, athletic and other school-administered programs.

Table of Contents

MISSION STATEMENT	-6-
STATEMENT OF FAITH	-6-
SCHOOL HISTORY AND PURPOSE	-7-
PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS	-7-
CHRISTIAN EDUCATION PHILOSOPHY	-8-
OBJECTIVES	-9-
CURRICULUM	-10-
Pre-School	-11-
Kindergarten	-11-
Grades 1 - 6	-11-
Reading/Language/Spelling	-11-
Mathematics/History/Science	-11-
Physical Education/Fine Arts	-12-
Bible	-12-
Enrichment Program	-12-
Junior High	-12-
English/Math	-12-
History/Science	-12-
P.E./Fine Arts/Bible	-13-
High School	-13-
English/Math	-13-
History/Science	-14-
Foreign Language	-15-
Computer Education	-15-
Fine Arts/PE/Bible	-15-
ADMISSIONS POLICIES	-16-
Steps to Admissions	-16-
Re-Enrollment Policy	-17-
FINANCIAL	-18-
Registration Fee	-18-
Book Fee	-18-
Activity Fee	-18-
Tuition	-19-
Extended Training	-19-

Financial Aid	-20-
Delinquent Accounts	-20-
Withdrawals and Dismissals	-21-
Lunches	-21-
Fund Raising	-21-
GENERAL POLICIES	-22-
Attendance and Absentee Policy	-22-
Absences	-22-
Make-up Work	-23-
Unexcused Absences and Makeup Work	-24-
Extended Absences	-24-
Early Dismissal	-24-
Tardies	-24-
Truancy	-25-
Cancellation of School	-25-
Change of Address	-25-
Class Parties	-25-
Safety Procedures	-26-
Fire Drill	-26-
Tornado Drill	-26-
School Office	-27-
School Supplies	-27-
Telephone	-27-
Transportation	-27-
Visiting Procedures	-28-
SCHOOL SERVICES	-28-
Computer Lab	-28-
Counseling	-29-
Health Services	-30-
Medication	-30-
Library/Media Center	-31-
Lockers/Tutoring	-31-
ACADEMIC INFORMATION	-32-
Grades	-32-
Homework/Late Work	-33-
Extra Work Requests	-34-
Semester Exams	-34-
Honor Roll	-34-
Promotion and Retention	-35-
Skippping a Grade	-35-
Report Cards/Progress Reports	-36-
Pink Cards	-36-

Graduation Requirements	-37-
Special Education	-37-
Testing	-38-
AWARDS	-38-
STUDENT ACTIVITIES	-39-
ATHLETICS	-42-
CHEERLEADING	-43-
STUDENT CONDUCT	-44-
Lunchroom Conduct	-49-
Conduct on School Sponsored Trips/Activities	-49-
DISCIPLINE	-50-
Discipline Statement	-50-
Discipline Policy	-51-
Parental Support	-53-
Appeal Process	-53-
SUSPENSION POLICY	-54-
Suspension Procedure	-54-
Procedure for Readmitting a Student	-55-
Dismissal	-55-
DRESS CODE	-56-
Uniforms	-56-
Dress Code Standards	-57-
Girls:	-57-
Boys:	-57-
Both:	-57-
Dress Code Violations	-58-
Attire for Extra-Curricular Activities	-59-
PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT	-60-
Orientation	-60-
Parent-Teacher Conferences	-60-
Open House	-61-
Parent-Teacher Fellowship (PTF)	-61-
Publications	-61-
CONCLUSION	-62-

MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of Destiny Christian School is quality and excellence in Christian education. We are committed to education that is based on the principles of God's Word. In this way, we can train, prepare and equip young people to make a difference in their world.

STATEMENT OF FAITH

1. We believe the Bible to be the inspired and only infallible, authoritative Word of God.
2. We believe that there is one God, eternally existent in three persons: Father, Son and the Holy Spirit.
3. We believe that man was created by a direct act of God in His image and not from previously existing life.
4. We believe in the deity of our Lord Jesus Christ, in His virgin birth, in His sinless life, in His miracles, in His vicarious and atoning death through His shed blood, in His bodily resurrection, in His ascension to the right hand of the Father.
5. We believe that salvation is by grace through faith in Jesus Christ, and that the experience of regeneration is necessary for all mankind.
6. We believe that God the Holy Spirit is a personal Being who indwells, empowers, guides, and bestows spiritual gifts on believers.
7. We believe in the spiritual unity of all believers in our Lord Jesus Christ, and in the prominence of the visible, local New Testament Church.
8. We believe in the Second Coming and literal, visible, bodily return of Jesus Christ to this earth.
9. We believe in the bodily resurrection of the just and the unjust, the everlasting blessedness of the saved, and the everlasting punishment of the lost.

SCHOOL HISTORY AND PURPOSE

Destiny Christian School is an academic institution sponsored by Destiny Christian Center. The school exists because of dedication to the Bible, respect for education and the proper development of the young people committed to our care.

At Destiny Christian School, the emphasis is quality and excellence in Christian education. In an environment of strong academics and loving discipline, students have the best opportunity to prepare for life. With the use of Christian curriculum and qualified Christian teachers, they can mature spiritually as well as achieve academic excellence.

Destiny Christian School was established in 1980 in our present facility. In 2006, the school's name was changed to Destiny Christian School. The school is under the authority of the leadership of Destiny Christian Center. Direct control and operation of the school is vested in the school administrator and the daily operations of the school are handled by the administrative team.

The vision for Christian education is even stronger now than it was in the beginning. We believe that the students from DCS will have a positive affect not only on their family and the church, but will also make a difference in this community, the nation and the world.

PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

Destiny Christian School is accredited by the Association of Christian Teachers and Schools. The school fulfills the requirements, provisions and standards of ACTS, which is recognized by the Oklahoma State Department of Education through membership in the Oklahoma Private School Accreditation Commission (OPSAC). We also have national recognition by the North Central Accreditation Association (NCA) and the National Council for Private School Accreditation (NCPSA).

DCS has been affiliated with the **Association of Christian Schools International** since 1981 and is also a member of the **Association of Christian Teachers and Schools**. We are also a part of **SCHOOLWORKS**, a network of Christian schools across the country with similar philosophy and direction.

It is by these associations that we are able to set standards, further teacher development and allow our students to compete and cooperate with students from other Christian schools.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION PHILOSOPHY

“See to it that no one takes you captive through hollow and deceptive philosophy, which depends on human tradition and the basic principles of this world rather than on Christ.”
-Colossians 2:8

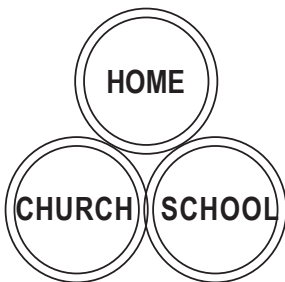
Destiny Christian School bases its educational philosophy on a Christian world view which comes from the truths of the Christian faith. Education can most effectively be accomplished in an environment which recognizes that all truth is God’s truth. The fear of the Lord is the foundation of all wisdom and knowledge.

Scripture clearly teaches that parents are responsible for their children’s education and discipline. The school is not a substitute for the home, but is an extension of the home and one means through which parents fulfill the responsibility God has given them.

At Destiny Christian School we are dedicated to training young people in areas of knowledge that will allow them to understand clearly, think deeply, judge wisely, and have the courage to live their lives on the great principles and convictions of God’s Word.

The faculty is the heart of the school, forming the core that will inspire, nurture and instruct children and youth to meet the challenging years ahead. They are dedicated individuals desiring to instill a love for learning as well as the ability and desire to continue learning.

Biblical principles and teachings are the threads around which all curriculum, policies and activities are wound. Personal growth in the body of Christ requires that the student develop a disciplined and dedicated love of Christ that will enable him to apply Christ-like character to his life, his work, his decisions, and his interactions with others.



*And one standing alone
can be attacked and defeated,
but two can stand back-to-back
and conquer;
three is even better,
for a triple-braided cord
is not easily broken.*
-Ecclesiastes 4:12 (TLB)

The Christian School is the third strand of the cord.

CORE VALUES

Core values are a set of principles that guide a school in fulfilling its mission. When the leadership of the school adheres to the same values it creates unity and a Christian culture in the school. Destiny Christian School affirms the following core values:

1. **Biblical truth** – in principle and application – and full devotion to Christ is our central mission. (II Timothy 3:16-17; I Kings 9:4)
2. **Relationships** that are based on nurturing and accountability – people matter to God, therefore they matter to us. (Luke 15; Hebrews 10:24-25)
3. **Excellence** and professionalism in all we do honors God and inspires people. (Philippians 4:8; Colossians 3:17)
4. **Endurance** and durability – we believe in the great value of a Christian education and we are established and rooted – we will be here tomorrow. (Isaiah 54; Philippians 1:6)
5. **Diversity** – everyone is a unique gift of God, so we are committed to helping everyone be the very best they can be. (I Corinthians 12; Romans 12:4-8; Ephesians 4:15-16)

OBJECTIVES

Consistent with our philosophy, Destiny Christian School holds the following educational objectives:

1. to give every student the opportunity to commit his life to Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior.
2. to help each student grow in the walk of faith by learning the principles of God's Word, applying them to daily life, and obeying the will of God as revealed in the Scriptures.
3. to promote a value system based on the foundation of Biblical truth.
4. to develop self-discipline and responsibility in the student based on submission to God and others in authority.
5. to impart Biblical attitudes toward marriage and family and the skills necessary to establish God-honoring homes.
6. to encourage regular attendance and involvement in the local church.

7. to help each student understand and accept himself and others as unique individuals created in the image of God, to treat others with courtesy and respect, and to reach out to the world to further the kingdom of God.
8. to promote physical fitness, good health habits, and wise use of the body as the temple of God.
9. to provide an educational environment which will allow the student to realize his full academic potential while in school and which will foster a desire and love for learning in the future.
10. to offer a curriculum which will both uphold Christian truth and provide an excellent educational foundation for the challenging years ahead.
11. to teach the student how to learn and how to search for the truth, through the development of good study habits and critical thinking skills.
12. to aid families in Christian growth and in every phase of their children's development.

