

**NEW DIMENSIONS HIGH SCHOOL  
PARENT - STUDENT Acknowledgement  
2020-2021**

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_

(Please print clearly)

I acknowledge the Student Handbook and the policies are available to me through the New Dimensions High School website.

I acknowledge receiving and/or being provided electronic access to the Student/Parent Handbook and I have read these materials and understand all rules, responsibilities and expectations.

I understand that the Student/Parent Handbook and school policies may be amended during the year and that such changes are available on the School website.

I understand that my failure to return this acknowledgement will not relieve me from being responsible for knowing or complying with NDHS's rules, policies, and procedures.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

**COMPLETE AND SIGN THIS PAGE, REMOVE AND RETURN TO YOUR  
FIRST PERIOD TEACHER.**

**NEW DIMENSIONS HIGH SCHOOL  
Student Handbook**

**COMPLETE THIS PAGE, REMOVE AND RETURN TO YOUR FIRST PERIOD TEACHER.**

Please fill out the following information:

Student's Cell Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_

Student's Home Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_

Mother's /Guardian's Cell #: \_\_\_\_\_

Father's/Guardian's Cell #: \_\_\_\_\_

Student's email address: \_\_\_\_\_

Parents' email address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_



**New Dimensions High School  
4900 Old Pleasant Hill Road  
Kissimmee, FL 34759  
Phone: 407-870-9949      Fax: 407-870-8976**

**Dr. Sylvia Kern, Director**  
[kern@newdimensionshs.com](mailto:kern@newdimensionshs.com)

**Mrs. Theresa Barrett, Director**  
[tbarrett@newdimensionshs.com](mailto:tbarrett@newdimensionshs.com)

**Wanda Sanchez, Administrative Assistant/Registrar**  
[sanchez@newdimensionshs.com](mailto:sanchez@newdimensionshs.com)

**Dilcia Plaza, Attendance Clerk**  
[plaza@newdimensionshs.com](mailto:plaza@newdimensionshs.com)

**MISSION STATEMENT**  
***“Celebrating Success, Creating Pride”***

The mission of New Dimensions High School is that learning is participatory, involving hope, curiosity, and commitment so that action becomes a legitimate result of learning.

A skilled staff, serving as positive role models in a caring environment and dedicated to human resource development, will recognize and nurture the worth of the individual. New Dimensions High School will actively solicit citizen involvement and recognize its role in the development of a healthy, vibrant community.

All present and future programs will be compatible with our mission statement.

**WELCOME:**

On behalf of the faculty, we would like to welcome you to New Dimensions High School for the coming year. We are looking forward to assisting you in fulfilling your educational goals. New Dimensions is developing a history of fine academic accomplishments. We expect you to set and meet your goals, come to school every day prepared to learn, to set the tradition, and to make this a better place for those to follow. You can benefit from everything New Dimensions offers by being actively involved in your classes and the programs offered. If you encounter difficulties, seek out any of our trained professionals and we will do the best to help you. We are here to make your years in school as successful, yet educationally challenging, as possible. We welcome the opportunity to help you as you proceed through your high school career.

Sincerely,

The Administrative Staff of New Dimensions High School

## Parent, Guardian, and Student Handbook

**Please Note: The Student Code of Conduct Handbook can be found on the NDHS web site or on the Osceola County School District's web site.**

**Student Responsibilities:** Students have a responsibility to

Attend school regularly, on time, and report to all classes and scheduled activities,  
Treat others courteously and with respect,  
Treat school property and the property of others with respect,  
Respect the privacy of others,  
Have in their possession only those items allowed by law and/or School Board Rules or policies,  
Listen courteously to the opinions and points of view of others,  
Come to class with all necessary materials and be prepared to learn,  
Maximize their learning opportunities,  
Not interfere, impede, limit, or restrict the educational opportunity of any other student(s),  
Comply with all instructions and staff directions,  
Truthfully answer all questions posed by school staff,  
Deliver to their parents or guardians all notes, notices, and papers provided by the school for home delivery,  
Timely notify parents or guardians of all assigned consequences for inappropriate behavior, and  
Report hazardous or dangerous situations to an adult in authority so as to not act negligently or recklessly by placing other people at risk for injury or placing property in danger for damage

### **ABSENCE**

We request that the parent call the school to notify the school of their student's absence. Upon return to school, the student should have a signed note from their parent/guardian explaining the absence. This note is given to the student's 1<sup>st</sup> period teacher to be sent to the office. Failure to do so will result in an unexcused absence until the note is brought in.

### **ACCIDENTS**

Every accident in the school building, on the school grounds, or at any event sponsored by the school must be reported immediately to the person in charge and to the school office.

### **ALCOHOL AND DRUGS**

No student may use, possess or attempt to purchase or sell dangerous or illegal drugs, hallucinogens, drug paraphernalia or alcohol at school. Vaporizers, including all vape devices and e-cigarette systems, constitute drug paraphernalia.

## **ALMA MATER**

NDHS, our own.  
Here at New Dimensions High School,  
Learning every day,  
Our colors green, white, and silver,  
Will show us the way.

New Dimensions Tiger's Roar!  
Thee we'll always hail...  
We'll remember New Dimensions,  
Honor and prevail.

## **ASSEMBLIES**

Senior high students will need to work hard to develop a reputation for courteous behavior in school assemblies. Students should give full attention to the performers on stage and appreciation shown only through clapping hands.

## **ATTENDANCE**

Students are expected to be present and punctual for all classes throughout the year. Any absence requires your parent or guardian to personally call 870-9949 between 8:30 am and 1:00 p.m. the day of your absence. To be classified as excused absences, a telephone call or a note from the parents must verify all absences. All students who were absent will report directly to the front office and bring in notes to excuse their absences before school to receive an admit. Three absences **per semester** will result in a letter of concern and warning. Five absences will require a mandatory parent meeting. If attendance does not improve, student enrollment may be revoked at NDHS.

