



WINDSWEPT ACADEMY

P.O. Box 1576
EAGLE BUTTE, SOUTH DAKOTA 57625

PARENT/STUDENT HANDBOOK SCHOOL YEAR 2009-2010

“Give thanks to the LORD, call on His name; make known among the nations what He has done.” – Psalm 105:1

VISION STATEMENT, MISSION OF WINDSWEPT ACADEMY AND STATEMENT OF FAITH

VISION STATEMENT

In a Christ-centered environment, students of Windswept Academy will acquire wisdom, knowledge, critical thinking skills, and a biblical worldview as demonstrated by a lifestyle of Christian discipline, character, leadership, worship, fellowship, discipleship, ministry, and evangelism.

MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of Windswept Academy is to provide our students with a Christ-centered, quality, academic education in a Biblically directed learning environment that prepares them for leadership and Christian service in the community and in the world.

STATEMENT OF FAITH

Windswept Academy is a Christ-centered institution. The Board of Directors, along with the faculty and staff, is committed to an evangelical interpretation and application of the Christian faith. All employees are expected to understand and adhere to the following articles of belief:

- A. That the Holy Bible is the inspired, infallible and authoritative source of Christian doctrine and precept.
- B. That there is one God, eternally existent in three persons: Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
- C. That man was created in the image of God but, as a result of sin, is lost and powerless to save himself.
- D. That the only hope for man is to repent and believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, the virgin-born Son of God, who died to take upon Himself the punishment for the sin of mankind, and who rose from the dead so that by receiving him as Savior and Lord, man is redeemed by His blood.
- E. That Jesus Christ will return to earth in power and glory.
- F. That the Holy Spirit indwells those who receive Christ for the purpose of enabling them to live righteous and holy lives.
- G. That the Church is the Body of Christ and is composed of all those who through belief in Christ have been spiritually regenerated by the indwelling Holy Spirit. The mission of the Church is worldwide evangelism and nurturing and discipling of Christians.

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ACADEMIC PROBATION

A student may be placed on academic probation for a variety of reasons, including but not limited to the following: newly transferred, pattern of homework problems, failure to cooperate with faculty, or failure to work to his or her potential. Students placed on academic probation must understand that the continuation of the negative pattern of work is serious and could jeopardize their placement at Windswept Academy. Academic Probation lasts for nine weeks, and a student on probation will have his or her case reviewed at the end of the grading period. If no improvement is made, then enrollment may be withdrawn.

ATTENDANCE

Parents are asked to call the school each day that their student is absent. A message may be left on the answering machine or emailed to the school office any time by 8:30 a.m. All students should sign in and out at the office if they are coming or going any time within the normal school hours. This includes students who arrive after the tardy bell.

Vacation

The school calendar allows for the usual holiday vacation time. Parents are urged to adhere to these dates as closely as possible. If you are going to take your children out of school for any extended period of time, please send a note to the office and the teacher at least one week ahead of time. Parents should also understand that the work or experiences the students miss often cannot be duplicated. Parents are responsible to help their child make up the necessary work. This work may include:

1. Ongoing assignments
2. Work given after the fact
3. Alternative assignments
4. Homework in advance

CURRICULUM

The curriculum is an integral part of any school system. Specific subjects are taught not only to give the students a well-rounded educational background for life, but also to help students see God as Creator of all knowledge. Listed below are the subjects taught at each grade level:

- Bible
- Communication Arts including Reading, Writing, Penmanship, and Language
- Math
- Science
- Social Studies
- Technology Skills (Computers)
- Physical Education/Health
- Music and Art
- Lakota history, language and virtues

DISCIPLINE

In the training of children it is necessary that guidelines be set to establish the limits of acceptable behavior. Students learn best in an orderly and disciplined environment. We expect each student to follow the rules of the school and the classroom. With any serious discipline problem, parents are involved immediately. Windswept Academy operates under a zero tolerance policy. No drugs, no alcohol, no weapons and no gang paraphernalia will be allowed. Any student caught with any of these items will be immediately expelled from school.

DRESS CODE

In keeping with the mission of Windswept Academy, we recognize the important impact of student dress on the learning environment. We understand that all of our lives, including our dress, brings honor or dishonor to God. We also embrace our identity as a Christian school, and how we dress impacts our witness for Christ to the world.

Dress Guidelines

1. All dress should be clean, neat and modest.
2. Boys are required to navy blue or khaki pants and white collared shirts.
3. Girls are required to navy blue or khaki skirts with white blouses.
4. Names or initials should be put inside all backpacks and outer clothing (coat, hats boots, mittens, etc.)
5. Students should wear appropriate seasonal outer clothing, taking into account our changeable weather.