CURRICULUM

The curriculum used by Destiny Christian School is Biblically integrated, gives a sound educational foundation and provides systematic progression of instruction from Pre-School through the 12th grade. Competent Christian teachers make the curriculum come alive and provide role models for the students both in and out of the classroom.

Our school utilizes Christian-oriented textbooks whenever possible. Children are taught in self-contained classrooms with traditional classroom instruction. Our faculty utilizes a variety of teaching styles in order to foster a learning environment that will reach all students. In addition to the basics, students are also provided with opportunities in physical education, fine arts, computer technology, communications and library skills. There is also a daily Bible class for every grade level.

Destiny is committed to instructional methods and academic content which parallel the developmental needs of children at each grade level. All curriculum is reviewed systematically on a regular rotation so that changes can be made, and supplemental material can be added as needed.

Pre-School

The Pre-School curriculum includes learning the alphabet, phonics and reading skills, counting, health, manners, safety, science, Bible verses and songs. This is an age when attention is given to developmental skills.

Kindergarten

Kindergarten has a **reading readiness** curriculum which emphasizes listening skills, oral language development, strong phonetics, and social skills. Kindergarten students must be 5 years old by September 1.

Grades 1 - 6

Reading/Language: This is characterized as a strong phonetic program with an emphasis on the coordination of basic reading and writing skills. Good communication and proper writing skills are encouraged in all grades.

Included in the language arts curriculum is a complete **spelling and vocabulary program**. After the basic reading skills are mastered, additional emphasis is placed on **speed, comprehension** and recreational reading.

Mathematics: A logical sequence of study begins with basic arithmetic skills in addition and subtraction. In the 3rd grade, they learn their multiplication tables and learn to multiply and divide. In the 4-6 grades they work with decimals, fractions and develop skills in preparation for higher math. All grades work with conversions and learn problem solving skills and how to apply them to daily tasks.

History: History from a Christian perspective is nothing more than **“His”story** - the way God has dealt with mankind in the past. The History of man has a definite beginning and the study of history provides a continuity between the past and the present. The student can see himself as a debtor to the past and can learn many valuable lessons from the study of places and people.

Initially, the students learn about their immediate environment - their family and community. As they mature, their world enlarges to the history of their city, state, country and the rest of the world. **Geography** skills are also emphasized in the study of history.

Science: The students are introduced to the major areas of science: **physical, earth, and life**. Most important, they are taught that God created the universe including man. The study of science teaches them the order and complexity of the tangible things around them and to understand the invisible forces behind the concrete.

Physical Education: The major objective of a structured physical education program is the development of a positive attitude toward physical fitness. It is also a time to develop skills for a lifetime of sports activities. Each grade has a scheduled P.E. class. Research also supports the positive effect that physical activity has on the ability to learn.

Music/Drama: Scheduled classes to teach basic theory, encourage individual talents, and the enjoyment of the fine arts. Each year students will participate in school productions.

Bible: The Bible curriculum seeks to combine knowledge of scripture through study and memorization. In grades 1-3 the students get an overview of the entire Bible through the use of Bible stories. In grades 4-6, the emphasis is on character studies. Through the study of Bible characters, they learn to apply God's principles to their own lives. Specific passages of Scripture are memorized in each grade.

Enrichment Program: Whenever possible at the elementary level, enrichment opportunities are also provided in the areas of **music, art, computer technology** and **foreign language**.

Helps Class: Whenever possible, an additional resource is provided for students with specific learning challenges.

Junior High

A strong core of academic subjects and electives is continued in the 7th and 8th grades. We have found that Jr. High is a time when students experience many changes and they need teachers who understand their needs and can give them consistent reinforcement.

English: These classes include composition, spelling, vocabulary, grammar and literature. They also include the reinforcement of reading skills, comprehension and retention. The short story is introduced as a literary form.

Math: A comprehensive study emphasizing computation skills and problem solving strategies. The student will be taught to compute accurately and efficiently using whole numbers, fractions, decimals, integers and rational numbers. By eighth grade, students have solid preparation for Algebra I.

History: A continued study of World and American History. World History covers the development of major civilizations on each continent. American History studies the development of the American Republic. Emphasis is placed on the role of Christian thought upon the growth of the American form of government.

Science: Life Science is studied with an introduction to biology, botany, and human anatomy. When Earth Science is studied, the emphasis is on astronomy and geology.

Physical Education: An emphasis on the physical aspect of student development is important. Strong bodies are essential to every area of student life. At the junior high level, students participate in team sports.

Bible: An overview of both the Old and New Testament is provided in 7th and 8th grade. Major themes and characters of each book are studied, with an emphasis on understanding how the Bible applies to daily life.

Electives: At the junior high level, alternate elective classes offer enrichment opportunities in the areas of **music, art, speech, drama, computer technology, and foreign language.**

High School

The High School program at Destiny is challenging and thorough and is designed to prepare students for college and for life. Our high school program meets or exceeds state requirements in every area. Academic excellence in a Christian environment is the hallmark of the High School curriculum.

English: Each year includes a review of grammar and punctuation. Writing assignments will include creative writing and the preparation of a research paper. Emphasis will also be given to vocabulary to help prepare students for college entrance tests.

A vital part of the English curriculum is the intensive study of great literary writings. This covers the study of various types of literature -- short story, poetry, drama, and novels. They will survey American, British and World literature.

Math: Mathematics is the study of numbers and shapes. Through its study, the student cultivates problem-solving skills, analytical thinking and attention to details. Mathematics helps the student improve his reasoning skills and shows the importance of consistency in work habits.

Algebra I - This course is an introduction to the basic operations of algebra, which are computations with unknown quantities.

Geometry - This course introduces the student to the properties of shapes and figures and teaches them to visualize spatial relationships. They will learn a system of Geometry based on the use of postulates, definitions, and theorems. There is an emphasis on formal proof.

Algebra II - The level of difficulty is raised in this course to be equal to the operations and computations occurring in today's business world. This course also introduces the college-bound student to analytic geometry, precalculus functions, and trigonometry.

Algebra III/Calculus/Trigonometry - This course is a college preparatory course. It presents to the student the basic definitions of the trigonometric functions and their applications, as well as the concepts of sequence and series theory, limit theory, differential and integral calculus. For advanced math students, additional college preparatory resources are offered.

History: This is the study of people, events, works and ideas that have formed and reformed civilization as we know it. This study will encompass our state, our nation and the world. We unashamedly teach respect for those in authority, obedience to law, and love for flag and country.

Government - American government examines Biblical truth related to the governing process. The Christian basis of our government is highlighted along with foundational principles of the government and its working. Comparative political and economic systems are considered, and students are encouraged to prepare for and participate in local, state and national government.

World Geography - World geography presents the foundations of geographic study and terminology and applies them to ten geographic regions throughout the world. Emphasis is placed on physical geography, cultural geography, and life today in the various regions.

World History - World history views God's workings in major societies from earliest civilizations to modern times. Various cultures and time periods are viewed in light of Biblical truth and in comparison to one another. Trends in government are emphasized in the ongoing struggle between tyranny and liberty.

U.S. History - U.S. history highlights the Christian foundation of our country and traces the development of the nation from its beginnings through modern times. Religious, political, economic and social conditions are emphasized through the various time periods.

Economics - Economics offers the students an opportunity to examine and apply Biblical principles related to personal, business and governmental financial issues. Students will learn about the U.S. free enterprise system and explore their roles as citizens, producers and consumers while studying fundamental economic principles.

Science: The study of science includes organic and inorganic matter; how they are put together and how they function.

Biology I - This course is designed to provide a general survey of the various branches of biology: botany, zoology, human anatomy and physiology, genetics, cell biology and ecology.

Chemistry - A basic study in the composition, structure and reactions of matter. Topics included are the nature of atoms and molecules, the periodic table and its functions.

Anatomy - This course is designed to provide an Anatomical and Physiological study of the 11 systems of the Human Body.

Physics - This is a college preparatory course. It presents the student with the basic concepts of physics in the areas of motion and dynamics, energy, waves, light, and electricity. It promotes problem solving techniques and procedures.

Foreign Language - The first year is an introduction, through oral and written practice and review, to vocabulary, grammar and sentence structure. The second year continues building the student's vocabulary and grammatical knowledge. There is an increased emphasis on conversation and accuracy in composition and reading.

Personal Finance: This semester course provides the basic skills of personal financial literacy that students will need to be successful on their own after high school. The course has been designed with the Oklahoma Financial Literacy Passport requirements.

Computer Education: Students are taught technology skills necessary to function in a high-tech world. In the High School, all students will take Typing and Computers. Computer education will provide a working knowledge in all areas of software applications. Additional electives in accounting, business and technology may be alternated from year to year.

Fine Arts: Our goal is to develop the talents, ideas, skills and creativity of each student and to enrich their lives. The students may have the opportunity to participate in music, drama, speech, art and yearbook, as available.

Physical Education: P.E. provides for physical conditioning, instruction of game and sports rules, development of motor skills, teamwork and thinking skills.

Bible: Bible courses at the high school level are designed to help the student “own” the Word of God, to help him develop his own relationship with God, and to help him learn how to apply the Word of God in his daily life and decisions.

Although this is not a detailed survey of each course, it will give you an idea about the content of each subject. The curriculum is well-rounded and designed to keep the student actively involved in the learning process.

ADMISSIONS POLICIES

Destiny Christian School admits students of any race, color, national or ethnic origin to all rights, privileges, programs and activities generally accorded or made available to students at the school. It does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national and ethnic origin in administration of its educational policies, admissions policies, scholarship programs, athletic and other school-administered programs.

It is the intent of DCS that each student be in a school where his needs can be met - academically, spiritually and physically. This is the guiding principle in making admissions decisions.

Steps to Admissions

1. Read carefully the information packet, noting questions you have.
2. Call the School Office and make an appointment for a campus tour and an interview.
3. Fill out the application and return it to the School Office along with your registration fee and the following:
 - A. Copy of birth certificate.
 - B. Immunization and health report.
 - C. If your child has had previous special testing for reading or learning difficulties, please include a copy of the report(s).
 - D. Copy of past achievement testing.
 - E. Copy of most recent report card.

