



# **Salida del Sol Academy**

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**Dual Language Education  
AVID schoolwide**

**Parent-Student Handbook**

**2025-2026**

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# Salida del Sol Academy

## Dual Language Education

### Welcome

Dear Parents and Students,

It is with great excitement that we welcome all new and returning students and their families to the 2025-26 school year! The SDSA staff will continue to build on the structures and foundation that were set in motion last year as we work together to fulfill our school's mission.

This handbook provides our families and students with essential information about our school. Parents and Students are expected to be knowledgeable about and comply with Salida Del Sol Academy policies, including ones which may not be included in this publication. Please remember that much of the information in this handbook is in summary form.

Complete, detailed copies of all policies and regulations, including revisions which may have occurred after publication of this document, are available in the office or by calling 970-347-8223. A printed copy of the Student Parent Handbook may be requested at no cost in the office or by calling 970- 347-8223. Policies and regulations are subject to change as necessary at any time during the school year.

We know you have a choice about where your child attends school. We are excited that you chose Salida Del Sol Academy because you, too, believe in the importance of producing bilingual students that are academically and socially prepared for their future endeavors.

Please ensure your children are not only at school each day and on time, but also prepared to learn. In return, we will provide a safe, challenging, caring, and respectful learning environment to ensure that your students are performing at their highest potential.

Warmest regards,

*Ricky Bucher*  
Executive Director

*Patricia Mura*  
Principal

*Paula Rodriguez*  
Associate Principal

# About Salida del Sol Academy

## About our School

Sol Academy (SDSA) opened in east Greeley on September 2, 2014, as a new public charter school and as the first dual language enrichment school for K-8 students in Greeley and Weld County. SDSA began with over 600 students and has a current FTE count of 645. The SDSA Board selected the evidence-based Gómez & Gómez Dual Language Enrichment model to meet the needs of our community, and the school continues to utilize the strengths of this model. Students who enter SDSA are expected to become literate in Spanish and English and be fully proficient in math, science, and social studies. Technology also plays a key role as students are prepared for the future. The curriculum used for content areas are consistent with common core and state-mandated standards. SDSA has implemented the AVID program school wide in order to close the opportunity gap by preparing all students for college readiness and success in a global society.

## Mission

Salida Del Sol Academy provides a supportive, challenging, personalized, bilingual, multicultural education for students from kindergarten through eighth grade. Our students demonstrate pride, self-confidence, and mutual respect and acquire the academic foundation necessary to become successful leaders.

## Vision

Salida del Sol Academy will ensure every student has a safe, caring, and challenging academic environment that allows each kindergarten through eighth grader to attain positive academic achievement.

We believe that children are inquisitive, intelligent, kind, playful, and motivated to learn. But we believe that children learn best by doing; thus our classrooms stimulate visual, auditory, and kinesthetic learners. Interspersing our instructional day with teaching methods that highlight each style ensures that all three levels of the brain are activated—the thinking brain, the feeling brain, and the doing brain.

We also believe that students benefit from a bilingual education, and that all children deserve an education that is personalized to meet their specific needs. We believe a student-centered learning program helps students develop a sense of ownership in their education.

# 2025-2026 School Calendar

Salida del Sol Academy						
2025-2026 School Calendar						
August 2025						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						
September 2025						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				
October 2025						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	
November 2025						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						
December 2025						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			
January 2026						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31
February 2026						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
March 2026						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				
April 2026						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		
May 2026						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						
June 2026						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				
July 2026						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

K - 8th Students Report

Last day of School

End of semesters

Professional Development

Breaks/Holidays/No School

Parent/Teacher Conferences

Start of year PD / Planning

Contracted after school activities

Summer School

# Salida del Sol Academy School Hours and Schedule

School Hours	Teacher Workdays
Monday: 8:00 am -2:00 pm Tuesday: Friday: 8:00 am – 3:30 pm  <b>Instruction begins at 8:00 am</b>	September 8 October 6 November 3 December 1 January 5 February 2 March 2 April 6 May 4

## Lunch and Recess Schedule

During the school year, students will have a lunch break that consists of a 15-minute recess and a 20-minute lunch (15-minute lunch on Mondays). Students will eat lunch in the cafeteria at designated times.

Microwaves will not be available to students. Students have access to wash or disinfect their hands before and after lunch. Supervision will be provided by campus monitors and/or support staff. No outside delivery of food (from parents or outside vendors) will be accepted by the office. If a student forgets their lunch, they will be required to get lunch from school. Students will not be permitted to share food. Energy drinks of any type are prohibited. This includes any beverages that contain caffeine.