***The following reasons for absences are valid:***

- Serious illness / injury to the student or immediate family
- Death of immediate family
- Court appearance
- Religious holiday

## **BEHAVIOR**

All teachers have been requested to be alert for any student behavior that is in violation of the following regulations. This list is not intended to place undue restrictions on the student body. This list is to encourage all students to behave in such a manner that they will be a credit to New Dimensions High School.

### **Level IV Offenses**

Minor misbehavior on the part of the student which impedes orderly classroom procedures or interferes with the orderly operation of the school is a level IV offense.

*Examples:* Class disturbances, dishonesty, failure to carry out directions, failure to turn in work, infractions of class rules, lack of supplies, throwing objects, attire and grooming regulations, profanity, public display of affection, hall violations, tardy to class.

**Definitions:**

1. Attire and Grooming Regulations- the way NDHS students are to dress.
2. Profanity- the use of offensive or inappropriate language.
3. Public display of affection- embracing, kissing, inappropriate touching of another person. Holding of hands is generally not considered an infraction.
4. Hall violation- running, yelling, pushing, or blocking people.

*Response:* Teacher takes immediate action and documents interventions.

1st Offense: Minimum – Verbal Reprimand  
Maximum – Teacher detention

2nd Offense: Minimum – Parent Conference/ Counseling  
Maximum – Out of School Suspension (OSS)

3rd Offense: Referral to administration.

*Penalty:* Minimum – Administrative detention  
Maximum – OSS

Profanity directed toward faculty or staff:  
Minimum – OSS

**Level III Offenses**

Misbehavior whose frequency or seriousness tends to disrupt the learning climate of the school and whose educational consequences are serious enough to require corrective action on the part of the administration is a level III offense.

*Examples:* Continued level IV misbehavior, direct disobedience, forging notes, admits or excuses, insolent attitude, leaving grounds without permission, truancy or skipping class, use or possession of tobacco, "Walkman", CD Players, audible or visual possession of pager/beeper or cell phone, etc. (Continued violations will result in Level I & II consequences.)

**Definitions:**

1. Direct disobedience- not doing what is asked. For example, being asked to change seats and refusing. Being asked to stop talking and continuing to talk.
2. Insolent attitude- getting "smart", being rude.

*Penalty:* 1st Offense: Minimum – Detention  
Maximum – OSS

*Repeated:* OSS

**Level II Offenses**

Students are expected to report any problem/disagreement with classmates to any school staff member prior to an altercation an effort to avoid the problem. Students must be aware that occasionally group disturbances do take place and that their presence could contribute to that disorder. Students must leave the vicinity of any disturbance, even though they may not be actively involved. Failure to comply with the above rule will be considered as an act of "direct disobedience".

**Definitions:**

1. Fighting- fighting occurs when two or more persons engage in violence toward each other. If both parties fight, both parties receive the same punishment.
2. Gang activity or mob action- a group of students working together to cause disturbances or disorder.

3. Profanity or abusive language directed at school personnel.
4. Vandalism: Defacing or damaging of school, staff, or student property. Leaving a textbook out in the rain. Writing on the walls.

*Penalty:* Minimum – OSS  
Maximum – Recommend Expulsion

*Repeated:* Minimum – OSS  
Maximum – Recommend Expulsion

### **Definitions:**

1. Defacing- writing, marking, spray painting, covering over.
2. Damaging- breaking, tearing, removing from its holder, bending out of shape.
3. Restitution- pay for or replacing.

*Penalty:* Minimum – Restitution  
Maximum – OSS : Recommend expulsion.

Severity of vandalism determines whether level III or level IV.

### **Level I Offenses**

An act, which is of a criminal nature, is a level I offense.

*Examples:* Gambling, possession of dangerous items, possession of stolen property, sex related offenses, stealing, threats to school personnel, assault, battery, extortion, arson, bomb threat. **Definitions:**

1. Gambling- betting, card playing, coin tossing or matching, etc.
2. Dangerous items- knives, knuckles, guns, fireworks, etc.
3. Threats to school personnel- whether in person, over the phone, written, outside school grounds or at the store.
4. Assault- saying or moving towards someone so they think you are going to hurt them.
5. Battery- making physical contact, hurting a person.
6. Extortion- frightening a person into giving up property or doing something they didn't want to do.
7. Arson - setting fire.
8. Bomb threat - saying, calling or writing that there is a bomb. There doesn't have to be a real bomb.
9. Unauthorized Drugs - All students are forbidden to:
  - a. Use, sell, possess, or be under the influence of drugs or alcohol on the school campus, or at any school activity.
  - b. Use or possess tobacco products (includes smokeless tobacco) on the school campus or at any school activity.
 Fines up to \$500 may result.
10. Human Dignity Policy - The administration and staff of New Dimensions High School, recognizing that we are a multi-racial, multi-ethnic, multi-lingual school, believe it is part of our mission to provide a harmonious environment in which respect for the diverse makeup of the school is promoted. Consequently, New Dimensions High School will not tolerate behavior by students which insults, degrades, or stereotypes any race, gender, handicap, physical condition, and ethnic group, country of origin, language, or religion.

*Penalty:* Minimum – OSS  
Maximum – Recommend expulsion



## **BREAKFAST/LUNCH**

Applications for free or reduced lunch programs are accessed on line.

Students must:

1. Deposit all lunch litter, trays, and utensils in the trash.
2. Leave the table and floor clean.
3. Eat all food in the designated cafeteria or patio areas only.
4. Please use the recycle bins for empty cans.
5. Misbehavior in the lunch area will result in disciplinary action.

If the student does **NOT** want to take advantage of the school lunch services, he/she will be responsible for bringing their own lunch at the beginning of the day.