4. Upon receipt of all these materials, an admissions testing time may be scheduled, and/or an interview by the Registrar or Principal.
5. Finish reading this handbook, complete and return the parent/student agreement(s). 7th-12th grade students sign the 'Code of Honor.'

Following the interview, the administration will make a decision on the applicant. You will be informed verbally of the admission decision and your child will be placed on a class roll when all forms are completed and the registration fee is paid. Classes will be filled on a first come basis. Currently enrolled students are given the first opportunity to enroll during February Pre-registration Month. New families may enroll beginning in the month of March.

Re-Enrollment Policy

Destiny Christian School believes that a positive and constructive working relationship between the school, student and the student's parents/guardian is essential to the accomplishment of our educational goals. The school accordingly reserves the right to terminate or not renew a student's enrollment application if the school reasonably concludes that the actions of the student and/or his or her parents or guardian make such a positive and constructive relationship impossible.



FINANCIAL

Destiny Christian School is a private, not-for-profit organization. The school is not state or federally funded. DCS operates on a budget funded by tuition, fundraisers and gifts. Fundraisers or gifts are used for general expenses or specific needs. **Gifts are a tax deductible contribution.**

The business office is open Monday through Friday, 7:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. All checks should be made to Destiny Christian School. If the office is closed you may drop your payments through the slot in the bookkeeping office. The school cannot assume responsibility for monies sent to school with students.

Charges will be assessed for a check returned for “Insufficient Funds” and for late tuition payments.

Registration Fee

A registration fee is charged each year and is due with your enrollment form. This fee covers the following costs: entrance testing, Stanford Achievement testing, processing of application, and setting up permanent records for each student.

Registration fees are not refundable. They will only be refunded if the student is being denied admittance, or if there is documentation presented that a family is being relocated over a 50-mile radius away from the school before the school year begins.

Book Fee

The book fee is a **usage fee** and does not cover the cost of the books each year. Because some books can be used for more than one year, we are able to pass the savings on to you. If you actually paid for the books, the cost could more than double. If a book is lost or maliciously/carelessly destroyed, the student must pay to replace the book. **The book fee is not refundable.**

Activity Fee

All Destiny students are required to pay an activity fee which covers the cost of technology and enrichment activities throughout the year. All Destiny students will receive a yearbook.

Tuition

It is the policy of Destiny Christian School for income from tuition and other fees to pay the operating costs for the current year. In this way, tuition is held to the lowest possible level.

A current tuition schedule is available in the “Information Packet.” The tuition can be paid in full upon enrollment, by the semester, or in ten equal payments beginning in August. Monthly payments are due on the first day of the month. **A late fee will be added to the account if payment has not been made by the tenth of the month.**

Tuition does not include all costs which may be incurred by the family. Examples of such costs: lunches, uniforms, and school supplies.

Extended Training

Destiny Christian School provides an Extended Training program that is open from 6:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. to provide before and after school training for K3 through 6th grade students. There is an additional charge for this service and it is paid by the month. A fee schedule is available in the School Office. **A student must be enrolled in school and in Extended Training to participate in this program.**

Children should not be left unattended on the school grounds. There is supervising personnel on duty as early as 6:00 a.m. However, if they come earlier than 7:30 a.m. or remain after 3:30 p.m., you will be charged for Extended Training. Parents picking up children after 6:00 p.m. will incur additional charges.

If the child is normally picked up at the end of class time and the parent discovers he will be late, please notify the School Office and leave instructions for the teacher. This helps us in relaying the information to the child and thus avoiding any emotional upset for the child.

There are study hall classes for students 7th-12th grades until 5:00 p.m. each day. Students must leave campus by 3:15 p.m., participate in a supervised activity or sport, or attend study hall. Students must have adult supervision until they are picked up by their parents or leave campus.

Financial Aid

The tuition schedule is designed to include discounts for families. The following discounts are available at Destiny:

- 2nd child - \$300 discount
- 3rd child - \$400 discount
- 4th child - \$500 total tuition per child
(4th, 5th, 6th, etc.)
- Full Tuition - \$100 discount
- By Semester - \$ 50 discount
- Preregistering in February - \$100 discount
- Enrollment incentive - \$50 per student accepted
to the referring parent
New family will receive a \$10 discount on registration
(Referral card must be presented at the time of enrollment)
- Ministerial discounts
- Other Financial Aid as available

In order to be considered for financial aid, the parent(s) must fill out a Financial Aid Application and provide tax records. After the completed application is returned with all supporting documents to the School Office, a determination will be made on the availability of funds and the amount of aid awarded.

Scholarships are awarded strictly according to financial need and as funds are available. It is also the school policy that everyone should contribute something toward their child's education.

Delinquent Accounts

DCS reserves the right to terminate the attendance of any student when payment of tuition is more than one month past due.

If you have a special situation regarding your income, talk to the business personnel. Because the school depends on tuition to operate, **ALL** parents must keep tuition current. The following procedure is used in dealing with delinquent accounts.

1. Tuition is due on the 1st of the month.
2. Tuition is late after the 10th of the month (a statement will be mailed)

3. You will receive a call from the accounts receivable clerk if your payment has not been received after 25 days
4. You will receive a call from the business administrator to discuss payment arrangements if your payment has not been received after 45 days.

In the event that payment is not received in full by the school in 60 days after the due date, the child(ren) may be removed from the school unless parents make other arrangements in writing with the business administrator. The terms and conditions for payment must be fully and promptly met.

If there is a delinquent balance from a previous year, this must be resolved before a student can be accepted for readmittance.

Withdrawals and Dismissals

The withdrawal procedure is accomplished in the following manner:

1. Parent calls the school office to arrange an appointment with an administrator.
2. A Withdrawal Form is filled out and signed by parents. A forwarding address is required.
3. All financial accounts are to be settled with the school office prior to releasing records to parents or forwarding records to another school.
4. Tuition for the remaining portion of the month is non-refundable upon withdrawal during the month for any reason.
5. All school-owned texts and materials are to be returned to the school office and checked in.
6. Withdrawals can be expedited by informing the office in advance.

Lunches

We offer a daily hot lunch program. The cost of lunches is provided in the Information Packet and lunch menus are provided on the monthly calendar and in the Tuesday Times.

Fund Raising

As is the nature at any privately-funded educational institution, all of the money needed to provide a quality program cannot come from tuition alone.

There are various fund raising programs which are approved by the school and which aid it in different and distinctive ways. It is one way we are able to keep tuition rates as low as possible. Your participation is encouraged. If you feel you cannot participate, you may want to make a donation to the school.

If you accept checks for products, please have them make the check to you and you in turn write the school one check. It is difficult to collect funds for returned checks from people not associated with the school.

All fund raisers must be approved by the administration. This helps us control the number and type of fund raisers the school conducts each year. We also like to offer a quality prize program for student participation.

Solicitation is not allowed at Destiny Christian School without the specific approval of the administration. This includes selling of tickets, candy, distribution of political material or circulation of petitions.

GENERAL POLICIES

Attendance and Absentee Policy

Regular school attendance is required by law and is necessary for good scholarship. A student's success in school relates directly to class attendance. For that reason, regular and punctual attendance is expected and required at DCS. Parents are teaching their children to accept responsibility when they help them arrive on **time** and be in **regular attendance**.

Absences

If a student is absent, the parents (not the student himself) are requested to notify the school office before 9:00 a.m. on the day of the absence. If a call is not made, students **must bring a note** signed by a parent or guardian on the day of their return to school, stating the date and reason for the absence. If the school is not notified by parent phone call or written notice, the absence is unexcused. A parent's note of consent does not necessarily constitute an excused absence. This is determined by the School Office according to school policy.

Students who have been absent must check-in at the school office before returning to class.

Absences are excused for the following reasons:

1. Legitimate illness
2. Illness in family that requires the student to be absent from school
3. Death or emergency in immediate family
4. Medical appointments (They should be scheduled after school hours and at varying times so a student does not miss the same class.)

Any other absence will, unless approved by the administration two (2) school days **prior** to the absence, be considered **unexcused**. Because of the educational importance of class participation, students are strongly discouraged from class absences due to trips or family vacations.

Students who miss school to participate in school activities will not be counted absent.

Parents will be contacted randomly to verify student's absences.

When a student reaches five(5) absences from school or has missed a class five(5) times in a semester, a letter may be sent home to the parent. When a student reaches seven(7) absences from school or has missed a class seven(7) times in a semester, the parent may be called for a conference. Absences may be monitored by parents through the online parent portal.

Any student missing more than 10 days per semester will find his/her credits for the semester's work in jeopardy. Excessive absences will definitely affect the student's grade and the student, along with his/her parents, will be required to meet with the principal. These standards meet the Oklahoma state requirement of 90% attendance.

Make-up Work

It is the responsibility of the student to make arrangements with the teacher about work that was or will be missed during the absence. Parents must call the school office by 9:00 a.m. in order to pick up your child's work on the day of his absence. A student must make up his work in the same number of days missed unless special permission has been granted by the teacher/administration.

If a test or other work was assigned while the student was in school, the student must be prepared to take the test or turn in the work on his return. (In cases of emergency or extreme illness, the teacher may allow additional days.) If the student was absent when the test or assignment was made, the teacher will allow for a rescheduling of the test or work.

Unexcused Absences and Makeup Work

There are two ways to get an unexcused absence:

1. Unacceptable absence from school.
2. No parent contact and/or note from home on the day returning to school.

Unexcused absences carry a penalty of NO makeup work with a grade of zero for any test or assignment missed by the student.

Extended Absences

If a student is absent more than three days due to illness or injury, a note from a physician is required. If there are reasons why a student should be absent from any class for more than 20 days during the year, the parents must receive special approval from the administration. For lengthy absences parents may have to provide additional tutoring for students to keep up with their studies.

Early Dismissal

Parents wishing to have students dismissed early for any portion of a school day, must send a written request to the school office stating the reason and time of dismissal. (In an emergency, we will accept a phone call from the parent.)

