

## ACS Student Handbook Major Changes for 2014-2015

### **Dress Code**

Please make sure you are familiar with the dress code as outlined in the Student Handbook. We worked hard to provide this early in the summer so that you would have the opportunity to make sure your child is in compliance when school begins. Please be aware that we will be enforcing the new policies on the first day. Our purpose is to maintain a positive, orderly learning environment with minimal distractions. Uniforms will also have a significant, positive effect on security because if a young person is on campus who is not an ACS student, he or she can be easily and immediately identified.

### **Tardies (1<sup>st</sup> Period)**

When students arrive late to class, it is disruptive and hinders the opportunity to learn, both for the student who is late and the other students in the class. Punctuality has been a problem in the past and will be a point of emphasis this school year. When students are late to school, they will receive a consequence the same day, in addition to appropriate demerits. Beginning this year we will not attempt to discern between excused and unexcused tardies. We understand that on rare occasions unavoidable delays happen, and that is why students will be allowed four tardies before consequences commence. Tardies resulting from appointments are the only ones that will be dismissed, and these must be accompanied by a doctor's note. The consequences are as follows:

- Tardies 1-4: No consequences
- Tardies 5-9: Email to parents on 5th, Break Detention on day of tardy
- Tardies 10-14: Phone call to parents on 10th, Lunch Detention either day of tardy or following day
- Tardies 15-19: Phone call/conference with parent on 15th, Break Detention day of tardy and Lunch Detention either day of tardy or following day
- Tardies 20+: Parent conference if not already occurred (if so, phone call), After School Detention until 4:30 on day of tardy

These policies are for first period only. Tardies for all other periods will be addressed with slips, demerits, and subsequent consequences. The allowance for four tardies is for first period only.

### **Discipline/Demerits**

Another point of emphasis this year is to diligently track demerits and consistently administer consequences. The levels of offenses and values of consequences have not changed significantly, but we have adjusted the consequences. They are as follows:

- 30 Break Detention for 2 days, e-mail to parents
- 45 Break Detention for 1 week, e-mail to parents
- 60 Lunch Detention for 1 week, phone call to parents
- 75 Break Detention and Lunch Detention for 1 week, phone call to parents
- 90 3 Days After School Detention, parent conference
- 105 ISS with ineligibility attached, parent phone call and/or conference
- 120 Meeting with principal, possible OSS, behavior contract

### **Eligibility**

Eligibility for extracurricular activities will be based on six-week grade checks, with the opportunity for reinstatement after the following three weeks. Students with any grade below 70 (including conduct) at the end of a six-week period will become ineligible the following Friday at 3:40 p.m. They will be ineligible for at least three weeks. If they are passing all subjects at the following three-week check, they will become eligible the following Friday at 3:40 p.m. If not, they will remain ineligible until the Friday following the next six-week check (pending the outcome).

Ineligible students may participate in practice, but they are not allowed to participate in games/performances in any manner. This includes traveling with the team/group, sitting on the bench, and wearing the uniform during a game/performance.

Students with a grade of "incomplete" are ineligible (effective the following Friday) until work has been successfully completed and the grade has been officially adjusted in Renweb.

### **Late Work**

Late work will be accepted for one (calendar) week after an assignment is due. If work is turned in during this one-week period, twenty-five points will be deducted. After a week, work will not be accepted and will be given a grade of zero. Late work is work that is not turned in or completed on a due date and is not related to an absence. When a student is absent, missed assignments are considered make-up work, and the due date for this work is adjusted according to policy.

### **Absences/Credit Recovery**

Students must be present for 90 percent of any class in order to receive credit. For classes that meet five days per week, nine absences are allowed before time must be made up. The last three Saturdays of each semester will be designated for students allowed the opportunity to reclaim lost time. Students will report in uniform at 8:00 a.m. Location and length of stay will be determined by the principal. The cost for students to attend Saturday School will be \$30 for each occurrence. There will be no opportunities to make up time outside of these three Saturdays.

### **Cell Phones**

If a device is taken up and turned in to the office, the student may pick it up **after school the following day** for a \$15 fee. For subsequent offenses, the student's parent will have to claim the phone **after school the following day** for a fee of \$15.

### **Freshman**

Freshmen will now take the PSAT. Beginning with this year's class, students will be required to complete 12.5 hours of community service for every year they attend Abilene Christian High School. This class will also have higher standards for membership in National Honor Society.