MONDAY			TUESDAY-FRIDAY		
GRADE	RECESS	LUNCH	GRADE	RECESS	LUNCH
1st	10:10-10:25	10:25-10:45	1st	10:40-10:55	10:55-11:15
4th	10:25-10:40	10:40-11:00	4th	10:55-11:10	11:10-11:30
Kinder	10:40-10:55	10:55-11:15	2nd	11:15-11:30	11:30-11:50
3rd	11:00-11:15	11:15-11:35	Kinder	11:30-11:45	11:45-12:05
5th	11:15-11:30	11:30-11:50	3rd	11:45-12:00	12:00-12:20
2nd	11:30-11:45	11:45-12:05	5th	12:00-12:15	12:15-12:35
6th	11:59-12:14	12:14-12:34	6th	12:20-12:35	12:35-12:55
7th	12:50-1:05	12:30-12:50	7th	1:10-1:25	12:50-1:10
8th	12:30-12:45	12:45-1:05	8th	12:50-1:05	1:05-1:25

## **Staff Directory**

Please go to:

<https://www.salidadelsolacademy.org/leadership-team>

<https://www.salidadelsolacademy.org/support-team>

<https://www.salidadelsolacademy.org/teachers>

## Home-School Communication

Parent/ Teacher communication is encouraged and can be made through phone calls, electronic mail(e-mail) or notes. If you need to speak with your child's teacher, please follow the process listed below.

- ❖ Parents/ guardians may contact the office at 970-347-8223 and request an appointment with the teacher and/ or staff who may work with their child.
- ❖ The staff member will contact parents/ guardians and set up a mutual time to discuss concerns. Appointments will be scheduled if additional meetings are needed to resolve the issue.

### Parent Teacher Conferences 2025-26

Date	Time
October 15	4:00 - pm - 8:00 -pm
October 16	8:00 am – 8:00 pm
February 11	4:00 - pm - 8:00 -pm
February 12	8:00 am – 8:00 pm

Conference days have been set in the school calendar. We believe that each student is special and that parent involvement in their child's educational program is vital to the academic success of the child.

Conferences are scheduled in October and February for evaluating student's learning goals and to set new goals as needed. It is our goal/ expectation to have 100% participation in conferences by students and their parents.

### Electronic Mail (e-mail)

Electronic mail (e-mail) is a quick way to communicate with your student's teacher if you have a quick question or request. Parents can access every teacher's email address on the school website under the staff section. Parents may communicate in English and/or Spanish with teachers.

### Report Cards

Elementary Report cards will be distributed and sent home with students at the end of each semester. The first semester ends on December 18, 2025, and report cards will be sent home on January 9, 2026. The second semester ends on May 15, 2026, and report cards will be sent home after May 23, 2026. Middle school report cards will be sent home through the mail.

# Arrival and Dismissal

Due to the high volume of vehicle and pedestrian traffic in and around the school during the morning and afternoon, it is imperative that drivers and pedestrians respect and follow the traffic plan.

## Arrival

### Morning Drop Off

SDSA staff will be on-site beginning at 7:45 a.m. to receive students. Teachers will meet students in their classroom. Learning begins at 8:00 a.m.

Drivers should come in from the east off Ash Avenue. You will drive west on 26th Street, pull into the main parking lot area to drop off all the students at the main entrance. Students should be dropped off along the sidewalk and then enter the designated entrance indicated above. Parking will not be allowed along the red curb of 26th Street to keep traffic moving.

Families who wish to come in from 1st Avenue should park along the south side of 26th Street, drop off their student and allow their student to use the crosswalk. A crossing guard will be present to assist all pedestrians crossing the street. **Please refrain from dropping students off in the middle of the street!**

It is important to remember that “NO U-TURNS” are allowed on 26th Street.

### Morning Bus Procedures

Parents must stay at the bus location until the child has boarded the bus. Students must sit in an assigned seat.

## Dismissal

### Walking Procedures:

Students walking home after school must have previous written permission to be dismissed from school to walk home. Students will be dismissed when the bell rings.

### **Bus Procedures:**

Students riding the bus will be dismissed five minutes prior to the dismissal bell ringing. The bus will depart from the school 5 minutes after the dismissal bell rings. There is no loitering on school property.

### **Pick up Procedures:**

We will continue to implement a rapid student release process while maintaining safety and order using Driveline. The parking lot will be opened in the afternoon 45 minutes before

dismissal. Parents will drive through the parking lot to the cones behind the bus. Families are to have their Driveline number placard hanging from the rearview mirror, visible for the Driveline operator to view. The Driveline operator will start recording numbers 5 minutes before dismissal. After the bus departs, Driveline parents will continue out of the parking lot and head west bound along the side of the school. Your child will exit through the main entrance. Monitors will be present to help your child get into the vehicle and keep traffic flowing. When waiting for your child, please continue moving forward as instructed by monitors. Once your child is loaded you are free to exit out of the driveline.

If the Driveline placard is not visible, your child will not be dismissed from class. You will be asked to park in a designated parking area and stay in your vehicle until 3:45 pm. At 3:45 pm, all students remaining students will be dismissed. No parking will be allowed along the No Parking Zone as indicated by signs and painted red curbs.