The parent must pick up the student at the School Office and sign him out. **No student is permitted to leave school without permission and without signing out.** When returning before the end of the school day, the student should be signed back in.

Students are not to leave the school campus for any reason unless accompanied by a teacher, parent or guardian. Even taking a student to lunch should be reserved for special occasions and unless you have written permission from their parent, please do not ask to sign-out other friends.

Tardies

Just as important as attendance is punctuality. A student coming in late, for whatever reason, disrupts the flow of the entire class.

The student is considered tardy if he/she is not in class at 8:00 a.m. When a student is tardy, the teacher will mark them as missing in the student information system (SIS) on the computer. When the student enters the class, the teacher will call the front office to let office staff know what time they arrived. Office staff will check in the student on the SIS and the tardy will be recorded. All tardies are marked as unexcused. Three tardies will equal one absence.

Students will not be penalized if tardiness results from their being detained by another teacher. The student should bring a note from the teacher to verify this.

Truancy

Truancy is a violation of state law. Skipping school either part of a day or all day is considered truancy. Truancy will be treated as an unexcused absence. In addition, parents will be notified, and disciplinary action will be taken.

Cancellation of School

Destiny will abide by most of the decisions made by the local public school system regarding the postponing or cancellation of school due to weather conditions. Local radio and TV stations will carry all school closings.

Change of Address

A change of address or phone number should be reported immediately to the school office. Change of employment or “in case of emergency contact” phone numbers should also be reported immediately.

Class Parties

All parties which are held during the school day must have approval a minimum of one day in advance from the administration. Regular parties are scheduled for major holidays (Christmas, Valentines’s Day, etc.) In pre-school and elementary grades parties should be scheduled for the last hour of the school day.

In elementary school, birthday parties are not a part of the regular classroom routine. Birthday celebrations should be limited to refreshments and should be scheduled the last 30 minutes of the school day. Prior approval must be obtained from the teacher at least one day before the event. Birthday presents are not given in the classroom.

In grades 7-12, student initiated parties must have prior approval from the administration and preferably be at lunchtime.

Safety Procedures

Destiny Christian School has a detailed **Crisis Management Plan** to provide guidelines, structure, and a process in dealing with a range of crisis situations which may interrupt the normal operation of school at our building sites and/or in our community.

Students will also participate in unscheduled fire drills and tornado drills during the year. The following directions are to be followed.

Fire Drill

A warning alert will be given to signal a fire drill. Students are to proceed in a quiet, orderly manner to the places designated on the fire drill exit sheets posted in each room. All rooms & offices must be evacuated as quickly as possible.

Teachers will close windows and doors before leaving the rooms and take the classroom emergency folder with them. They must be sure students are a safe distance from the building and see that they remain quiet and follow directions.

Teachers and students will stay in their designated areas until the administration or office staff person tells them to go to another location or return to the building.

Tornado Drill

DCS has a safe room located at the north end of the gymnasium. The safe room includes the hallway, classrooms, restrooms, and offices on the first floor. This area will safely hold everyone on campus in the case of an emergency.

An announcement will be made over the school's paging system to initiate a tornado drill. In case of a tornado, the following procedure will be followed:

1. Students are to take nothing with them.
2. Classroom doors are to be shut.
3. Teachers will take the classroom emergency folder with them to take attendance after evacuating the building.
4. All lines are single file in a quiet, orderly manner.
5. All students will proceed as directed to the safe room in the gym.
6. School administration will direct students and teachers to designated locations in the safe room.

School Office

Office hours are from 7:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday - Friday. It is open to assist you in any matter pertaining to the school. You are always welcome to visit the school.

If you need to speak to a teacher during class, please come to the office first and we will arrange a conference at a convenient time. You may also leave lunches, homework, books, etc. at the office and the student will be notified to pick them up.

School Supplies

A list of school supplies for each grade is available in the School Office or for download from our website by August 1 each year, and is also available at the Parent Orientation meeting at the beginning of the school year. Most items can be found at any store, but a few designated items will need to be purchased from the school library.

Telephone

The school phone is reserved for official school business and emergencies. Please do not call and ask to speak to your student unless it is an emergency. If possible, we will take messages to be delivered to the teacher. It is also difficult for a teacher to come to the phone during class, and it is necessary for us to take a message and allow the teacher to return the call at a later time.

Students desiring to place emergency calls will give the name and number to school personnel who in turn will place the call.

Transportation

Parents driving cars in the morning and in the evening are asked to observe a 10 m.p.h. speed limit and use extreme caution. It is important to follow the flow of traffic when entering and leaving the property. Please park only in designated areas. ***The breezeway area is for drop-off and pick-up only. Parking is not permitted in the breezeway.*** If you are going in to the building, please pull into a designated parking area.

During school hours, no one but parents or guardian may pick up any child unless the office is notified in advance that the individual is authorized to pick up the child. DCS staff will ask for identification when they do not recognize the individual picking up the child. Students waiting to be picked up after school must wait in designated areas.

Student drivers must provide the school with a copy of their driver's license and insurance verification. All student drivers must use caution when driving around the school and children, and observe the 10 m.p.h. speed limit. There will be a designated student parking area. DCS reserves the right to revoke driving privileges on campus if a student fails to observe these regulations.

Visiting Procedures

Students are encouraged to bring friends who are interested in Destiny to visit for short periods of time. They must make arrangements with the school office one (1) day in advance. No visitors are allowed during the first two weeks of school or during testing week. The administration reserves the right to refuse visitors at any time.

Visitors must obtain a visitor's name tag from the school office.

Parents are also welcome to visit. Please notify us in advance that you will be visiting the classroom and check in at the office when you arrive.

SCHOOL SERVICES

Computer Lab

At Destiny we understand the value of computer training at an early age. Children become proficient on computers much more quickly than adults. Our computer lab is available to grades 1-12. Elementary students will learn the basics of computer literacy and keyboarding. Classes for grades 7-12 teach standard computer applications and how to use the computer to do work more efficiently. Every classroom teacher is equipped with an iPad so that learning activities can be included in the curriculum.

Appropriate Use Policy

Destiny Christian School is very pleased to offer students access to the Internet. Students may access the resources of the World Wide Web from workstations in the computer lab or in the classroom. Use of the internet will be an integral component of some courses. Our goal in providing this service is to promote educational excellence through the use of this unique tool.

The Internet is a network consisting of millions of computer users in nearly every country on the globe, connecting to thousands of computers located throughout the world, creating a large and diverse electronic network. Using the Internet allows students to conduct research, find homework help, and communicate with a variety of students, teachers, scientists, and people from all walks of life.

The purpose of the appropriate use policy is to articulate Destiny Christian School's Internet access expectations, obtain informed parental consent to allow student access, and to state and obtain student's agreement to comply with the Destiny Christian School Appropriate Use Policy. Students and parents/guardians using DCS computer resources will read and sign the Appropriate Use Policy each year.

Any violation of the Appropriate Use Policy will result in disciplinary action. Such action might include suspension or revocation of Internet privileges, suspension or expulsion from school, and/or legal action. Students are subject to all local, state, and federal laws and understand that illegal activities may be reported to the appropriate law enforcement authorities. The student agrees to report any violation of the Acceptable Use Policy observed by the student to Destiny Christian School staff immediately.

Counseling

The registrar coordinates and oversees all counseling and testing. She coordinates testing, maintains records and makes educational recommendations. The supervisors for each department assist with the counseling duties at the school. The administrators are available for consultation by appointment.

A cumulative record for each student is initiated in Kindergarten and follows the student through school. This record is a valuable tool in planning the guidance program for the student.

In conjunction with the above services, each student is given a mental maturity test periodically and an achievement test each year.

Health Services

The school nurse and other designated staff will have the responsibility of overseeing all medical records, the administration of medication and compliance with all medical policies and procedures of DCS. In the case of an accident or emergency at school, the school nurse will typically be the first responder. When the school nurse is not on campus, other designated staff members will carry out established medical policies and procedures.

Emergency information is included on the student application and completed by the parent at the time of enrollment. This form includes the name and phone number of the doctor to be notified, as well as the name, address, and phone number of the parents and an alternate person to be notified if the need should arise. It is the responsibility of the parent and/or student to see that this is on file and current.

The parental agreement authorizes DCS and its representatives to consent to emergency medical treatment for the student in case of any illness or injury in connection with a school activity or school trip. Such treatment will be administered by such physicians, other medical personnel, hospitals, and/or clinics as may be selected by DCS or its representative.

No child with a fever above 100 degrees will be allowed to remain in class. Any rashes or eye infections may require a child to go home when there is a question of contagion. A child may return to school when the symptoms disappear and there is no longer a possibility of contagion. In some cases, this may require a doctor's written permission. If your child has contracted a contagious condition such as chicken pox, measles, or head lice, please inform the school.

In accordance with state laws, immunization records must be on file at school and kept current. The State Health Department audits immunization records annually to assure compliance with state regulations.

Medication

Medicine should be administered to students by the parents at home. In exceptional circumstances, a medication may be administered orally or topically at school by designated personnel if the following procedure is followed:

1. Written permission is given by the parents/guardian authorizing the school to administer the medicine to the student.
2. Medicine is in the original bottle from the pharmacy, includes the name and number of the pharmacy, the student's name, the name of the drug and the dosage, and the time and dates that the medicine is to be administered.
3. The medicine is kept by school personnel in a secure location.
4. Each dosage is recorded and kept on file.

Students shall not administer any medication to themselves except for the use of an inhaler, diabetes testing kit, and insulin. The student must demonstrate proper administration of the medication (such as an inhaler for asthma) and must inform the authorized school staff member, who should record what time the medication is taken.

Library/Media Center

At Destiny, we have a well established Library which exceeds the minimum state requirement of 15 books per student. Books are carefully selected and screened to provide access to good reading and research materials. If parents, family members or friends wish to contribute to the library, suggested titles are available upon request. We are actively developing our Library and Media Center.

