VVA DISCIPLINE POLICY 26-27 SY

Philosophy

At Vegas Vista Academy, we believe the best approach to student discipline is to be proactive to teach students what is and what is not acceptable individual and group behavior, to provide opportunities for students to learn these expectations, policies, and procedures, and to provide student and staff support along the way. There are multiple levels of interventions to meet the differentiated needs of our students.

Expectations/Honor Code

In accordance with our school culture and climate of caring, it is the responsibility of every Vegas Vista Academy student and staff member to respect the rights of everyone and manage their own behavior. All Vegas Vista Academy students are supported in caring for each other and are expected to do so, including caring for those who are different from them. A culture and climate of caring also means students feel welcome, safe, and have a sense of belonging to the Vegas Vista Academy community.

At Vegas Vista Academy, we use the "HOOT" model of school wide behavior expectations:

H: Honor Everyone
O: Own Your Actions
O: Observe the Rules
T: Try Your Best

All students will sign the VVA Owl Contract of our school wide expectations at the beginning of the year.

Classroom Management

The first step in being proactive in teaching our students is to clearly communicate classroom expectations, policies, and procedures. The Vegas Vista Academy Mission and Vision will be clearly posted and reviewed by all teachers. School and class expectations will be posted, explained, and re-visited in each classroom. School and classroom policies (rules) will be discussed in detail with all students, and they will all indicate agreement on the class social contract. All class procedures will be reviewed with students, posted, and continually referred to throughout the year.

Unacceptable classroom behaviors will be immediately and consistently addressed. For appropriate responses, please see the Behavior Matrix.

Circle Time: Restorative Circles

Following our all-school Morning Meeting, all classes will start and end each day with Circle Time. Circle Time will be utilized proactively for positive interactions and support to build community and develop relationships. Some of this time should also be used reactively to respond to misconduct, conflicts, and issues. Circle Time will also be used to teach social skills including listening, respect, and problem solving.

Progressive Discipline

With the exception of the major behaviors indicated in the Behavior Matrix, teacher responses to classroom behavior will follow these steps:

1st Offense: Warning; Proximity; Behavior Corrected
2nd Offense: Student One-on-One Conference
3rd Offense: Phone Call Home
4th Offense: Referral (See Behavior Matrix; Refer As Appropriate)

Bullying

In accordance with NRS 388, all allegations of bullying will be taken seriously and investigated. Bullying may be reported to any VVA staff member in person, online, or over the phone. We will take the following actions:

First response: We will make sure all parties are safe.
Step One: All involved parties will be noticed via phone call and/or email and a physical notice.
Step Two: Allegations will be fully investigated, and all contacts (and attempts to contact) will be documented. This will be completed on or before 48 hours after the initial report is received.
Step Three: A determination will be made and actions will be taken. Depending on the severity, these may include referral to Peer Mediation, referral to the Judicial Board, Mediation Contract, Required Parent Conference (RPC), Suspension, Expulsion, or Police Involvement.
Step Four: All parties will be notified of determination and actions taken via phone call and/or email, and a physical written report.
Step Five: All parties will have a follow up within 10 days to ensure the issue has been resolved. If it has not, further discipline may be assigned.

Changes to Appeals Process

In accordance with NRS 392, families have the right to appeal a suspension or expulsion following this process.

- If a student is suspended or expelled from a public school, the board of trustees of the school district or the governing body of the charter school or university school for the profoundly gifted in which the student is enrolled shall provide, on the same day that the student is suspended or expelled, a notice of the policy for appealing the suspension or expulsion pursuant to NRS 392.4671. A notice provided must:

a) Include information regarding the timelines for appealing the suspension or expulsion;

b) Be written clearly and in a manner that allows a student and parent or legal guardian to

understand each provision of the policy; and

c) Be provided in as many languages as possible, to the extent practicable.

• The student and/or parent/guardian has five school days to file an appeal pursuant to the policy adopted by the board of trustees of the school district or the governing body of the charter school or university school for profoundly gifted pupils.

• Not later than five school days after receiving notification of the appeal of a suspension or expulsion,the board of trustees or the school district or the governing body of the charter school or university school for profoundly gifted pupils must schedule a hearing.

• The pupil who is suspended or expelled or is being considered for suspension or expulsion:

a) Must be provided education services to prevent the pupil from losing academic credit during the period of suspension or expulsion; and

b) May be considered for temporary alternative placement, if, in the judgment of the principal after consideration of the seriousness of the acts which were the basis for the discipline of thePupil:

• The temporary alternative placement will serve as the least restrictive environment possible, pursuant to NRS 392.4676; and

• The pupil does not pose a serious threat to the safety of the school.

Vegas Vista Academy Behavior Matrix	
Behavior	Intervention/Consequence
Aggressive Behavior/Arguing Class Disruption Dishonesty Insubordination Inappropriate Behavior/Comment Policy or Procedure Violation Public Display of Affection Nuisance Item Tardy	Teacher Progressive Discipline/Restorative Circle 1st Offense: Warning; Proximity; Name on Board, Etc 2nd Offense: Student One-on-One Conference 3rd Offense: Phone Call Home 4th Offense: Referral (See Behavior Matrix; Refer As Appropriate)
4+ Offenses in Class for Same Behavior Aggressive Behavior (Major) Arson Assault – Staff Battery – Staff Bullying Allegation Campus Disruption Fighting/Physical Altercation	Referral to Administration Possible Consequences: Mediation Student Conference Required Parent Conference (RPC) Suspension Expulsion Police Involvement

Graffiti/Destruction of School Property Immoral Conduct Possession or Use of Drugs, Tobacco, or Alcohol OR Paraphernalia Possession of Weapon on Campus Repeated Insubordination Sexual Assault Theft Violation of Peer Mediation Contract Violation of Judicial Board Decision	

Peer Mediation

Often, cases of disagreement between students or groups of students may necessitate mediation, facilitated by VVA Administration. All involved parties will work through the mediation process together. Desired outcomes will be agreed upon. In some cases, a resolution agreement may be signed by each person involved. Violation of the signed agreement will result in a referral to administration. This will be put into place as VVA grows and we add older grades.

VVA Judicial Board

Extreme violations of the student behavior policy may result in referral to the Judicial Board. The Judicial Board is a board of students who are elected by their peers to enforce the student code of conduct, and also includes a faculty advisor who oversees all of the workings and proceedings of the board. Students on the board will serve a one-year term and will be trained in all appropriate areas. All decisions of the Judicial Board are final. Any further

violation of the same or similar nature will result in a referral to administration. This will be put into place as VVA grows and we add older grades.

ELECTRONIC DEVICES

Students are not permitted to have electronic devices in school. Electronic devices include games (Nintendo DS, Nintendo Switches, etc.), tablets, portable music devices, and cell phones. None of these devices are needed

and often represent a distraction from successful academics. In addition, these items can cause conflict and lead to grief when lost or stolen. While VVA obviously strives to prevent theft of any item, the school will not spend extra energy tracking down electronic devices that should not be at school. In the event that a student disobeys this rule and is seen with an electronic device or uses a prohibited electronic device in school, a staff member will confiscate it and turn it in to the main office for Parent pickup. It will be returned only after a parent/guardian has come to school to pick it up. Repeated violations of this policy may result in indefinite confiscation irrespective of any costs or fees students and/or their families may incur as a result.