## **Inclement Weather**

### **School Closing Announcements**

When the Greeley/Evans School District closes due to inclement weather, Salida del Sol will close too. Announcements of school closings, delayed opening, or early closing of Salida del Sol Academy due to sleet, snow or hazardous weather conditions are made on the following:

- The Greeley/Evans District Website: [www.greeleyschools.org](http://www.greeleyschools.org)
- Salida del Sol Academy Website: [www.salidadelacademy.org](http://www.salidadelacademy.org)
- Radio stations: K99, Tri102, KFKA 1310
- Channel 9 News
- Salida del Sol Academy Facebook Page

## **Parent/Student Rights and Responsibilities**

### **Homework**

Parents have a responsibility to make sure children have a set place and time to do homework. A consistent time and place should be chosen that works for the family. An example of this might be completing homework before going out to play in a quiet place in the home. Homework should be put in student's backpack when it is completed.

Homework is a time for students to practice what they learned in class. Teachers may use homework to gauge if students understand the concepts that were taught. Students are responsible for knowing how to complete their homework on their own. If they have any questions, they should ask the teacher. Students may also need their parents to remind

them and encourage them to do their homework. All middle school students are enrolled in an AVID class this year and must keep this work in a binder.

## Field Trip Policy

Most classes are involved in one field trip during the school year. Transportation will be provided by SDSA or the Greeley Evans School District 6 (“D6” or “the District”) bus services. Field trips provide valuable learning experiences for children. Parent permission is required for student participation in field trips. We must have a signed permission slip on file before a trip, or a student may not attend (unless it is a schoolwide activity). Parent chaperones must have their background check completed prior to the field trip.

## State Assessments and Opt-Out

State and federal law requires students to take standardized assessments in the instructional areas of English language arts, math, and science. State law also requires students in elementary and middle school to take standardized assessments in the instructional area of social studies. Accordingly, the School will administer standardized assessments pursuant to these state and federal legal requirements.

### Parent Opt-Out

A parent may opt-out his or her student from a particular state assessment by notifying the School principal in writing or by completing an opt-out form available in the front office. A parent will not be required to state the reason for opting-out. The opt-out may apply to all or specific state assessments administered to the student during the school year. Any opt-out will be valid for one school year. Parents/guardians are encouraged to submit their requests for exemption at the earliest possible date each school year so that the School may plan accordingly.

This opt-out process applies only to state assessments administered pursuant to C.R.S. 22-7-1006.3 and does not apply to other School or classroom assessments.

In accordance with C.R.S. 22-7-1013(8)(b), the School will not impose a negative consequence on a student who is opted-out of state assessments. Students will not be prohibited from participating in any School activities, extra-curriculars, or similar; or from receiving any other form of reward that the School provides to students for participating in the state assessment. The School will not impose an unreasonable burden or requirement on a student that would discourage the student from taking a state assessment or encourage the student's parent to opt-out the student from taking the state assessment.

### Pencil and paper testing option

Pursuant to C.R.S. 22-7-1013(6), the School may determine that a specific classroom or school will use pencil and paper to complete the computerized portions of a state assessment. Factors that will be considered in making this determination include: the technological capacity and resources of the particular school/classroom; the students’

previous experience with computerized and written assessments; whether the instructional methodology of the particular school/classroom is consistent with the use of computerized assessments or written assessments; and the logistics of administering the state assessment in different formats in a particular school or classroom.

Prior to making this determination, the Executive Director will consult with the principal, as well as parents/guardians or other relevant parties.

For students with disabilities, the use of pencil and paper instead of a computer to complete a state assessment will be determined by the student's Individualized Education Program (IEP) team or Section 504 team, in accordance with applicable law.

#### Assessment Notification

The School will annually distribute to the parents of students an assessment calendar. At a minimum, the assessment calendar will specify the estimated hours each testing day that specific classes or grades will take each assessment and identify whether the assessment is required by federal law or state law or selected by the School.

In addition to the calendar, the School will provide written information to parents that describes the state and local assessments that the School will administer during the school year, identifying the assessments that the School is required by federal law to administer, any additional state assessments that the School is required by section 22-7-1006.3 to administer, the assessments that the School is required by other state law to administer, and the additional assessments that the School chooses to administer; the anticipated calendar for administering the state and local assessments during the school year; and the purposes of the state assessments administered pursuant to section 22-7-1006.3 and any additional local assessments that the School administers and the manner in which the department of education and the local education provider uses the assessment results.

The provisions of this policy do not apply to course-specific assessments that are not adopted by the state board of education pursuant to section 22-7-1006 or to non-standardized, classroom-based assessments that individual educators choose to administer to students.

The calendar and additional assessment information will be available to parents at the beginning of each school year in the front office and posted on the School's website.