Lockers

Students in grades 7-12 are provided locker space. Any properties, money and other valuables left in lockers are the responsibility of the student to whom the locker is assigned. All lockers must be locked at all times. The locker is the property of Destiny Christian School and is subject to inspection by authorized school personnel.

Tutoring

When a student needs additional tutoring, this often can be facilitated by notifying the School Office. We are happy to share with parents the name of teachers who may be available for tutoring. An additional hourly rate is charged.

ACADEMIC INFORMATION

Destiny Christian School requires successful completion of an academic program that exceeds all state requirements. The standard of education that a student receives at Destiny is not compromised in any area. There is a commitment to academic excellence that will prepare them for college and for life.

Grades

Students in grades 1-12 will be graded using the following numeric scale:

A	(4.0)	90-100
B	(3.0)	80-89
C	(2.0)	70-79
D	(1.0)	60-69
F	(0.0)	Below 60

1. All JH/HS teachers will be required to have in their class grading system three (3) assignments per subject per week, and a minimum of three (3) test grades per subject during a nine week period. All Elementary teachers will be required to have in their class grade book three (3) grades per subject per week.
2. All teachers should use a numeric grade system. In the 1st-12th grades, percentages will be used when recording grades. Percentages are more precise, especially in the high school grades.

Although grades are not always a perfect method of evaluation, they are the best method available to indicate the progress of a student.

Students are encouraged to discuss grades with each teacher so they will know their class standing and can maintain their grade average. Teachers will be glad to assist students, if the student is willing to do the work.

Parents and students have access to student information through the online parent portal connected to our school's student information system. This will provide parents and students with information on assignments, grades, attendance and discipline via the web.

Homework

Homework is an important part of the student's learning experience. Homework reinforces learning in the classroom, assists in progression of materials, and requires that the learner discipline time and energy in a positive, productive manner. Many times a student has homework because they did not use their time wisely in class. Homework is never just busy work.

Each student is asked to purchase an “**assignment pad**” from the school. The assignment pad is used daily by the student to keep a record of his homework assignments. Teachers are expected to give special consideration to Wednesday night church meetings by making the homework load lighter.

In elementary classes, the teacher will indicate on the assignment pad if the student has completed the work before leaving school. Parents are required to sign the assignment pad each night in acknowledgment of your child's homework and its proper completion.

There are three specific things that will help a student successfully complete their homework.

- 1. Plan:** Have a definite time each day for study at home.
- 2. Place:** Have a definite place at home to study away from distractions, with all necessary books, papers, and materials available.
- 3. Procedure:** The student should make sure they understand the assignment. Read the entire assignment for basic content. Reread the assignment slowly for details and re-enforcement. Close the book and mentally outline the material for review.

Late Work

Failure to turn in homework will result in a student's grade being lowered, based on the following percentages.

- 1. Elementary (1-6):**
1st day - 10%
2nd day - 20%
3rd day - 50%
- 2. Secondary (7-12):**
1st day - 30%
2nd day - 50%

Extra Work Requests

Students will often ask for extra work when grades are low in order to improve their grades. Although the intent is good, this often adds an extra burden to the student. If the student is not doing well in his regular work, how can he do more or better with extra work? Therefore, extra work is not permitted for the purpose of improving grades. A teacher may, at his discretion, allow a student to repeat an assignment, do an assignment in a different format, or otherwise individualize a previous assignment in order to replace a low grade. This, however, should not be permitted as a last minute, desperate effort to salvage a low grade.

Semester Exams

Semester exams will be conducted at the high school level. Learning to take comprehensive exams will help students to be successful in college courses. It is vital that students be in attendance for semester exams. Teachers will not give an early test so as not to compromise the test or have to write more than one test. Students missing a semester exam will receive a zero on the test. Students taking semester exams late for any reason will be dropped one letter grade. Any extenuating circumstances will be approved on individual basis by the administration.

Honor Roll

The honor roll recognizes academic achievement for each “9” week period. Teachers are asked to compile an “Honor Roll List” when they prepare their report cards.

Honor Roll Categories

- 1. Principal’s Honor Roll** - All A’s (90 or above)
- 2. A & B Honor Roll** - All A’s & B’s (80 or above)
- 3. Honorable Mention List** - B Average (no grade below 70)

Incompletes on a report card not made up by the time the honor roll list is determined will automatically disqualify that student from the honor roll for that grading period.

Promotion and Retention

Whether a student is promoted or retained in the same grade is an important decision with long reaching affects for the student. If a student is not progressing as they should, it is better to retain them in an early grade. It is much more difficult for them to be retained in later grades. **Destiny will work with the parent in making this decision and will not recommend it unless it is considered the best alternative. All failures are reviewed by the administration.**

1. **Kindergarten** - Normally promotion is based on age, current progress and available tests.
2. **Elementary (Grades 1-6)** - Students will be promoted unless:
 - A. A student fails two major subjects
 - B. Most of their grades are extremely low and it would be to their benefit to repeat a grade.
3. **Junior High (Grades 7-8)**

A student who passes four out of five core courses is promoted to the next grade level.
4. **Course Credit - High School (Grades 9-12)**

A credit is earned each semester with a passing grade.
A passing semester grade of 60% or greater will receive credit for the course. A student will continue to promote with their class each high school year. A student will not be promoted to the senior class unless the student has achieved 20 credits or is no more than seven credits away from graduation at the beginning of the school year.
A student who fails a subject during a regular session may repeat either in an approved summer school or in the next regular session.
5. A transfer student will not be promoted until records have been received from his/her previous school.

Skipping a Grade

A sincere and conscientious effort is made at the time of admission to place students at the proper grade/age level. On occasion, because of a student's good academic performance, parents will request that a student be advanced a

grade level beyond his normal promotion. Skipping a grade is not considered to be a beneficial practice and will rarely be considered or allowed by the school.

The nature of the curriculum is such that a student will usually miss critical concepts and skills by skipping a grade. The school administrators must also consider other factors such as those that relate to maturation, social development, and student success in comparison to other very bright and intelligent students.

At DCS, the view is that students should move through the planned curriculum in a step-by-step fashion in a way that allows for a steady academic as well as a steady social development. There is no feeling of urgency on the part of the school administration to accelerate a student through the grades.

Report Cards/Progress Reports

Report Cards

Report cards are issued every nine weeks, reflecting the student's progress within that period. At the end of the first nine weeks, a parent/teacher conference is scheduled for each student. Communication is a key asset in the training and development of a student. Please feel free to contact the teacher if there are questions at any time.

Report cards should be returned to the homeroom teacher, after being signed by the parent. They should be returned within the week.

Final report cards will not be issued to any student whose account is delinquent. However, you may come to the office and review the grades.

Progress Reports

For Grades K-4 through 12th, progress reports are sent home at the mid-point of each 9-week period. This report gives the parent an early indication of their child's progress and shows subject areas in which the student will need to improve. The progress report should be signed by the parent and returned the next day.

Grade reports will be viewable through the online parent portal of the school's student information system.

Graduation Requirements

- 4 credits in English
- 3 credits in History
- 3 credits in Science
- 3 credits in Mathematics
- 4 credits in Bible
 - or elective alternates if transfer student
- 2 credits in Foreign Language
- 2 credits in Fine Arts
- Elective courses to make up 28 credits

Total graduation credits required: 28

*****Transfer students may be given special consideration for missing Bible credits.***

Special Education Services

In the regular classroom, a teacher should be able to adjust the type and amount of curriculum for the slow student or the accelerated student. This method will accommodate and challenge most students. Also, by identifying a specific learning problem, the teacher can initiate specific techniques that will help that student.

DCS participates with the Mid-Del Public school district in the student services program that provides testing for special needs. When a need is identified by the parent or teacher, the procedure below is followed:

- Parent and teacher fill out the appropriate forms.
- Teacher will provide classroom interventions to help the student.
- The Kaufman test may be administered at Destiny Christian School.
- If the student qualifies for additional services, further testing and services will be scheduled by Mid-Del Special Services.

Testing

If it is deemed necessary by the administration, the Slossen Student Ability Test or modified SAT test may be used in testing new students. Readiness tests may be given to kindergarten students and first grade students during the summer.

Standardized achievement tests is given to all students in grades 1-11. Results are normed in comparison to Christian schools and public schools throughout the nation. These results are also used to aid the teachers and administration in making curriculum decisions.

It is very important that a student be present during testing week.

Other testing administered throughout the school year:

- The Ottis Lennon Student Ability Test will be given periodically.
- The PSAT is given to juniors.
- The PLAN is given to sophomores.
- The EXPLORE is given to eighth graders.
- High school students will be responsible for taking the SAT and/or ACT on their own. Students will be reminded of scheduled testing dates.

AWARDS

Awards are given to students for recognition of outstanding academic achievement in all subjects. At the end of the year, a special awards program is held during the last week of school. Parents are invited to attend.

Of special significance during the end of the year awards ceremony is the giving of a Christian Testimony award to two junior high and high school students. The top honor for a senior at DCS is the Mr. & Miss DCS award, given to the graduating boy and girl who best represent Destiny Christian School.

Every DCS student is encouraged to apply for college scholarships for academic and/or athletic achievements. Over the past 30 years, many of our students have received partial or full scholarships to a variety of colleges and universities.

STUDENT ACTIVITIES

Competitions

Periodically our students will be given the opportunity to compete in regional and state competitions in several academic areas. Competitions usually begin in November and run through April. Students must meet all local and regional qualifications to participate.

Assemblies

Assemblies are scheduled for special guests, presentations and promotions. In all phases of the school program, we expect students to practice the principles of courtesy. We want to create a good relationship with students, visitors and performers at Destiny Christian School. Whistling, booing, deliberate coughing, talking, making noise, sleeping, etc., are examples of discourteous behavior.

Chapel

Chapel services will be held for all students each week. Chapels are divided into groups by age, in order to keep each chapel service age-appropriate. Parents are welcome to attend Chapel Services. Chapel is a time for inspiration and instruction. It is a time of praise to the Lord, and a time for student participation.

Students should enter the chapel area quietly, and should be seated in their designated areas. Permission to get a drink or go to the restroom must be given by the teacher, and should be kept at a minimum.

