

# **Highlights of Handbook Policies**

# NON-DISCRIMINATORY CLAUSE

Virgil Hauselt Memorial Christian School is a Seventh-day Adventist Christian School and is open to children of all races and religions, provided there is willingness to comply with the standards established by the Seventh-day Adventist Department of Education and space is available.

### EDUCATION PHILOSOPHY

We believe that education is a lifetime process in which the school plays a vitally important role. Each phase of the organized school program must contribute toward the realization of individual capacities and to growth that leads toward meeting individual needs, with the exception to those students needing a specialized program for learning disabilities. We recognize the worth of each student and it is our desire that each one might make a satisfactory progress as he or she develops a positive self-image.

#### MORAL STANDARDS

Our school has high moral and spiritual standards, which are intended to guide the student in his or her ability to distinguish right from wrong. We expect the individual to pursue, with determination, the opportunities offered him or her and to attain a maturity in which he or she welcomes responsibilities and the privilege to learn of God.

#### CITIZENSHIP STANDARDS

VHM students will show willingness to cooperate with the following citizenship standards:

- 1. Purposefully support the religious ideas of the school rather than willingly undermine them.
- 2. Congenially fulfill the citizenship standards rather than willingly disregard them.
- 3. Use pure language and avoid the appearance of evil rather than use profane language or indulge in lewd conduct or suggestions or possess or display obscene materials.
- 4. Participate in activities which strengthen and encourage their character such as the practice of honesty, truthfulness and integrity.
- 5. Base relationships on purity, and belief in the inestimable value of himself and others.
- 6. Follow practices which contribute to strengthening the body temple, including no alcoholic beverages, tobacco, or other addicting drugs.
- 7. Select recreation which contributes to the development of Christian character. Participation in gambling or possession of such devices is not permitted.
- 8. Respect and obey all school personnel.
- 9. Respect the property of the school and fellow students. Damage to the property may result in payment or replacement.
- 10. Practice punctuality and dependability by meeting appointments regularly and promptly.

# **DISCIPLINE CODE**

The discipline code for VHM students will include the following areas:

- 1. The students will respect all the teachers and staff of VHM.
- 2. The students will respect their fellow students and themselves.
- 3. The students will respect the building, grounds, and materials that belong to VHM.

In addition to the stated areas, the citizenship standards and general rules stated in the Handbook Policies, including new regulations adopted by and announced to the students, will apply and will be enforced by the teachers and staff. If necessary, a student may have to sign a behavior contract. Breaking of the contract can result in further action being taken which includes, but is not limited to, meeting with parents, suspension, or expulsion.

## **DRESS CODE**

Clothing and personal appearance ought to be neat, clean, and appropriate to the occasion and its activities. Any student's appearance that makes the faculty or staff uncomfortable may be asked to remove the offending item or change. General regulations are as follows:

- 1. Beginning August 2020, students will wear VHM Logo Polo Shirts each day. Pants and/or skirts and shorts may include navy blue or black uniforms pants, skirts, or jeans. A black or Navy Blue Front Zip fleece jacket may be worn—not covering the uniform shirt. 5 shirts will be provided by our PTO. The cost of the shirts is included in your Registration or Re-Enrollment Fee.
- 2. Emblems or messages displayed on clothing, on free-dress days, must not in conflict with the standards of the school.
- 3. Pants should conform to the school standards of neatness and modesty, including fitting properly. Jean/pants with fading or holes are not allowed.
- 4. For health and safety reasons, shoes or sandals are to be worn at all times. Flip-flops are not allowed. Athletic shoes, which enclose and support the foot, must be provided for Playground and PE.
- 5. Hair should be kept neat and groomed, and a natural color. Styles that draw undo attention are not acceptable.
- 6. Hats, caps or hoods are not appropriate in the classrooms, library or administrative offices.
- 7. Jewelry, including neck chains, rings, bracelets, necklaces and earrings, may not be worn to school.
- 8. Make-up should be of a natural colors that do not cause undue attention to wearer may be worn.
- 9. The use of too much cologne or perfume is not permitted due to sensitivities or allergies of others.

#### Boy and girl specific regulations:

For boys: No tank tops may be worn. Shorts need to cover the upper leg.

For girls: For special events, sleeveless dresses should fit snugly under the arm. For dress down attire, no thin strap, tank top, or halter tops. Tops that are low cut or that show a bare midriff are not acceptable. Dresses or skirts that are much above the knee are not acceptable. Leggings/jeggings/yoga or other spandex pants are permissible only if a shirt, skirt or shorts worn over them are fingertip length.

# ATTENDANCE POLICY

The purpose of the attendance system at VHM is to ensure each student's achievement of the fullest possible return from his investment in a Christian education. When a student misses classes, it is the student who loses. A vital part of Christian education is developing a sense of responsibility to one's duty, including keeping up good attendance. General Regulations as follows:

- 1. Absences and tardiness will be noted on each student's grade report.
- 2. Acceptable excuses for an excused absence include: illness, medical appointment and circumstances beyond the control of the student and parent.
- 3. When the attendance record of a student is becoming a threat the student's success, a conference may be required with the parents or guardian, the student, teacher and Principal.
- 4. The reason for being tardy or absent must be communicated to the teacher or office by 9:00am in the morning. If not, it will be considered an unexcused absence.
- 5. Excused or pre-arranged absences for any reason other than medical or extreme emergency should be submitted in writing to the teacher at least one week prior to the anticipated absence for review. The request for absence will be considered and the decision reported to the parent via the home room teacher. Classwork may possibly be given to the student if time and convenience allows for the teacher to do so, otherwise make up classwork will be given to the student upon return to class. NOTE: the teacher is not required to allow work to be made up if the stated procedure is not followed!
- 6. A student having absences (excused or unexcused) totaling 15% (seven instructional periods) in any class in one quarter may forfeit his/her grade in that class except by special action of the school's governing committee.