## Non-Legal Name Change for Students

Pursuant to C.R.S. 22-1-143 and 145, SDSA will honor a student's request to use a chosen name, as defined herein, if the student and his or her parent/guardian follow the request procedure in this policy.

Once a non-legal name change is approved, School employees and contractors, as defined herein, shall address a student by the student's chosen name and use the student's chosen name in school and during extracurricular activities.

## Notice of Nondiscrimination

The School is committed to a policy of nondiscrimination in education and employment. The School prohibits discrimination on the basis of disability, need for special education services (whether actual or perceived), race, creed, color, sex, marital status, sexual orientation, transgender status, gender identity, gender expression (including the use of student's chosen name), national origin, religion, ancestry, age, genetic information, or any other legally protected class or activity in its programs and activities.

### Definitions

- Employee: means any employee of the School, including teachers, teacher aides, bus drivers, cafeteria workers, custodial staff, athletic staff, administrative and clerical staff, school medical staff and security staff, and contractors.
- Contractor: means a person who has direct contact with or supervision over students pursuant to a contract with the School.
- Chosen Name: means any name that a student requests to be known as that differs from the student's legal name, to reflect the student's gender identity
- Gender Identity: means an individual's innate sense of the individual's own gender.

### Non-legal name change request procedure

A student who wants to request a non-legal name change shall comply with the following request procedure.

To properly request a non-legal name change, students must:

1. Submit a written request to the [principal] using the Non-Legal Name Change Request Form.
  - a) The written request must be signed by both student and the parents/guardians of the student, or just the parents/guardians if the student is too young to sign for him/herself;
  - b) The written request must clearly identify the student's chosen name and any permitted variations of the chosen name;
  - c) The written request must be sincere and in good faith, and the student (or parent/guardian) must have the mental capacity and intent to forgo their legal name and be referred to only by their chosen name;
  - d) The student must not have requested a non-legal name change within the preceding 90 school days.
2. The request must be approved by an administrator of the School.
3. The approval will be valid for an indefinite duration or until the student submits a subsequent non-legal name change written request.

### Approved Non-legal name change

Once the request is approved the Assistant Principal will notify the appropriate individuals tasked with complying with this policy of the non-legal name change, on a need to know basis. School employees and contractors must use the approved chosen name. While honest mistakes may occur, the intentional, repeated, or knowing refusal to use a student's approved chosen name is prohibited.

### Grounds for denying a non-legal name change request

If the Assistant Principal denies the request, the reasons will be provided to the requestor, which reasons may include the following:

- The chosen name is inappropriate, indecent, threatening, violent, or crude.
- The request failed to follow the proper procedures or does not meet the requirements of this policy.
- The written request is not signed by a parent/guardian or the student forged the signature of their parent/guardian.
- The student (or parent/guardian) did not have the requisite mental capacity and intent to forgo their legal name and be referred to only by the School.
- Appeal procedure

Should a request for a non-legal name change be denied, the parent/guardian will be advised by the Assistant Principal that he/she may appeal the denial by contacting the Executive Director.

The Assistant Principal shall submit the reason for denial of the request, and the parent/guardian's request and reasons for the appeal, to the Executive Director considering the appeal. The Executive Director, considering the appeal, will review the parent/guardian request and the principal's decision and then make a determination. The Executive Director's decision shall be final.

### FERPA Compliance

This policy shall at all times be interpreted and implemented in a manner consistent with the Family Educational Privacy Act ("FERPA"). Any name changes on official school records shall only be effectuated in accordance with the School's policies regarding official/legal name changes.

## **Student Retention/Promotion**

### **READ Act Requirements**

If within forty-five days before the end of any school year prior to a student's fourth-grade year, a teacher finds that a student has a significant reading deficiency, the SDSA will provide to the student's parent written notice that there are serious implications to a

student entering fourth grade with a significant reading deficiency and, therefore, under state law, the parent, the student's teacher, and other personnel of the School are required to meet and consider retention as an intervention strategy and determine whether the student, despite having a significant reading deficiency, is able to maintain adequate academic progress at the next grade level. SDSA will work with the parent to schedule a date, time, and place for the meeting and if the parent does not attend the meeting, the teacher and personnel of the School will decide whether the student will advance to the next grade level in the next school year.

If, after making documented attempts to schedule the meeting with the parent, School personnel are unable to schedule the meeting, or if the parent does not attend the scheduled meeting, the teacher and personnel selected by the School will decide, based on the student's body of evidence, whether the student will advance to the next grade level for the next school year.

These READ Act requirements will not apply if: the student is a student with a disability who is eligible to take the alternative statewide assessment, or the student is identified as having a disability that substantially impacts the student's progress in developing reading skills, resulting in the student's significant reading deficiency; the student is an English language learner, as defined in section 22-24-103, and the student's significant reading deficiency is due primarily to the student's language skills; or the student is completing the second school year at the same grade level.