Staff will make judgments regarding dress, and parents will be contacted if pupils are inappropriately dressed.

EMERGENCY PROCEDURES

Tornado Watch

1. All students will remain in their building under the direct supervision of their teachers.
2. The regular school schedule will be followed.
3. Classes will be dismissed at the regular time.

Tornado Warning

1. No student will be dismissed. Children may be released to a parent who personally comes to get the child.
2. All students will be assigned to the safest possible area within the school building until the warning has been lifted.

Tornado (as well as fire) drills are held periodically.

Terrorist Alert

In the event of a terrorist alert we will follow the National Codes for Homeland Security. At school we will follow procedures similar to the tornado procedures above unless directed otherwise by the local authorities. In the event of a heightened terrorist alert a school lock down may be necessary.

School Lock-Down Procedure

Should a school lock down be necessary all classrooms will be locked with the students and faculty kept inside the individual classrooms and administrative offices. Classroom doors will remain locked and no one will be permitted to leave until it is deemed safe by the appropriate authorities and administration.

Snow/Fog Days

When it is necessary to close the schools due to inclement weather, such as heavy snowstorms, fog, etc., the decision is made by the Principal.

In the event of a two-hour delay, bus pick up and school activity will begin two hours later than the regularly scheduled times.

If an announcement is to be made, it will usually be given to the local radio and television stations by 6:30 a.m. on the day in question.

School Entrances

For the safety of the students and staff, the main entrance doors are the only ones unlocked during the school day.

HOLIDAYS

During the course of a year, we are privileged to observe many Christian holidays and other important days. We celebrate these days with all-school chapels, programs, projects, and classroom activities.

HOMEWORK

In order to be sensitive to the busy lives many of our students lead, the following guidelines for the maximum times for homework for each grade are suggested:

- 1st - 10 minutes
- 2nd - 20 minutes
- 3rd - 30 minutes
- 4th - 40 minutes
- 5th - 50 minutes

HOT MEALS

A breakfast and hot lunch will be provided daily. Details regarding the meal times and menu will be distributed during the first week of school and throughout the school year.

MEDICAL AND DENTAL APPOINTMENTS

When planning your doctor and dental appointments, please try to schedule your appointment during non-school hours. When children leave and return, the class is disrupted and valuable instructional time is lost. If you do need to pick up your child for an appointment, please stop in the office and sign your child out. Your child will be called to meet you. Please sign in on your return.

MEDICATION ADMINISTRATION

Prescription medication policy:

1. Parents are to notify school personnel of all prescription medications to be administered at school. No prescription medication will be given by school personnel without written authorization from a parent. A form is provided for that purpose.
2. Any changes in dosage or addition of new medications must be accompanied by a note from the parent and the prescription bottle.
3. Discontinuation of prescription medication requires a written parent's statement.
4. New prescription authorization forms are needed each school year.
5. No prescription drugs or over the counter medication may be kept in the child's possession during the school day.
6. All prescription medications must be in the original container and have a pharmacy label which includes the child's full name, doctor's name, name of the medication, strength of medication, specific direction of time and dosage to be given.
7. Empty bottles and discontinued medication will be sent home immediately with notification to parents. All medication must be picked up by an adult at the end of each school year.
8. The parents shall have sole responsibility to instruct their child to take the medication at the scheduled time, and the child has the responsibility for both presenting him/herself on time and taking the prescription medication.
9. Prescription drugs shall be kept in a secured box with a method to indicate when drugs were dispensed.

RECESS

A note from home is required when a child must remain indoors during recess. This should be done only when absolutely necessary. Ordinarily if a child is well enough to be at school he/she is well enough to go outside for a few minutes of fresh air. These notes should be written and sent to the teacher daily, since poor health usually cannot be predicted for a series of days.

REPORT CARDS

There will be parent-teacher conference every 9 weeks. Report cards are sent home to keep you informed of the progress of your child. These report cards should be signed and returned to the school. If you have any questions about your children's report cards or their progress throughout the year, feel free to contact the teacher or principal.

SCHOOL PICTURES

Individual and yearbook pictures are taken each fall by a professional photographer hired by our school. The photographer offers several picture packages which parents may purchase if they choose. Parents will be notified several weeks in advance of the date so they may be properly prepared.

SCHOOL SCHEDULE

The school schedule will be distributed at the beginning of each school year.

STUDENT EMERGENCY INFORMATION

If during the course of the school year the emergency information you provided changes, please let the school office know immediately.

SUPPLIES

Although many of the supplies the children need are provided by the school, a list of supplies the students need to bring with them is sent out in the August parent letter. When a child reaches the third grade, he/she must have the NIV version of the Bible at school.