Field Trips

Field trips pertinent to instructional objectives will be conducted for various classes during the year. The following rules should be observed for all field trips.

1. All field trips should be thoroughly planned and under the supervision of a teacher.
2. All arrangements for the trip must be made in advance and it must be on the monthly school calendar.
3. Students should conduct themselves in an orderly and respectful manner.
4. Dress appropriate for school field trips will be designated at the time the trip is authorized.
5. Unless they are with their parent/guardian, children must be in the presence of two adults at all times.

Special Events

School Productions

School productions are designed to be a part of the fine arts program, and give every student a chance to participate and perform before an audience. These programs give students an opportunity to use their creative talents and to learn the importance of practice and teamwork.

Fall Festival

This special family festival is an exciting annual tradition at DCS. It is a fun way to raise much needed funds. Each class will be asked to set up and run at least one booth. A silent auction is a part of this annual event. Each class will also be asked to put together a class basket for the silent auction.

Thanksgiving

Each year Destiny Christian School will distribute “Food Baskets” to families in need. Our food drive will begin November 1 and there will be a special competition between classes to encourage the students to bring in cans of food and small cash donations to help purchase turkeys. The baskets are delivered the week before Thanksgiving break.

Christmas Store

A special store designed just for kids! They can do their very own shopping at great prices. A shopping list is sent home with each student so that the parent can designate the gender and price for each gift. It is exciting to watch them load up their treasures to take home and put under the Christmas tree.

Organizations

National Honor Society

Membership in the National Honor Society is one of the highest honors that can be awarded to a high school student. Our chapter at Destiny, along with the more than 15,000 chapters in schools across the nation, strive to give practical meaning to the Society's standards of scholarship, leadership, service and character. These four ideals are considered as the basis for student selection into NHS. No student is inducted simply because of a high academic average. The National Honor Society strives to recognize the total student – one who excels in all four areas. The standards used for DCS student selection are:

Scholarship – 3.3 cumulative GPA

Leadership, service and character – as demonstrated by activities and teacher evaluations

Student Council

The Student Council represents students in grades 7-12 with each grade having two representatives to the council. The officers are elected each spring. The officers will include a President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, Chaplain, Historian and Parliamentarian. All officers must have a "B" average with no "F's".

All candidates for officers must complete the Student Council election form and be evaluated by the High School faculty in order for the individual to be listed as a candidate for election.

The council will assist with Unity Day, Spirit Week, Homecoming, food baskets, academic awards, or other such activities as needed and approved by the administration.

ATHLETICS

An integrated sports and physical education program begins in the elementary grades. As the program develops, there will be a full season of competition in fall, winter, and spring sports with other schools.

Athletes are encouraged to build self-worth in Christ, enabling them to perform at the highest standards of Christlike conduct, in practice, during games, before and after competition or wherever the athlete may be.

Students participating in the Destiny athletics program are in the unique position of representing the school to the public in both sportsmanship and in performance. Coaches will be encouraged to play those athletes who are giving their best and who are honoring their Lord and their school. Players will be removed from the game if they are dishonoring in any way. The administration or the coaches may place a student on probation at any time for conduct or attitudes that are inappropriate.

Students participating in athletics must maintain a **C-(75%)** cumulative average in their classes. If the cumulative grade average drops below 75%, the student will be placed on probation for the following week. Student-athletes are not allowed to participate in athletic competitions until their cumulative average is higher than 75%.

Students on probation are required to attend all practices and games during the probation period in order to be eligible to participate in future games.

Students will be responsible for obtaining their own physical examinations in order to participate in athletics. All students participating in athletics should have insurance coverage.

For more specific information on the athletic program at Destiny, refer to the Athletic Handbook.



CHEERLEADING

Students participating in cheerleading project an image of DCS to the community, their peers, and to visiting schools. They must demonstrate a good Christian testimony in citizenship, attitude, actions, and in conversation. They must support all athletic teams of the school and encourage the student body toward a positive school spirit and a goal for excellence in all things.

Students participating in cheerleading must maintain a **C-(75%)** cumulative average in classes. If the cumulative grade average drops below 75%, the student will be placed on probation for the following week. Cheerleaders are not allowed to participate in athletic competitions until their cumulative average is higher than 75%.

Students on probation are required to attend all practices and games during the probation period in order to be eligible to participate in future games.

The administration or the cheerleading sponsors may place a student on probation at any time for conduct or attitudes that are inappropriate.

Cheerleaders must demonstrate Christian respect for the cheerleading sponsors and assisting parents. The cheerleading activities must be under the direct supervision of the sponsor.

It is important that a cheerleader make a commitment to be the very best cheerleader that she can be, and work for unity and excellence within the squad.



STUDENT CONDUCT

When students are admitted to Destiny Christian School, they become identified with the school. It is expected that their conduct will reflect favorably on them and the school at all times. All students must understand clearly that in order for the school to maintain its high standards, ***DESTINY CHRISTIAN SCHOOL RESERVES THE RIGHT TO DISCIPLINE, SUSPEND, OR EXPEL A STUDENT WHO IS GUILTY OF GROSS MISCONDUCT WHETHER OCCURRING ON OR OFF THE SCHOOL CAMPUS.***

When parents enroll their children at DCS, they also agree to abide by the standards, policies and philosophy of the school. Parents not adhering to these policies will be asked to meet with the administration to settle the matter. Continued non-adherence to the policies by the parents may result in the parents being asked to withdraw their child.

All students at DCS are expected to abide by the ***Code of Honor*** as follows:

1. I will be obedient and respectful to all the authorities over me, including school leadership, faculty, and staff.
2. I will strive to be kind, courteous and cooperative towards teachers, staff, and other students.
3. I will do my work to the best of my ability, endeavor to complete all school assignments and participate in all classroom activity with a positive attitude. All work that I submit to the teacher will be my own. I will not cheat on assignments or enable another student to cheat.
4. I will be truthful. I will be careful to control my tongue and avoid profanity, lying and gossip; I will use proper language and use my words to encourage and build up, rather than tear down.
5. I will respect personal property and belongings of all other students. I will abstain from any activity that could damage or destroy school property, and if I do anything to cause damage, I will replace or repair it.
6. I will not use tobacco, alcohol, illegal drugs or unauthorized prescription drugs.
7. I will not transmit, receive, submit, or publish any defamatory, inaccurate, abusive, obscene, profane, sexually oriented, threatening, offensive, or illegal material via any means, electronic or otherwise.
8. I will not engage in sexual activity. I will not engage in public display of affection at school or school functions. I will not engage in pornography of any nature, via Internet, magazines, etc.
9. I will uphold the policies and standards of Destiny Christian School at all times, both on and off-campus.

Prohibited Behaviors/Attitudes

This following list is intended to be fairly comprehensive, but may not be all-inclusive. It is not intended to limit the school on making, interpreting or enforcing other rules. Prohibited behaviors fall into one of these three categories:

1. They violate Scripture
2. They violate common decency and civility
3. They are deemed necessary by the school for a safe, smooth operation

The school expects that students will not participate in these behaviors. They are non-negotiable and will be enforced.

Arguing with a teacher/showing contempt for his/her authority
Bullying other students (including hazing and initiation)
Being unprepared for class (without paper, books, pencil, homework)
Causing a distraction in class
Causing harm to another's property
Cheating
Chewing gum
Direct disobedience
Disrespect to faculty/staff (including body language/tone/expression)
Dress code violations
Failure to lock locker
Failure to obey specific classroom rules (according to teacher expectations)
Food and drink in the classroom/hallways
Gang related actions or behavior/attire or symbols
Going to or through off limit areas unless accompanied by a teacher (sanctuary, parking lot, etc.)
Improper behavior toward other students
Impure/unedifying speech
Inappropriate attitude
Inappropriate or immodest dress, attire, or appearance at school or any school-related event
Instigating a fight, verbally or physically
Leaving belongings around lockers in disarray
Leaving school campus without approval
Littering the buildings and grounds
Lying
Misconduct at a school extracurricular activity

Negligent driving (speed/vehicle control)
Note passing
Personal grooming during class
Possession of prohibited items on campus
Public display of affection
Secular music promoting rebellion or immorality
Skipping classes
Stealing
Talking in class without permission
Unexcused tardy
Unauthorized absence
Unruly behavior
Vandalism/willful destroying or defacing of school property

Prohibited Items on Campus

While not all prohibited items are illegal and dangerous, they do interfere with instruction or promote questionable standards. The list of prohibited items includes, but is not limited to:

Any illegal items such as guns, knives, drug paraphernalia, weapons, fireworks
Alcohol, tobacco and other drugs
Electronic games, mp3 players, headphones, or any other electronic device
Rap, rock or punk culture music or paraphernalia
Questionable books or magazines
Items not related to instruction
Any item that dishonors God

Any of these items brought to school will be kept in the school office until the end of school or until the parent comes to get the student's belongings.

Marital Status

At DCS, we believe in a three-stranded cord concept - the family, church and school working together. The family has total authority over a child, but delegates that authority to the school when they enroll. We take that responsibility seriously.

Marriage breaks the chain of authority between the parent and the school. A married student does not have the same interests or social needs as unmarried students. For this reason, Destiny does not enroll married students, formerly

married students, or students who have fathered or conceived a child. Any student who marries or becomes involved in one of the above mentioned circumstances will be withdrawn from school immediately.

Drug Abuse

Drug involvement is specifically defined and prohibited under Oklahoma and Federal Criminal Laws.

As a matter of policy, DCS will investigate fully any incident suggesting drug involvement (i.e. consumption, procurement, provision, possession, or sale of) on the part of the students, faculty, staff, or parents. The investigation may include drug testing. A student may be placed on homebound status during this investigation. Confirmation of drug abuse, as defined above, will be reported to the appropriate legal authorities, as required by law, and will subject the individual(s) involved to immediate disciplinary action by the administration.

Illegal Activity

A student accused by proper authorities of illegal activity will be placed on homebound status until that student is exonerated. If a student is convicted, he or she will be dismissed from school.