At the meeting, the teacher and any other personnel will, at a minimum, communicate to and discuss with the parent the following information: That there are serious implications to a student entering fourth grade with a significant reading deficiency and, therefore, under state law, the parent, the student's teacher, and other personnel of the local education provider are required to meet and consider retention as an intervention strategy and determine whether the student, despite having a significant reading deficiency, is able to maintain adequate academic progress at the next grade level; the importance of achieving reading competency by the end of third grade, because students who achieve reading competency by the end of third grade are more likely to graduate from high school and attain a postsecondary credential; the student's body of evidence and the likelihood that the student, despite having a significant reading deficiency, will be able to maintain adequate academic progress at the next grade level; the increased level of intervention instruction the student will receive in the next school year regardless of whether the student advances to the next grade level; and the potential effects on the student if he or she does not advance to the next grade level.

After discussing, the parent, the teacher, and the other personnel will decide whether the student will advance to the next grade level in the next school year. If the parent, teacher, and other personnel are not in agreement, the parent will decide whether the student will advance to the next grade level, except if a student is completing third grade and the student's teacher or other personnel or the parent decide that the student will advance to

fourth grade even though the student has a significant reading deficiency, the decision to advance the student is subject to approval of the school principal. If the principal does not approve the decision to advance the student, the student shall not advance to fourth grade in the next school year.

As soon as possible, the School will provide a written statement to the parent of any final decision and the basis for the decision. SDSA will include the statement in the student's permanent academic record and shall remove the statement from the student's permanent academic record when the student achieves reading competency.

The provisions of these READ Act requirements do not limit the ability of the School to decide, in accordance with policies and procedures of the School, that a student at any grade level should not advance to the next grade level for any reason deemed sufficient by the School.

## Attendance

The School Attendance Law requires that each child between 6 and 17 attend public school unless otherwise excused. It is the obligation of every parent to ensure that every child is under the parent's care and Supervisors between 6 and 17 comply with this statute. See C.R.S. 22-33-104.

Attendance is crucial to student learning. If your child is absent or late, please call the office at (970)347-8223 as soon as possible, preferably on the day of absence. If your child arrives late, please have him/her report to the school office before they go into class.

### Attendance Procedures

- Office Staff will follow up and contact parents via phone or mail to notify them of any issues regarding attendance and/or tardiness.
- After 2 unexcused absences, SDSA may require an intervention with the student and the family to ensure that this does not become a pattern. The school staff may contact the student and the parents to create an attendance plan to which the family will need to adhere.
- The number of unexcused absences a student can incur before judicial proceedings may be initiated to enforce compulsory attendance laws is 4 absences within one month or 10 during the school year.

### Absences

#### Excusing Students from School

To excuse a student from school, parents must call the office and provide a reason within 24 hours from the date of absence if practicable. The school may require additional information or documentation related to the absence. The school will determine if the absence is excused or unexcused and communicate this information to the parent/guardian.

#### Excused Absences

Excused absences are defined as any absence from school due to the following reasons:

1. A student temporarily ill or injured or whose absence is preapproved by the administrator. Prearranged absences shall be approved for appointments or circumstances of a serious nature only which cannot be taken care of outside of school hours. Approval for prearranged absence(s) may necessitate a parent conference; a student who is absent for an extended period due to physical, mental, or emotional disability. Medical documentation may be required.
2. A student attending any school-sponsored activity or educational activities with advance approval of administration.
3. Religious holidays not already observed on the school calendar.
4. A student who is suspended.
5. A student is in an out-of-home placement.
6. Local custody by a public agency or other court ordered reason; or any other reason deemed acceptable by the school administrator, in their sole discretion. When possible, prior notice of absence for the student's parent or guardian is required and the school administrator may require verification, such as a physician's statement, when appropriate.

**SDSA requires written statements from medical or legal sources for the above reasons.**

### Unexcused Absences

An unexcused absence is defined as one not covered by one of the foregoing exceptions. An unexcused absence shall also be recorded if a student leaves a school or class without the teacher or school administrator's permission. Each unexcused absence shall be entered in the student's record. The parents/guardians of the student receiving an unexcused absence shall be notified orally or in writing by the school.

### Truancy

1. Any time a student is absent from school without an excuse that student is "truant." In accordance with state law, a student is "habitually truant" when a student has reached 4 unexcused absences from school in any month or 10 unexcused absences during any school year. The school shall require a meeting or with the student's parent/guardian to review and evaluate the reasons for the student being habitually absent from school. A plan will be developed to help the student stay in school or receive academic work at home in case of a prolonged illness. If the student fails to adhere to the attendance plan, the student's parents will be notified, and court proceedings may be initiated to enforce compulsory attendance laws.
2. A plan shall be developed for a student who is at risk of being declared habitually truant with the goal of assisting the child to remain in school. When practicable, the student's parent, guardian or legal custodian shall participate with district personnel during the development of the plan. Appropriate school personnel shall

make reasonable efforts to meet with the parent, guardian or legal custodian to review and evaluate the reasons for the student's truancy..