**WE WILL NOT ALLOW FAMILY OR FRIENDS TO BRING BREAKFAST OR LUNCH FOR THE STUDENTS DURING CLASS OR LUNCH.** Exceptions will be made **ONLY** in case of an emergency. In that case, lunch will be received by the person at the gate and we will have the student pick it up during lunch time. **STUDENTS WILL NOT BE ALLOWED TO ORDER FOOD FOR DELIVERY.**

## **BULLYING/HARASSMENT PREVENTION**

Bullying (Harassment) The act of repeatedly and over time inflicting physical hurt and/or offensive, abusive, intimidating or other insulting behavior on the part of one or more students towards a student(s) **WILL NOT BE TOLERATED**. This also includes

1. The act of unwanted and repeated written, verbal, or physical behavior including any threatening, insulting, or dehumanizing gesture that is severe or pervasive enough to create an intimidating, hostile or offensive environment that unreasonably interferes with the individual's school performance or participation.
2. The act of using information and communication technologies such as, but not limited to e-mail, cell phone, pager text messages, instant messaging defamatory personal web sites and defamatory personal pooling web sites to support deliberate, repeated, and hostile behavior by an individual or group that is intended to threaten or harm others or which substantially disrupts or interferes with the operation of a school or an individual's academic performance.
3. The act of discriminating against another person which discrimination is prohibited by law - race, color, gender, national origin or sexual orientation, including any verbal, nonverbal, graphic, written, or physical conduct that denigrates or shows hostility or aversion toward any student based upon race, when such repetitive conduct substantially interferes with a student's academic performance, or creates an intimidating, hostile, or offensive school environment.
4. Racial harassment may include, but is not limited to epithets and slurs, negative stereotyping, threatening, intimidating, or hostile acts and/or written or graphic material that shows hostility or aversion toward an individual or group.

## **BUS**

Bus transportation is a privilege, not a right. The bus driver oversees students and has the authority to issue discipline referrals and will report any infractions to the administration for disciplinary action.

Students will ride the bus assigned. Student requests to ride another bus will **NOT** be honored. Continued school bus misconduct will result in the suspension of the student from riding the bus for the remainder of the year. Parents then become responsible for transportation.

\*Appropriate school approved masks, or face shields must be worn on campus/bus per CDC and school guidelines.

## **CAMERA/VIDEO TAPING/CELL PHONE CAMERAS**

Videotaping, photographing, use of cell phone cameras and/or recording in any form is prohibited on school property, busses, or school activities. Posting, sending, publishing, of any unauthorized photos, videotaping or recordings in any form, of any student, staff, or activity is prohibited without expressed, written consent from the administration. **Violations will result in immediate suspension.**

## **CAMPUS SECURITY**

For security reasons, the gate will remain closed during the day. Parents and visitors will need to identify themselves with photo ID and disclose reason for entering campus. Parents dropping off lunch, assignments, etc., will need to leave items with the campus monitor at the gate. Students will not be dismissed between the hours of 3:00-4:00pm and on Wednesday from 2:00-3:00pm. If you need assistance, please call the front office at #407-870-9949.

## **CELL PHONES, WALKMANS, IPODS, Head Phones, Earbuds, Etc.**

Cell phones, Walkmans, IPODS, head phones, earbuds, smart watches, etc. are a distraction to the learning process and failure to adhere to the school's policy will result in disciplinary action and may include suspension and loss of academic learning time and the opportunity to make-up missed work.

The administration and the NDHS Board of Directors request that if parents choose to allow their students to possess cell phones, Walkmans, IPODS, etc., at school, please establish an understanding with them that, between 9:15am and 4:00pm, all cell phones, Walkmans, IPODS, Etc., must remain turned off and out of sight, IN book bags, purses or in vehicles. Students are not to have cell phones, Walkmans, IPODS, Etc., in their possession during the academic day. **Please note, if a cell phone, IPOD, or any other electronic device is stolen or lost, NDHS assumes NO responsibility.**

Consequences for violations: Phones, Walkmans, iPods, etc., will be confiscated. Detention will be assigned and parent must pick up device on first offense. Second offense will result in one day of suspension and parent must pick up device. Third offense will result in three days suspension. Any further infractions will result in student withdrawal from school.

**NO CELL PHONES ARE ALLOWED ON CAMPUS DURING STATE-WIDE TESTING. VIOLATION MAY RESULT IN SUSPENSION AND INVALIDATION OF TESTS.**

**CHANGE OF ADDRESS/PHONE**

Complete a change of address form at the front desk. All emergency and information cards MUST be on file and up-to-date at all times.

**CIVILITY CODE**

In order to maintain an orderly, respectful, and secure virtual educational environment, it is essential that all students, parents/guardians, teachers/staff, and other stakeholders maintain respectful interactions and adhere to the expected civil conduct. In an effort to ensure that we are all focused on student learning and helping students to reach their full potential, we ask that all parties conduct themselves in a respectful and orderly manner at all times.

**No person shall:**

- Use profanity or make threats toward school staff or other students in any verbal or written communication.
- Intentionally cause any physical/emotional harm toward another person or threaten to do so.
- Intentionally damage or destroy any school property (both physical and electronic) or the property of any student, faculty, or staff member.
- Disrupt the orderly conduct of classes, school programs, or other activities.
- Intimidate, harass, or discriminate against any person on the basis of race, color, creed, national origin, age, gender, sexual orientation, or disability.
- Refuse to comply with any reasonable request of identifiable school officials performing their duties.
- Willfully incite others to commit any acts prohibited by law.
- Violate any federal or state statute.

## **CLASS MEETINGS AND OFFICERS**

During the first ten days of school, the first class elections will be held. At this time, each class will elect its president, vice-president, secretary, treasurer, and representatives to the Student Council.

Class meetings will be held about once a month or as the need demands. Meetings are held only if a sponsor is present.

## **COLORS – SCHOOL**

School colors are Hunter Green and Silver.

## **DANCES**

Dances are limited to students attending NDHS. Student ID's are required for admission to dances. **Students leaving the dance may not return.** All school rules apply to dances.

## **DEBT LIST**

Any student having an outstanding debt (lost, stolen, or damaged textbooks, unreturned uniform(s), library books, restitution, Athletic fees, etc.) shall be on a debt list. Participation in extracurricular activities, athletics, graduation, parking, and other privileges may be denied or restricted. This includes Grad Night and Prom.

## **DETENTION**

Detention period is a time when the student is assigned to stay after school for any infraction of unacceptable student behavior. **TRANSPORTATION IS THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE PARENT/GUARDIAN.**

Detention is supervised study or work to help to maintain campus appearance. Detention may be assigned by teachers to be served with that teacher or by the administration to be served after school in a designated area. Administrative detention is only assigned on Thursdays from 4:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. and involves cleaning the school campus.