Cheating

Cheating is a serious offense. It involves taking information from another source and presenting it as your own information. Thus, it involves both the components of stealing and lying. Cheating is defined as copying homework, handing in another's work, plagiarism in research papers and compositions, and unauthorized assistance on tests and quizzes.

If it is determined that a student has indeed cheated, disciplinary action will be taken. This action may include:

- the student receiving a zero on the work
- conference with parents and administration

Repeated offenses of cheating could lead to suspension or expulsion.

- loss of leadership positions

Cell Phone Policy

DCS prohibits the use of all communication devices, which in its opinion, have limited or no educational value or their use creates learner distraction and disruption. Devices not allowed on campus or at school-sponsored activities include but are not limited to, two-way radios and pagers, as well as iPods, MP3 players, PDAs and laptop computers. The school reserves the right to define the educational value of any new electronic wireless communication devices that may become available to the general public in the future and to prohibit their use if they have little or no educational value or if such use creates learner distraction or disruption.

Students are not permitted to use a cell phone in the school building before or during school time (school time includes after school activities such as study hall, probation, sports or other practices/meetings). After school, students should not use cell phones until they have left the school building for the day.

If a student brings a cell phone to school, the cell phone must be turned in to a school official in the front foyer before classes begin at 8:00am. The cell phone may be picked up in the same location at the end of the school day at 3:05pm. If a student brings a cell phone to class the teacher will initiate disciplinary action. **NOTE:** "Forgetting" to turn in the cell phone is not an excuse.

Use of a cell phone during a test for any reason (i.e. text messaging, photos) will automatically be considered cheating, and appropriate academic and disciplinary action will be taken in the sole discretion of the administration.

No taking of or other use of cell phone photographs is permitted during the school day. Particularly, no cell phone photographs are permitted in the rest-rooms or locker room areas at any time. Violation of this prohibition is a serious discipline offense.

Parents who need to contact their child during the school day for emergency purposes should use the school's normal emergency contact process and call the main school phone number. School staff will assist parents in communicating with their child in appropriate emergency situations. Parents should not consider their child's cell phone as a means of contacting their child for any reason during the school day.

Students who violate the above restrictions shall be deemed to have created a disruption to the instructional environment and are subject to disciplinary action. Disciplinary action will include in-house suspension and confiscation of the cell phone for the first offense (the cell phone will be returned to the parents at a meeting with the administration). A second offense will be considered

intentional disobedience and may result in out of school suspension or expulsion as determined by the school administration.

Students shall be personally and solely responsible for the security of their cell phones. Destiny Christian School shall not assume responsibility for theft, loss, or damage of a cell phone, or unauthorized calls made from a cell phone.

Lunchroom Conduct

The student body is held responsible for proper etiquette in the lunch area and for keeping it neat and clean. To avoid excessive mess, students are required to eat properly over the table, sitting in their chairs correctly. Students are expected to remain seated unless otherwise given permission by a teacher on duty.

Proper language and a tolerable noise level is expected. This is a time for students to unwind while still maintaining sufficient order. Each class will be responsible for cleaning its lunch area after eating, and consideration for the classes following is highly encouraged.

Students are to put trash in the trash containers. No drink or food is to be removed from the lunch area without specific permission of the teacher or administration.

Destiny operates a closed campus and does not allow outsiders to indiscriminately come onto the campus, nor students to leave campus during lunch.

Conduct on School Sponsored Trips/Activities

The same standards of conduct required of students at school are also required of students on school-sponsored trips or at school sponsored activities.

The school cannot be responsible for any party or social event that is not officially approved and sponsored by DCS.

Playground Safety Rules

1. No throwing rocks, sticks, or gravel
2. No pushing, shoving, tripping or pulling
3. No fighting (even pretending)
4. No gravel or rocks on slide
5. No gravel or rocks brought in from playground

After School Conduct

Students cannot be in a school classroom after school dismissal unless a teacher is present.

Unless involved in athletics or other school activities, students should plan to leave the campus by 3:15 p.m. Any student remaining on campus after this time must report to Extended Training or Study Hall.

DISCIPLINE

Discipline Statement

The primary goal of the discipline program at DCS is a child who is responsive and obedient to God and His written word as the final authority in all matters (Psalm 119:11; Heb. 12:6-11). We must help our students learn to discern the difference between God's Law and man's practices and then act to choose God's way that they may grow in wisdom and prosper (Prov. 29:15).

The ultimate goal of the "discipline process" is to help the student learn "self-discipline." Students at DCS are treated as young ladies and gentlemen and are expected to act as such. To recognize, obey and finally exercise proper authority is a major characteristic of the successful person. That person has learned to exercise his own authority within limits, while voluntarily submitting his own will to the rightful authority of others.

We believe that education is best accomplished when there are consistent behavioral standards. We believe that a minimum number of behavioral rules are necessary to allow students and teachers to live and work together in a peaceful, orderly environment. Students are actually happier when there are clear rules that are consistently and fairly enforced, for then the students know what is expected of them.

True Discipline follows a "5-fold" process:

- (1) Instruction
- (2) Correction
- (3) Consequence
- (4) Repentance
- (5) Restoration

The administration of DCS is committed to this process.

Every teacher is responsible for discipline at all times, in all parts of the building and on the grounds. Teachers have full authority and responsibility to correct student behavior whenever such correction is necessary.

Students and parents are asked to abide by the discipline policies. Parents give their **permission** for discipline by signing the “Parental Agreement.” If it is determined that correction is needed, it will be administered according to the decision of the administration. DCS will not accept a student that parents will not allow us to discipline.

*“Train up a child in the way he should go,
Even when he is old, he will not depart from it.”
Proverbs 22:6*

Discipline Policy

Whenever possible, the teacher will attempt to work out a problem with the student, without administrative involvement. Each teacher will enforce basic classroom rules and will follow the school’s established “Merit/Demerit” or “Tally” system to encourage good behavior and discourage inappropriate behavior. A student will know in advance the consequences for disobeying the rules.

Each case of misconduct will be handled on an individual basis. The student will be given a chance to explain his version of the facts. The corrective measures to be employed to help the student correct his misconduct will be determined by the teacher and/or administration. Examples of corrective measures that will typically be employed are as follows:

1. Student-Teacher Conference
2. Student-Administrator Conference
3. Parent-Teacher Conference
4. Parent-Teacher/Administrator Conference
5. A discipline contract with a written plan for resolution
6. Clean-up detail
7. Removal of privileges or partial recess
8. Detention
9. Suspension
10. Expulsion

When corporal punishment is necessary, it is usually administered by the administrator or his designee and is done in the presence of a witness.

Every effort will be made by the school to keep parents informed when there is a problem or when any major disciplinary action is taken.

Parents are responsible to God for the discipline of their children. Should a discipline problem continue with a given student at any grade level, or should a student demonstrate open rebellion to a teacher or staff member, or should there be an outbreak of some uncontrollable behavior, the parent will be called and will be expected to come to school immediately. A conference with the principal will determine the next course of action. The student will not be allowed to return to school until the problem has been addressed.

Pre-School Elementary Discipline Plan/Tally System

In the Pre-School and Elementary departments, each teacher will implement a tally system to be used in the classroom. The system will include both consequences and rewards. Appropriate consequences will be given for excessive tallies.

JH/HS Discipline Plan/Merit-Demerit System

In the 7th-12th grades, the discipline plan is based on a Merit/Demerit System. Merits and demerits are recorded in the student information system and discipline is administered according to the merits/demerits awarded.

Merits will be given when a student exhibits outstanding behavior or exemplifies the code of honor. Merits may also be given for going above and beyond in service, attitude, or leadership. Students who qualify at the end of each quarter will be rewarded for their merits. Students who qualify at the end of the year will be granted an end-of-the-year merit activity.

Demerits will be given when a student exhibits behavior(s) that do not reflect DCS standards. After the teacher has instructed and corrected the student regarding the behavior, he/she will record demerits in the student information system, InfoNOW. Parents can view this at any time through the parent portal.

Records will be kept of accumulated demerits/merits. These accumulate throughout the year. Demerit totals will be posted in the high school office.

Parental Support

Especially in matters of discipline, there may be times when you or your children will have questions about a particular incident or decision. When this happens please keep the following things in mind:

1. Until you have heard both sides of the story, please give the staff the benefit of the doubt.
2. Realize that the child's reporting of the information is from a child's perspective.
3. Help us enforce to the child that there are reasons for all rules and that they are enforced without favor.
Never criticize the school in front of the child or others.
4. Support the administration and **call us** for all the facts.

Appeal Process

1. **Express it promptly.** Keeping a grievance to yourself will only cause bad feelings and friction between you and the school. We cannot appropriately address a situation if we are not aware of it.
2. **Tell it to the right person.** According to the Matthew 18 principle, complaints should first be discussed with the specific individual involved. Telling someone else will cause a negative undercurrent and will not solve the problem.
3. **Go to the administrator.** The administrator is responsible for school policy and the teachers. However, you should go to the administrator only if you are unable to resolve the issue.



SUSPENSION POLICY

Suspension may be necessary if the discipline process has not been effective and the behavior of the student does not change. Listed below are some of the types of infractions which may require immediate suspension. These behaviors are considered serious infractions whether they occur on or off the school grounds. **Please Note:** At times these infractions would merit expulsion.

1. Possession or use of tobacco, narcotics or alcohol on or off campus
2. Carrying or using instruments to do bodily harm
3. Instigating a fight
4. Stealing, cheating or gambling
5. Inappropriate or immodest dress, attire or appearance
6. Forging signatures or using forged notes or excuses
7. Committing an act of defiance, either in language or action
8. Involvement with fireworks or other explosives on campus or at school sponsored events
9. Vandalism/willful defacing or destroying of school property
10. Initiating false fire alarms or any other false alarms, calling 911 from the school campus
11. Unauthorized absences - “ditching”
12. Insubordination – the undermining of authority
13. Threatening, striking, or attempting to strike a teacher or other school personnel
14. Any other reason considered sufficient by the administration

Suspension Procedure

The administrator will notify the student and his parents. He will acquaint the parents with the reason for suspension, the number of days, and the conditions for re-entry.