3. In accordance with law, the school may impose academic penalties which relate directly to classes missed while unexcused. Penalties may include a warning, school detention or in-school suspension. The administration shall develop regulations to implement appropriate penalties. The school administration shall consider the correlation between course failure, truancy and a student dropping out of school in developing these regulations and shall implement research-based strategies to re-engage students with a high number of unexcused absences.
4. Students and parents/guardians may petition the school Board of Directors for exceptions to this policy or the accompanying regulations provided that no exception shall be sustained if the student fails to abide by all requirements imposed by the Board as conditions for granting any such exception.

## Tardiness

1. Tardiness is defined as the appearance of a student without proper excuse after the scheduled time that a class begins. Because of the disruptive nature of tardiness and the detrimental effect upon the rights of the non-tardy student to uninterrupted learning, appropriate penalties shall be imposed for excessive tardiness. Parents/guardians shall be notified of all penalties regarding tardiness.
2. In an unavoidable situation, a student detained by another teacher or administrator shall not be considered tardy provided that the teacher or administrator gives the student a pass to enter the next class. Teachers shall honor passes presented in accordance with this policy. This policy's provisions shall be applicable to all students in the school, including those above and below the age for compulsory attendance as required by law.

# Safety and Expectations

## School Safety

Salida Del Sol Academy is committed to having a safe, secure, and caring learning environment. Our comprehensive plan for safe schools includes a purposeful connection between physical safety and security and the psychological safety of students.

## Physical Safety

Physical safety includes measures like visitor check-in and identification badges, preparedness planning, and regular practice drills for various potential incidents. Parents are asked to refrain from coming into the building with their child in the morning unless they have checked in at the office first. Crisis plans for individual schools and the district

are aligned with the recommendations of Homeland Security, local emergency responders, and the National Incident Management System (NIMS).

## Recess Expectations

- Students are to remain in their designated play area.
- Students are to stay off the fences.
- Students must obtain permission to leave the designated area.
- No wrestling, tackling, pretend fighting or kickboxing.
- Woodchips and snow are to remain on the ground.
- Toys/balls are not allowed

## Student Dress Code

Standards on student attire are intended to encourage school pride and unity, and thereby help students concentrate on schoolwork, reduce discipline problems, and improve school order and safety. Salida Del Sol Academy will require all students to dress in a uniform manner as outlined below:

**The uniform shirt** should consist of a purple or orange polo shirt with the school emblem, or a solid black, white, purple, or orange polo shirt.

- Long sleeve t-shirts worn under the polo shirt should be plain black, white, orange, or purple.
- The polo shirt must be worn daily.
- Students may wear an SDSA sweatshirt over a polo shirt.
- Hoods are not permitted inside the building and will result in the immediate removal of sweatshirt

**The uniform pants** should be black or khaki. Pants may include shorts, capris, or skirts.

- The length of shorts and skirts must be lower than the student's fingertips when arms are held to the sides.
- Blue jeans are only permitted on Friday with Spirit Shirt

**Clothing accessories** worn with the school uniform inside the building such as coats, jackets, sweaters, and hoodies shall consist of:

- School approved clothing items bearing the school logo.
- Clothing accessories must be purple, orange, black, khaki or white and should be free of logos, designs, and/or stripes.
- Belts must be of an appropriate size for the child and worn tucked through belt loops.
- Hats/caps/hoods of sweatshirts are not permitted in the building.

### Footwear

- Roller blades, skate shoes, or "heelies" are not permitted.
- Tennis shoes are recommended for physical education days

## **Personal Appearance**

- Inappropriate facial piercings that cause disruption or distraction will not be permitted.

When there is a question about the dress or appearance of a student, school administrators or school staff will use their discretion concerning the dress code. SDSA adheres to the provisions as outlined in the CROWN Act. Students will be required to change or remove clothing to comply with the dress code if necessary.

In compliance with the Colorado Crown Act, nothing in this dress code shall be construed such that it is discrimination on the basis of an individual's race and shall not prohibit any hair texture, hair type, hair length, or a protective hairstyle that is commonly or historically associated with race. Specifically, without limitation, such hairstyles as braids, locs, twists, tight coils or curls, cornrows, Bantu knots, Afros, and headwraps.

Should the student fall outside the policy, the following corrective measures will be taken:

1. First offense:
  - a. Student will change into appropriate uniform attire
  - b. Dress code violation will be documented
2. Second offense:
  - a. Student will change into appropriate uniform attire
  - b. Parents will be notified of violation
  - c. Dress code violation will be documented
3. Third offense:
  - a. Parents will be called to deliver appropriate uniform attire to the student. Student will remain in the central office until appropriate clothing is delivered to the student
  - b. Parents will meet with school administrator to discuss the necessity to comply with the dress code
4. Additional offenses:
  - a. Student discipline will increase as deemed appropriate by school administrators.