## **DRESS CODE**

NDHS takes pride in the appearance of its students. Good grooming equates to good conduct and academic achievement. **ALL** students are expected to dress and groom themselves neatly in clothes that are suitable for school activities in accordance with the NDHS Dress Code. Infractions will be referred to an administrator.

1. Caps, hats, bandannas, headbands, athletic sweatbands, hoods, do-rags, etc., are **not** to be brought to or worn on campus or activities. Faculty and staff will confiscate these items and turn them over to the administration. Parents/guardians will be requested to pick up confiscated items. Special "spirit days" will be announced.

2. Shirts, Blouses, Sweaters
  - a. That display words, phrases, pictures, etc. that give reference to profanity, sex, alcohol, smoking, drugs, racial slurs, Satanism, hate, weapons, etc., are forbidden.
  - b. They must cover the midsection area, and be close fitting under the arms. Cut-offs and bare midriffs are forbidden.
  - c. No backless, strapless, or with thin straps less than 2" wide are allowed. Tank tops with loose fitting armholes are not permitted.
  - d. No see-through blouses unless a slip or camisole is worn underneath. Mesh tops are inappropriate unless a regular shirt/blouse is worn underneath.
3. Shorts, Skirts, Dresses
  - a. Must not be shorter than 6" above the knee.
  - b. Must not be skin tight.
  - c. May not be backless, strapless, nor have thin straps (less than two inches wide).
  - d. No see through unless slip or camisole is worn.
4. Shoes must be worn at all times. (House, bedroom shoes, shower shoes, or slippers are prohibited.)
5. General
  - a. No Spandex garments.
  - b. Leggings (tight fitting) are not to be worn as pants.
  - c. Cut up pants, shredded, shorts, shirts, skirts are forbidden.
  - d. No sunglasses may be worn inside the building.
  - e. Leotards or body suits may not be worn as outer garments.
  - f. Pant waists worn across the buttocks are forbidden.
  - g. Low cut dress tops, sweaters, blouses, shirts are not allowed.
  - h. Appropriate personal hygiene (bathing, shampooing, laundering, use of mouth wash, use of deodorants) is recommended and appreciated.
  - i. Visible undergarments, sleepwear or other garments traditionally designed as undergarments such as boxer shorts, or bras are not allowed.
6. Appropriate school approved masks, or face shields must be worn on campus per CDC and school guidelines when deemed necessary.

NOTE: The administration reserves the right to determine what inappropriate dress is. Students who are inappropriately dressed for school must change into appropriate clothing. Parent/guardian will be called. Repeated dress code violations will be considered insubordination. Students with repeated violations of the dress code will be required to purchase and wear a New Dimensions High School T-shirt or Polo shirt with jeans or slacks for the remaining semester or as otherwise directed by the administrator.

## **DUAL ENROLLMENT**

Students participating in any Dual Enrollment course or program are expected to conduct themselves under the same standards expected at NDHS. This includes the maintenance and return of all school issued textbooks/manuals. Students **MUST** return all textbooks no later than FIVE days after final exam. Failure to do so will result in school sanctions. See Dual Enrollment contract for more information.

All Dual Enrolled students **MUST** have met all State graduation requirements to be eligible for Dual Enrollment their SENIOR year Spring Semester.

## **EMERGENCY CONTACT INFORMATION & UPDATES**

To ensure you receive all messages, please keep your contact information current by completing the Emergency Contact Form provided to your student on the first day of school. For updates after returning the form, contact the front office at #407-870-9949.

## **EMERGENCY PROCEDURES**

The individual teacher addresses these procedures. Inappropriate behavior by a student during an emergency or emergency drill will result in disciplinary action.

## **EXTRA CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES**

Students are encouraged to participate in clubs and school activities. Students in these activities represent NDHS and are governed by FHSAA, district policies, guidelines developed at NDHS, the Good Citizenship Code of Conduct, and minimum 2.5 grade point average requirements. All extra-curricular activities at New Dimensions High School, including all elected officers or student council, classes, and clubs are governed by the *New Dimensions High School Good Citizenship Code of Conduct*.

## **FIELD TRIPS**

Field trips are planned activities outside the regular class setting. Students are representing NDHS away from regular classes. While on a field trip, all school rules apply. Arrangements for makeup work must be done in advance using the pre-arranged field trip form (from teacher sponsor). All teachers of a student wanting to attend a field trip must grant permission before a student may participate in a field trip. ***All students participating in a field trip are required to wear an NDHS school polo shirt.***

A student participating in a FHSAA-sanctioned activity must complete a prearranged field trip form. All work must be completed and submitted the first full day upon return. A student may participate in a maximum of three non-sanctioned (FHSAA) field trips per term.

## **FIRE, TORNADO, EMERGENCY DRILLS, LOCKDOWNS**

Fire, Tornado, Emergency, and Lockdown Drills at regular intervals are required by law and are an important safety precaution. It is essential that when the first signal is given, everyone obey orders promptly. The teacher in each room will give the students instructions (routes are posted in each room). Attendance is expected to be taken at the emergency location by class teachers. Failure to follow instructions will result in disciplinary action. Parents and visitors will not be admitted during drills.

## **FOOD/PARTIES**

No food or drinks are allowed in any hallway or classroom other than the cafeteria area. Exceptions may be made at lunch.

## **GOOD CITIZENSHIP CODE of CONDUCT**

New Dimensions High School is proud of its tradition of excellence in academics and athletics. We try to develop the whole person. Therefore, the administrators, coaches, and sponsors are concerned that all our participating students fully understand and agree to abide by the rules set forth in the *New Dimensions High School Good Citizenship Code of Conduct*.

In the event a student fails to comply with these high standards it shall be interpreted as an indication that the student does not have sufficient desire to participate in the chosen extra-curricular program. Failure to comply with this code may result in the temporary or permanent suspension from all extra-curricular activities.