The period of suspension is usually 1,3,5 or 10 days and depending on the seriousness of the offense may be in school or at home. Many times in-school suspension is more effective than sending a student home. During in-school suspension, school work is done on campus outside the classroom setting.

Procedure for Readmitting a Student

1. The administrator may request another conference with the parents and the student.
2. It may be necessary for the student and parents to receive help through additional counseling.
3. The student will be received back on a probationary status that will result in permanent dismissal if violated.
4. The student may not receive grades for the classes he missed, but he will be required to make up all work missed.
5. No monetary adjustment will be made in regard to days absent because of suspension.

Dismissal

A student may be dismissed from the school at any time he or his parents are found to be out of harmony with the rules and policies. In some cases, the attitude of the student reflects the attitude of the home.

Decisions in these matters are the full responsibility of the administration, and the decision will be made with the best interest of the school and the student in mind.



DRESS CODE

Our dress code standards are important to us at DCS. They make a visible statement about our school and about our character. Regardless of the changes we see in styles and fads from year to year, the need for modesty, neatness, and a well-groomed appearance never change. While we are not trying to make a judgment call about every fad that comes along, we do have to pay attention to the groups which align themselves with certain dress styles and grooming fads.

We understand that dress code standards may be subjective, and that everyone has their own ideas. However, we must set definite standards that are clear to the students and can be enforced by the administration. It is important that parents be in agreement with us in this area.

Four principles of dress will be taught and consistently enforced:

1. **Modesty** of both boys and girls
2. **Distinction** between boys and girls
3. **Identification** with Christian values and not with the secular world
4. **Appropriateness** for the time/activity

Uniforms

At Destiny Christian School, **uniforms** will be the required dress of **all** students. **A complete uniform list for boys and girls is available in the School Office.** There may be different dress distinctions for older students. By requiring students to wear uniforms, we are not only accomplishing the above goals but we are:

1. Encouraging students to focus on character and inward qualities to express their individuality.
2. Emphasizing the importance of spiritual growth and educational development above conformity to fashion and the world. (*Romans 12:2, II Tim. 2:4*)
3. Building a sense of school identity among students.
4. Building a disciplined atmosphere to encourage positive behavior. Students will identify uniforms with “getting down to business” at school.
5. Providing an economical standard of dress for all students regardless of the economic level of the family.

Student clothing must meet the standard of being neat, clean, pressed and in good repair. **Parents must accept the responsibility for the dress and appearance of their children.** We encourage parents to inspect the dress of their child before leaving for school. If it's questionable, don't wear it.

Dress Code Standards

Girls:

1. Shirt tails must be tucked in, unless the shirt is specifically designed to be worn untucked. Only undershirts in school colors (black, white, burgundy, or gray) are allowed under uniform shirts.
2. Dress and skirt lengths are to be sufficient as to present a modest appearance when standing, moving, or sitting.
3. Body piercing (other than earrings) is not allowed. Gauges are not allowed.
4. Hair must be groomed, clean and neat. Any changes in hair color should be to a natural color. Sculpting or extreme spiking is not allowed.
5. Make-up is not allowed for elementary students (1st-6th grades).
6. Party dresses worn for special occasions should be modest.

Boys:

1. Shirt tails must be tucked in. Only T-shirts in school colors (black, white, burgundy, or gray) or school spirit shirts are allowed under uniform shirts.
2. Belts must be worn with pants and shorts.
3. Socks must be worn with shoes.
4. Body piercing (including earrings for boys) is not allowed. Gauges are not allowed.
5. Hair must be conservatively cut, neat and clean at all times. Hair is not to extend below the collar and cannot obstruct the eyes. Any changes in hair color should be to a natural color. Length of hair that is part of a cultural or religious standard can be accommodated by wearing a single neat ponytail down the back.

Both:

1. Students must wear only shorts, pants, skirts, skorts, kilts, dresses, or shirts that appear on the uniform list.
2. Students' uniforms shall be clean and neat. Repairs shall be made as necessary, and if needed, new uniforms should be purchased during the school year.
3. Clothes should fit appropriately at all times, and neither be too tight or too loose; the fit of all clothes should give a neat, well-groomed appearance. Baggy, oversized, or loose-fitting pants are not appropriate.

4. Student dress, hair style, and accessories must be in good taste and in no way disruptive. Any appearance which results in more than ordinary attention from staff or students will be considered inappropriate and inadmissible to class.
5. All shirts/blouses are to be buttoned below the first neck button.
6. DCS/MDC sweatshirts may be worn over a collared shirt.
7. Sweaters and jackets worn in the classroom must be SOLID school colors - white, gray, burgundy, or black. Sweatshirts (except for DCS/MDC sweatshirts), hoodies, flannel or plaid shirts, fleece vests or jackets (except for designated uniform jacket) cannot be worn. Coats may not be worn while in the classroom. HOODS ARE NOT TO BE WORN IN THE CLASSROOM AT ANY TIME.
8. Shoes should be clean (tennis shoes) or polished (leather shoes, boots, etc.).
9. Sunglasses, caps, and hats should not be worn in the building during the school day.
10. Anything that reflects the gang culture or other negative culture is not permitted.
11. Tattoos are not permitted.
12. All articles of clothing are to be labeled with the student's name. The school is not responsible for lost or misplaced uniforms.

***“Do not be conformed to the world but be transformed by the renewal of your mind.
Romans 12:2***

Dress Code Violations

The administration of Destiny Christian School will maintain and enforce the dress code at both school and school-related functions. Students in violation of dress code may be dealt with in the following manner:

1. Verbal warning
2. Notify parent by note or phone
3. Ask that a change of clothing be brought for the child

DCS does not willingly or knowingly allow students to be out of school uniform in any way. We endeavor to be extremely consistent in enforcing this policy. Parental support is required in the matter of dress code and the responsibility training of children. Parents should model and encourage Christ-like attitudes toward all school policies.

Attire for Extra-Curricular Activities

Students participating in extracurricular activities will wear the prescribed clothing or athletic uniform. Following the activity or athletic event, the participants must change into clothes which conform to the regular school dress code, except when the permission of the activity coordinator or team coach has been obtained to remain dressed otherwise. Shorts (other than uniform shorts) are not acceptable dress for boys or girls except as designated for participation in designated activities or athletic events.

Student spectators at athletic events must wear clothing which conforms to the school dress regulations.

Parents visiting the school and attending school functions are also asked to respect these standards in their own dress.

Lost and Found

Articles of clothing left in the classrooms or on school grounds will be placed in the Lost and Found closet in the back foyer. Parents are encouraged to check there for items missing at home. Lost and Found will periodically be cleaned out and items donated to a local charity.

It is helpful if jackets, sweaters and other expensive articles have name tags or some form of identification on them.

PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT

All through this handbook, we have suggested ways that you can be involved in the school and your child's education. Your support and active involvement in the education process is crucial to the success of your child's education.

The key to a good understanding between the home and the school is **communication**. Please read carefully all communications and sign and return them if requested.

We are aware that there will often be differences of opinion and disagreements in a school environment. However, as Christians, we ought to handle our disagreements and disputes according to the Word of God. (Matthew 18:15-16) To be successful, the school, the parents, and the students need to work together, to support one another, to understand one another, and to reason together. We welcome your input and your suggestions.

Parent organizations and conferences also help to promote a good understanding between parents and the school. Every parent is required to participate in these informative and helpful programs.

Orientation

This meeting is required for all parents and is scheduled before school begins each year. This is one of the ways we can keep you informed about school policy and up-to-date on school activities.

Parent-Teacher Conferences

A conference may be set up at any time at the request of parent, student or teacher. Regular conferences are scheduled at the end of the first nine weeks.

Parents wishing a conference with a teacher should send a note to the teacher or call the school office to arrange a conference time. Parents are requested not to hold a conference with a teacher before school since teachers will either be on duty or in devotions. A time will be set which is convenient to both the teacher and the parent. Parent conferences are required for all students who make D's, F's, or I's or have excessive absences.

Open House

There is a joint parents and teachers meeting held annually to allow parents to visit the classrooms and meet with the teachers. Open House is usually held during the month of February. February is also Preregistration month and is an excellent opportunity to invite prospective parents to our school.

Parent-Teacher Fellowship (PTF)

The Parent-Teacher Fellowship is designed to enhance the fellowship between parents and teachers at DCS. Parents are the major support group of the school. Grandparents and other family and friends of students are also welcome to participate. Events are held as scheduled on the school calendar.

Important areas where parents can be of help are as homeroom parents, athletic booster club, fund raising, programs and musicals, Fall Festival, Christmas Store, Thanksgiving baskets, office aids, carpooling, and advertising - helping to get the name of Destiny Christian School before the public in as many ways as possible.

The PTF will operate under the authority of and in cooperation with the school administration. The administration will be included in all planning and must give prior approval for all activities.

Publications/Communications

One important way that we can communicate is through our **Tuesday Times**, a weekly note sent home with all students each Tuesday. The monthly calendar is included with the Tuesday Times at the beginning of each month. All scheduled activities will be included in the monthly calendar. Our school website, www.destinywildcats.com, is updated frequently, and the **Destiny Christian School** facebook page provides daily updates of scheduled events and activities. If you would like something included in the **Tuesday Times** or on the website, please contact the school office two weeks prior to the date you would like the information published.

Each faculty and staff member at DCS has a school e-mail address that you can use to contact them with any questions or comments. The e-mail addresses are listed on the faculty page of the school website, or the format for each address is "*firstname.lastname@destinywildcats.com*." For general information about the school, events or activities, you may e-mail us at info@destinywildcats.com.

CONCLUSION

We hope that as parents, you already realize the true value of a Christian education. However, we believe that you will be even more convinced when you see the dramatic change it can make in the life of your child. It is not something you try for a year to see if it works. You make the commitment to give your children the solid foundation that they need. You are giving them a filter system (God's Word) through which they can screen all of life's decisions. In addition to this you are giving them a quality education. Is the investment worth it? I think so. What can be more important than the life of a child - your child?

Thank you for enrolling at Destiny Christian School!