## **Bullying Prevention and Education**

Bullying behavior can negatively affect the school climate and lead to more serious behaviors affecting the health, safety and welfare of students. Salida Del Sol Academy supports a secure school climate, conducive to teaching and learning that is free from threat, harassment, and any type of bullying behavior. This policy promotes consistency of approach and helps create a climate where all types of bullying are regarded as

unacceptable.

Bullying is the use of coercion to obtain control over another person or to be habitually cruel to another person.

Bullying can occur through written, verbal, or electronically transmitted expression or by physical act or gesture. Bullying is prohibited on SDSA property, at school-sanctioned activities and events, when students are being transported in any vehicle dispatched by the school, or off school property when such conduct has a connection to the school curricular or non-curricular activity or event. SDSA prohibits all types of harassment, including harassment based on a student's perceived or actual sexual orientation or gender identity.

A student who engages in any act of bullying is subject to appropriate disciplinary action, including suspension, expulsion and/or referral to law enforcement authorities. The severity and pattern of the bullying behavior, if any, shall be considered when disciplinary decisions are made.

Teachers who observe or become aware of bullying shall take appropriate steps to intervene and/or report such behavior to an administrator. Parents and students who become aware of bullying are encouraged to report it to an administrator.

Administrators will take appropriate steps to educate students about ways to show empathy and prevent bullying and may facilitate access to providers not on school property who have experience in providing additional services to any student in need.

## Personal Property/Electronics

Cell phones, tablets, I-pods, MP3 players, radios, electronic equipment, toys or any other items of value should be left at home. SDSA follows this cell phone and electronics policy: <https://www.greeleyschools.org/families/parent-student-handbook/student-use-of-cell-phones-personal-technology> Students should also not carry more than \$5.00 on their persons at any time during the school day.

## Chromebook Computers

Salida del Sol Academy is dedicated to helping students advance their use of technology as an educational tool. Salida del Sol Academy utilizes 1-to-1 technology to personalize the bilingual educational experience of our students by developing critical thinking and problem-solving skills through project-based learning. We will redefine and transform the way students learn and communicate in the 21st century by promoting multilingualism, innovation, creativity, and collaboration. Chromebooks are provided for all student use during school hours and are the property of Salida Del Sol Academy. Students are required

to use these devices for academic and instructional purposes only. Students are responsible for keeping the devices clean and free of damage. **Students that damage any school technological device will have to pay for the repair or substitution of such.** Inappropriate use of technology may result in administrative action. Students in Grades 6-8 will receive their Chromebooks for use at school and at home.

Teachers and staff may use various websites and computer applications for educational purposes. Be aware that some of these providers may require access to student Google accounts including student names and email addresses. Be assured that our email system will not allow students to receive e-mail communications from outside Salida del Sol Academy. If you have any questions or concerns about your students' privacy regarding the applications and websites used, please contact your child's teacher.

Schools are permitted to consent to the collection of personal information on behalf of parents of students, thereby eliminating the need for individual parental consent given directly to the web site operator. Before doing so, SDSA is providing you with this notice and the opportunity to view the list of technology tools which may be used in your student's classroom. An exact list may be obtained from your child's teacher. Please look at the websites we will be using and what personal information the site collects: We will have your students use their SDSA email account for this. As part of the Parent/Student handbook review, parents and guardians have acknowledged that teachers will be using online tools that are vital to the educational process.

## Damage of School Property

Salida Del Sol Academy students take pride in our building, furniture, and materials. Students are responsible, as much as any staff member, for the cleanliness and the maintenance of our school. Any student that damages/harms any item or area of our school, will need to pay for the repair or substitution of such.

# Positive Behavior Intervention Systems & Supports (PBIS)

## Creating a Safe Learning Environment

We believe that children learn through positive reinforcement. We strive to find the strengths of each student and use these as a base to teach him/her. When students act in ways that align to our school values, **Safety, Ownership, Leadership, Attitude and Respect**, students will get verbally recognized for their behavior and will be rewarded at times with our **Positive Behavior Intervention Systems & Supports (PBIS)** system. The PBIS methodology ensures that students are recognized and rewarded for their good actions.

## **Behavior at School**

School is a special place for children. It is our mission to make every child feel valued, to develop good relationships with peers and staff members, to use self-control, and to experience success. For these reasons, our faculty and students also follow **Restorative Justice Practices**.