New Dimensions High School invites all students who possess the ability, attitude, co-operative spirit, and desire to fully represent their school and community to become participating members of the many extra-curricular activities offered at our school. If, however, you feel these rules are too demanding, the price is too great, the personal rights infringed upon too much by these demands, please refrain from participating.

**Finally, it is important to understand that these rules, in the New Dimensions High School Good Citizenship Code of Conduct, are guidelines that outline the standard of behavior we expect from all students, but especially from those we acknowledge to be our leaders. We must also remind all candidates and parents that the New Dimensions High School Good Citizenship Code of Conduct is in addition to and not a replacement for the standards of behavior that will be enforced at school. This guide will not take the place of any disciplinary action taken by the school for infractions that govern the normal course of student behavior at school. The penalties mentioned in this guideline will be administered in addition to appropriate disciplinary action for violations that occur while at school, during school related activities or during any kind of function sponsored by the school, either on the campus or away from it.**

### **Academic Requirements – Grade Point Average**

All students participating in activities governed by NDHS Good Citizenship Code of Conduct must maintain a 2.5 grade point average as Freshman, Sophomores, Juniors, and Seniors on a 4.0 scale or its equivalent for each grading period.

### **Scholastic Requirements – Previous School Year**

A student who failed to pass eight (8) full unit subjects the previous school year, six of which must have been passed with the class on first attempt shall have been met before the opening of the competition during the first grading period of the current year.

### **Scholastic Requirements – Current School Year**

A student who was ineligible because of his/her previous school year's record at the beginning of the school year may not become eligible until the end of the first grading period. His/her eligibility for the second grading period shall depend upon his/her scholastic record for the first grading period. A student's eligibility for each succeeding grading period shall depend on his/her scholastic record for the preceding grading period. To be eligible during any grading period, a student must have a passing grade in each of four unit subjects for the grading period just closed.

### **Progressing Satisfactorily Toward Graduation**

The participant must maintain sufficient subject grades to progress satisfactorily toward graduation. The administration of New Dimensions High School has the authority to utilize probation or suspension of a student's eligibility whenever the student is showing unsatisfactory progress in his/her subjects. This may be done even though the student is passing his/her subjects. For example, failing two subjects or making all D's is not progressing satisfactorily toward graduation.

### **Limit of Eligibility**

The limit of eligibility for each student shall be three consecutive years from the time the student enters the tenth grade. Three years from the date he/she enters the tenth grade, he/she shall become ineligible for further activity participation. A student may participate in school activities covered by this Good Citizenship Code of Conduct only one year as a ninth grader.

### **Attendance Requirements**

It is a policy at New Dimensions High School that all participants in interscholastic competitive/performance events must attend at least one half of their classes on the day of the event. If there are circumstances that would prevent this, then the parents must call the Activities Director's office for a ruling on the matter.

### **Tobacco**

Students who are in possession of or using tobacco in any form shall be in violation of the Good Citizenship Code of Conduct of New Dimensions High School. If a



violation of the Good Citizenship Code of Conduct for possession or use of tobacco occurs, then the following guidelines will be enforced:

### **First Offense**

The participant will be suspended from participation in all extracurricular activity events for a period of seven (7) days, or sit out the next scheduled event if none is scheduled during that seven-day period. The first event does not carry with it a suspension from practice, but from competitive events or evening performances. The seven (7) calendar day period will apply regardless of the date of violation. This would include a carry-over of the punishment to the next activity immediately following the violation of the Good Citizenship Code of Conduct. Therefore, the participant would not be allowed to participate in competitive events for the seven (7) calendar days of the upcoming activity or the first game of the next activity if no event is scheduled during that seven (7) day period. A first offense violation will result in the loss of at least one (1) competition, activity, or performance. Students, who are in leadership positions, could jeopardize that leadership role upon a first offense violation.

### **Second Offense**

The second offense of the Good Citizenship Code of Conduct as it relates to possession or use of tobacco shall be suspension from participation in all extracurricular activity events for a period of fourteen (14) calendar days. The second offense carries with it mandatory suspension from practice and from competitive events or evening performances. The fourteen (14) calendar day period will apply regardless of the date of violation. This would include a carry-over of the punishment to the next activity immediately following the violation of the Good Citizenship Code of Conduct in the same manner as the first offense violators. Therefore, the participant would not be allowed to participate in practice or competitive events for the first fourteen (14) calendar days of the upcoming activity. A second offense violation will result in the loss of at least two (2) competitions, activities, or performances.

### **Third offense**

The third offense for a violation of the Good Citizenship Code of Conduct as it relates to possession or use of the tobacco shall be forfeiture of activity eligibility of the student. At the conclusion of the activity where the third offense occurred, the student may apply for reinstatement of activity eligibility with Activities Director. There shall be no expressed or implied right that the student will regain his/her eligibility status.

### **In presence of, but a non-participant**

A student who is in presence of, but a non-participant in a violation of the Good Citizenship Code of Conduct as it relates to the possession or use of tobacco will result in a probation of that individual for a period of fourteen (14) calendar days, with the understanding that any infraction within that time will result in the individual receiving the punishment which coincides with that of a first-time offender.

## **Alcohol and Drug Use**

Students who are associated with, in possession of, dispensing, using or under the influence of alcoholic beverages or illegal substance, of any kind, shall be in violation of the code of conduct of NDHS. When a student places himself/herself in a position that he/she is at private parties or social gatherings where alcohol or drugs are being used illegally, the student places himself/herself under the Good Citizenship Code of Conduct by being associated with the illegal use of alcohol or drugs. If a violation of the Good Citizenship Code of Conduct occurs, then the following guidelines will be enforced:

### **1. First offense**

The participant will be suspended from participation in all extracurricular activity events for a period of fourteen (14) days. The first offense does not carry suspension from practice, but from competitive activities or evening performances. The fourteen (14) calendar-day period will apply regardless of the date of the violation. This would include a carry-over of the punishment to the next activity immediately following the violation of the code of conduct. Therefore, the participant would not be allowed to participate in the competitive events for the first fourteen (14) calendar days of the upcoming activity. A first offense violation will result in the loss of at least one (1) competition, activity, or performance.

### **2. Second offense**

The second offense for a violation of the code of conduct as it relates to alcohol and drug use shall be the forfeiture of activity eligibility of the student. At the conclusion of the activity where the second offense occurred, the student may apply for reinstatement of activity eligibility with the School Director. There shall be no expressed or implied right that the student will regain his/her eligibility status.

### **O.S.S.**

Any student receiving OSS for whatever reason will automatically be suspended from any activity during that time and/or for the next event immediately following. Let it be very clear that misbehavior in the classroom or during the school day will not be tolerated.

### ***Felony Charge***

Any student who is formally charged with a felony by a proper prosecuting attorney shall be suspended from participation in all activities until the determination of his/her guilt or innocence, or the dismissal of the charges. If the student is adjudicated guilty of the felony, then he/she shall permanently lose his/her eligibility. The student may however, after a one (1) year period, be allowed to file an appeal, through the Activities Director, for the reinstatement of eligibility providing that he/she has fulfilled their requirements for restitution and if they have any eligibility left. There shall be no expressed or implied right that the student will regain his/her eligibility status.

### *Quitting the Team*

If at any time a student fails to complete the present activity that they are participating in or quits the team, he/she may not participate in any other activity, whether it is the next activity or going on at the same time. The only exception to this rule is if a participant was cut from one activity then he/she may go on to the next with no penalty.

### *Due Process & Right of Appeal*

- A. The Activities Director will inform the participant that a violation of the code of conduct may have occurred. The purpose of this meeting is to gather information prior to official administrative action.
- B. If the Activities Director determines that a violation of the Good Citizenship Code of Conduct has occurred, the Director will affect the appropriate discipline per the code of conduct.
- C. The parent will be notified in writing of the Good Citizenship Code of Conduct violation and the appropriate discipline per the Good Citizenship Code of Conduct.

### *Right of Appeal*

- A. The parent/guardian and student have the right to appeal the decision of the Activities Director through the appeals board, which will be comprised, of an administrator, the dean of students, and a faculty member.
- B. The School Director has the final authority as it relates to the enforcement of the Good Citizenship Code of Conduct and the activity eligibility of students who participate in extra-curricular activities.

### *Supervision and Use of Facility*

Students are not allowed to use any facility or equipment on the campus of New Dimensions High School without proper supervision by a teacher, coach, or sponsor.

### *School Property and Equipment*

Students are responsible for all uniforms and equipment issued to them that is the property of NDHS. At the end of each season or activity, students are to return all uniforms and equipment to their teacher, coach, or sponsor whichever applies. Any uniform or equipment lost or damaged will be the final responsibility of the student, and the student will not be permitted to participate in any other activity, attend any banquet, receive and awards, or in the case of a senior, be allowed to graduate until this obligation is taken care of.

## **GRADE POINT AVERAGE**

Grade point averages are calculated to be used for various purposes. Colleges and universities request them quite often. All classes and accompanying grades are used when calculating GPA's. Class rank is determined using a Pacer (5) point system. These additional point values are added to certain advanced and honors courses to encourage students to take more difficult courses. Pacer points are used only in calculating rank in class. Grade Point Average (GPA) used for eligibility does not use Pacer points. The State of Florida requires a student to have

a minimum 2.0 GPA to progress to the next grade level. The Academic Expectation is that NDHS students maintain a minimum of 2.5. Failure to do so will result in ACADEMIC PROBATION and revocation of enrollment.

### **GRADUATION / CREDIT REQUIREMENTS**

No student will take part in the graduation ceremony unless all requirements for graduation have been met, **including passing the FSA and any EOC tests that pertain.** Students need a minimum of 30 credits, a GPA of at least 2.0 and the passing of the FSA test. No student on the debt list will take part in the graduation ceremony.

Students need the following number of credits in order to be classified under each grade level beginning with:

|                     |              |
|---------------------|--------------|
| Less than 8 credits | = 9th Grade  |
| 8 - 16 credits      | = 10th Grade |
| 16 - 24 credits     | = 11th Grade |
| 24 - 32 credits     | = 12th Grade |

### **GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS**

1. Attendance: Eight semesters of attendance are required to be considered for graduation. Exception to the eight-semester requirement may be made in unusual circumstances and only with the approval from the NDHS School Board.
2. Credit: Students will earn a minimum of 30 credits.
3. All Seniors must meet ALL graduation requirements, including pass all state required exams to be eligible to walk in graduation ceremony.
4. Distribution of Credit: Credits must be earned according as follows:

| <b>Course of Studies</b>       | <b>Credit Hours</b> |
|--------------------------------|---------------------|
| English                        | 4                   |
| Social Studies                 | 4                   |
| Mathematics                    | 4                   |
| Science                        | 3                   |
| HOPE                           | 1                   |
| Comm. Service/Career Research  | 1                   |
| Fine Arts                      | 1                   |
| Foreign Language (recommended) | 2                   |
| Senior Success Initiative      | 1                   |
| Electives                      | 10.0+               |

**Seniors must meet all graduation requirements and not owe any school debts to be eligible to participate in graduation ceremonies.**

### **GRADUATION PROGRAMS**

Florida students may choose from three graduation programs:

- The traditional four-year program
- The three-year college preparatory program
- The three-year career preparatory program.

The number of credits within the College Preparatory Program aligns with the minimum standards for admission into Florida's state university system, while the Career Preparatory Program requirements are aimed toward entrance into a technical center or community college. Students may still pursue a college preparatory or career preparatory within the four-year 30 credit Standard Program. Regardless of which option you choose, your child still must earn a passing score on the 10<sup>th</sup> grade FSA, Alg 1 EOC, and achieve a cumulative grade point average of 2.0 on a 4.0 scale to earn a standard diploma.

To select a three-year program, a student must have achieved at least a level 3 score or higher on their most recent FSA reading, math and writing tests. Students must select their graduation program by the end of their 9<sup>th</sup> grade year.

### **GUIDANCE SERVICES**

Guidance services are available for every student in the school. These services include assistance with educational planning, interpretation of test scores, career information, help with home, school, and/or social concerns.

### **HANDBOOK**

All students are held responsible for knowing and abiding by the regulations in the Student Handbook, which have been approved by the NDHS School Board.

**Please Note: The Student Code of Conduct Handbook can be found on the NDHS web site or on the Osceola County School District's web site.**

### **HEALTH SERVICES**

Students are required to fill out an emergency procedure card, which will be kept on file in the office. Please make sure updated and accurate information will be clearly written on the card since the administrator/nurse will refer to it whenever a student needs attention or needs to leave the school for health reasons. PERSONAL PERMISSION OF A PARENT OR LEGAL GUARDIAN IS REQUIRED TO LEAVE CAMPUS.

Students needing to leave school for appointments must make arrangements in the front office prior to the start of school. Under state regulations we may not dispense medication. If you are under a doctor's care and must receive medication during the school day, you must bring a written authorization from your parent or guardian indicating the dosage, time(s) medication is to be taken, duration of treatment, doctor's name, parent's signature with phone number. Medication is to be given to the administrator for storage before the first period. The administrator will issue a pass to release from class.

Students diagnosed with a contagious or infectious condition (i.e. pink eye, scabies, head lice, flu, etc.) may not come back to school until they are cleared by a medical doctor and the parent must accompany the student when being readmitting to school.

## **HOMEWORK**

Students and parents may check assignments and homework from the NDHS web site and Google Classroom or FOCUS. Students and parents may also email the teachers from this site. [www.NewDimensionsHS.com](http://www.NewDimensionsHS.com)

## **ID CARDS**

Photo ID cards are issued to each student at the start of school at no cost. ID cards must be worn on a standard lanyard around the neck at all times and are required for library, purchase of discount tickets, and lunch privileges. Students are to show their ID upon request by any NDHS personnel. Failure to do so will be viewed as direct insubordination and will result in disciplinary action. Lost ID cards will be replaced at a cost of \$5.00. Senior lunch ID cards cost \$5.00. Replacements are made in the Administration Building.

## **INSURANCE**

The school is not responsible for hospital or doctor bills contracted due to accidents that happen on the school premises. However, students are given an opportunity to enroll in one of the several accident benefit plans which covers accidents at school and school sponsored activities.

## **LAB FEES**

Students are responsible for any lab fees that are required for their classes. There is usually a \$10-\$20 lab fee for science, business, and PLTW classes. If a student does not pay the lab fee within the designated time, the student will be required abstain from any lab activities until the fee is paid. If a student is unable to pay the required amount, they should see administration for help. Student will be placed on the debt list and records such as report cards and transcripts will be delayed. No student will be allowed to participate in graduation who owes a debt.

## **LOST AND FOUND**

Students who find articles are asked to take them to the Administration office where their owner can claim them.

## **LUNCH PRIVILEGES**

Only seniors are eligible for off-campus lunch privilege. These students may obtain and present daily to the monitor an off-campus lunch pass by meeting all the following requirements:

1. Having senior status of 24 or more credits
2. Having no outstanding debts

Lunch privileges may be suspended for any of the following reasons:

1. Leaving campus without a pass
2. Falsifying a pass
3. Tardiness or returning late from lunch
4. Using another student's pass
5. Transporting an ineligible student
6. As a result of an administrative disciplinary disposition

## **ONLINE LEARNING**

New Dimensions High School online learning platform strives to create a safe and positive learning environment for all students. Although the instruction is delivered in our online Google Classroom platform, all students are expected to follow the school's Code of Conduct to include specific behavioral expectations for online learning.

## **ONLINE ACCEPTABLE USE POLICY**

Students are responsible for good behavior when using the NDHS Remote Learning plan, just as they are in a traditional school building. Always use a computer in a way that shows consideration and respect. It is illegal to use obscene, profane, threatening, or disrespectful language. (s. 847.001, F.S. Obscene Literature; Profanity).

We take integrity and authenticity of student work very seriously at NDHS. Do not cut, copy, or plagiarize Internet content or the work of your online classmates. NDHS instructors do utilize technologies to check for authenticity. Copying, knowingly allowing others to copy from you, and/or misusing Internet content could result in removal from a course.

Security is a high priority, especially when the system involves many users. If you identify a security problem within the platform (Google Classroom, Google-Meet) notify a teacher or administrator.

It is illegal to create harmful computer viruses. (s. 815, F.S. Computer-Related Crimes).

Email is not private. Never say anything via email that you wouldn't mind seeing on the evening news or in the local newspaper.

Beware of emails from anyone, particularly adults you don't know, asking for personal information, attempting to arrange meetings, or engaging in personal contact. Alert your teacher or an administrator of any message you receive that is inappropriate or makes you feel uncomfortable.

Email with your online classmates should be course related. It is prohibited to send unsolicited nonacademic email to your online classmates.

Emails, Chats, or Live Lesson links are not to be shared with anyone that is not a member of your class. If you invite people from outside the class to participate in the lesson you will no longer be able to participate in live classroom instruction and may no longer be able to complete assignments online.

Protect your password. Keep it secret from anyone except your parents.

Inappropriate Texting/Messaging: Photographs or videos sent via computer, cell phone, or any other electronic device which depict nudity, or any other inappropriate content, is prohibited (s.847.0141, F.S.Sexting).

Dress Code Policy: When attending any virtual meeting with NDHS, clothing that exposes underwear or body parts in an indecent or vulgar manner or that disrupts the orderly learning environment is not permitted.

In the event there is a claim that you have violated this policy, you will be provided with notice of the suspected violation and have an opportunity to present an explanation. Any violations by the student or parent/guardian may result in removal from NDHS course(s), as well as other disciplinary or legal action.

### **OUT-OF-SCHOOL-SUSPENSION (OSS)**

OSS is a more severe disciplinary disposition in which students are NOT allowed to attend school, any extra-curricular activity or be on school grounds during the duration of the OSS. Out-of-School- Suspension days are considered unexcused absences and students **DO NOT** have the right to make up the work missed (except semester exams). More than 10 days of OSS in a school year may result in a recommendation for expulsion and/or withdrawal.

### **PARENT CONFERENCES**

Parents may make appointments for conferences with teachers or administrators by calling the Office at #407-870-9949. Parents may not visit teachers or classrooms without prior arrangement through the Office.

### **PARENTAL RIGHTS**

Parents have the right to access their child's records, to receive a copy of the record, to waiver access, to challenge information contained in the record, to a hearing, and to privacy. The school may charge for copies and withhold processing requests to students with outstanding debts.

### **PARKING**

Parents may NOT park in front of the school as indicated by the NO PARKING signs. Instead, parents may drop and pick up their students in the parking lot adjacent to the school. Students may park on campus or in the adjacent lot with parking permit only. Permits may be purchased at the front desk. Parking is first come, first serve with priority given to seniors.

### **PASSES FOR LEAVING SCHOOL**

All requests to leave the building while school is in session, including the lunch period, must be cleared through administration. Leaving school without permission is classified as skipping and will receive disciplinary action. **STUDENTS ARE TO WEAR THEIR I.D. CARD AT ALL TIMES. Parents picking up students during the day are to report to the Front Office and must identify themselves with a picture ID. Students will not be dismissed between 3:00-4:00pm, Wednesdays between 2:00-3:00pm.**



### **PROM/GRAD NITE**

Persons attending Prom must be an enrolled Junior or Senior at NDHS. Guests may not be over 20 years of age. Non-NDHS students or guests must have written previous administrative approval at least 3 days prior to the activity. Only NDHS seniors may attend Grad Nite. Students with debts will not be allowed to participate in Prom or Grad Nite or other extracurricular activities.

### **REPORT CARD DATES**

Progress reports are issued at the mid marking period (APPROXIMATELY EVERY 4½ WEEKS) to parents of students.

Nine-week report cards are an indication of the student's progress up to that point and do not reflect credit or final grades (unless course is a half credit course).

### **SCHEDULE CHANGES**

Students will follow the schedule assigned unless the administration makes a change.

### **SCHOOL ADVISORY COUNCIL (SAC)**

The School Advisory Council will meet once a month as determined by the parents and guardians of SAC. The meetings will be held in the auditorium and start at 6:00 P.M. Parents and Guardians interested in attending or becoming a member should call the Office at 407-870-9949.

### **SENIOR SUCCESS INITIATIVE PROJECT**

New Dimensions High School has instituted a successful and very beneficial program designed to address the needs of Seniors as they prepare to graduate and enter college. This course is a required course for all NDHS seniors. Students who fail to meet the requirements of this course, will not be allowed to participate in the graduation ceremony. Any exceptions must be approved in writing, by administration.

### **STUDENT AUTOMOBILES AND PARKING AREAS**

Juniors and Seniors wanting to drive to school must register their vehicles each school year. Registration forms may be obtained in the administration office. The following are specific rules:

1. Each student must park in assigned parking areas and display a parking permit visible through the front windshield for the current year. Vehicles parked in a restricted area or without a permit WILL BE TOWED AT THE OWNER'S EXPENSE.
2. Parking in a no-parking area, speeding or careless driving on or near the school grounds or the streets bordering the school, or driving from the grounds without permission during the day will result in suspension or loss of on-campus driving privileges.

3. Students may not enter the parking areas or sit in their cars during the school day. Students are to leave the parking areas within one minute of their arrival.
4. Students with outstanding debts or tardies are not eligible for parking and senior lunch privileges.
5. Students needing to leave early for appointments must get an off-campus permit from the front office prior to the start of school.
6. A student's motor vehicle is subject to search, upon reasonable suspicion, for prohibited or illegally possessed substances or objects.

Please be aware that we have a very limited number of parking spaces. Permits will be issued on a first come, first served basis for \$5. A waiting list will be maintained.

### **STUDENT COUNCIL**

The student council has been designed to facilitate two-way communication between the students, teachers, administrators, and the NDHS School Board. Through representatives of classes, organizations, and clubs, each student will have a voice in decisions in curriculum, school policy, activities, social events, student welfare, student conduct, and many other factors of school life. The council will serve as a tool through which students, teachers, and administrators can express concern over the things, which affect the school.

### **STUDENT PICK UP**

Students **will not be dismissed between 3:00pm – 4:00pm** (Wednesday from 2:00-3:00pm) unless the parent has documentation of scheduled appointment. Parents will need to wait until school dismissal if there is no appointment. Please make sure that you are parked in a designated parking space for after school pick-up.

### **STUDENT SEARCHES**

Students' lockers or other storage areas (including, but not limited to, personal vehicles, book bags, and purses) are subject to search upon reasonable suspicion pursuant to F.S. 1006.09(9).

### **TARDINESS**

A tardy at New Dimensions High School will be counted if the student is not in the classroom at the indicated time. The teacher will handle the first three tardies to class. Participation grades in each class will be affected by tardiness. Tardiness more than a half period will be treated as an absence. An accumulation of 3 tardies equates to 1 absence. Absences may result in the loss of credit. Upon the third tardy to school in the morning will result in detention and revocation of parking privileges on campus. Continued tardies after the detention is considered insubordination and will result in out-of-school suspension.

### **TEXTBOOKS**

Textbooks or NOOKS are furnished by the NDHS and are issued to the student at the beginning of the school year. PARENTS/STUDENTS ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR THE RETURN/REPLACEMENT COSTS OF BOOKS. If the books are lost, stolen, or damaged, the student and parent are liable for the reimbursement. Failure to do so will result in the student being placed on the debt list.

### **UNAUTHORIZED ASSEMBLY**

Students are not allowed to be present at an unapproved student gathering, meetings, demonstrations, or protests which interfere with the orderly process of the school environment or which interrupts a school function or an extracurricular activity.

### **VISITORS**

New Dimensions High School is a closed campus. Only guests who have been invited to speak to classes or who have the director's approval may be on campus. All visitors are first required to report to the front office to receive a visitor badge. Any person on the campus without proper ID or visitor badge is considered trespassing and may be arrested. Requests for friends or relatives from out of town to visit for the day, regrettably, can NOT be honored.

### **WEB SITE**

Please visit our web site at: [www.NewDimensionsHS.com](http://www.NewDimensionsHS.com)