The restorative approach is a set of guiding principles for the school community, which sees relationships as central to learning, growth and an inclusive, respectful school culture. It is a change in thinking from traditional rule-based, punitive discipline systems. Restorative Practices focuses on building, maintaining, and when necessary, repairing relationships among all members of the school community. These practices include Language that invites and encourages curiosity, empathy, respect, trust, honesty, compassion, accountability, inclusion, collaboration and repairing harm; and tools for community building and harm repair, such as:

1. Connection Circles
2. Restorative Conversations
3. Restorative Agreement Meetings
4. Solution Circles
5. Restorative Mediations
6. Community Group Conferencing
7. Restorative Mediations
8. Community Group Conferencing

## **Special Education**

As required by applicable federal and state laws, SDSA is committed to provide appropriate educational opportunities to students with disabilities. If a parent believes that their child may have a disability that qualifies for special education services he or she is encouraged to contact the School in writing, and confirm the School is in receipt thereof, to request an evaluation for special education services.

Any student identified as qualifying for special education services pursuant to the Individuals with Disabilities Education Improvement Act (the IDEA) until age 21 if the student has not been awarded a regular high school diploma and graduated from high school has the right to a free appropriate public education. Eligible students with disabilities shall be provided individualized programs that offer a Free and Appropriate Public Education, as determined by the student's Individualized Education Program (IEP) team.

The School will develop additional policies or utilize the policies of its Administrative Unit, Greeley Evans School District 6, in meeting its obligations under IDEA.

## Student Discipline

**Discipline** is usually understood as encouraging students to use self-control. Discipline is when one uses reason to determine the best course of action for oneself, an organization, or a specific situation.

At Salida Del Sol Academy teachers and staff members work together to incorporate strategies that lead students into developing self-control, self-behavior, and responsibility for their actions. We believe in incorporating and teaching values of compassion, kindness, and collaboration. Therefore, we integrate a discipline philosophy structured around prevention of misconduct and restoration of justice when harm has been done.

Every student in Salida Del Sol Academy learns that respect is the basis of our actions. Students learn that misbehavior can be re-directed, and students learn to gain control of their emotions and actions. They also learn to resolve conflict in a respectful way, everyone's voice is valued, and ideas are considered.

Acts of violence that are physically or emotionally hurtful are not tolerated. We want everyone to know that misconduct is never acceptable, but we can explore ways to repair the harm.

A student that misbehaves needs to understand that every adult at Salida Del Sol Academy is teaching him/her how to respond or behave in manners that are not disruptive, and in ways that will maintain a peaceful culture conducive of a learning environment in our school.

We want everyone to understand that responses to misconduct will vary according to the harm caused by any certain student. Responses and consequences for misbehavior are intended for the student to reflect on what she/he did wrong to repair the harm to oneself or others and restore justice.

### Minor Behavior Violations

These behaviors may not require administrative involvement if they do not result chronically, or major damage is not caused. Teachers and staff members will initially re-direct the student behavior through re-teaching conversations.

### Major behavior Violations

These behaviors significantly violate the rights of others, put others at risk, harm or damage property and are chronic. The school administration will be involved when these types of violations happen. Consequences include detention, counseling, suspension, or expulsion.

## Code of Conduct

Our policy is designed to help students understand and develop positive behavior patterns. When a student fails to follow the Code of Conduct, a **Verbal Warning** followed by a re-teach conversation will be issued by the faculty or staff member who observed the behavior. At that point, the child's parent(s) may be contacted by the faculty or staff member who issued the Verbal Warning.

If the behavior continues, an **Office Discipline Referral (ODR) Form** will be utilized to document the behavior and inform parents. If the behavior is a minor infraction, no administrative action will be taken, and parents will be notified by the student's teacher. If the behavior is a major infraction, administrative action will be taken, and the administrator will request a parent/student conference. At this point, the administration may decide to apply strategies that will ensure the safety of all students and staff members. These may include detention, community service, suspension, or expulsion.

A Behavior Referral could result in the following administrative responses, but is not limited to these:

1. **Educational Sanction involves projects or assignments designed to help the student learn more about the impact of the incident, behavior, or impact it caused, and how to prevent it from happening again.** For example, a vandalism incident could result in a student being assigned to research and draft a paper on the impact of vandalism at schools in the U.S.
2. **Conference** – this could include parents, teachers, administrators, and even students/peers. The specific conference would be designed based on the needs of the incident. The goal of the conference would be to gain a better understanding of the incident, the impact and harm caused, and to create an action plan or agreement of the next steps.
3. **Suspension** – this could be an in-school supervised suspension or an out-of-school suspension. Students are typically responsible for missed work, and in some cases, could also lose the opportunity to make-up for missed work, resulting in an impact on grades.
4. **Expulsion** – typically utilized in the most serious of situations, involving habitually disruptive students, or where a serious threat to safety and welfare is present.
5. **Detention** – typically utilized to make up any instructional time missed throughout the day.

## School Suspensions

All serious incidents will be approached with student safety in mind. In the event of a school suspension, our goal is that the student reflects upon their wrong doings to repair the harm and correct the behavior. The school principal or designee are the only

administrators that can conduct school suspensions. Parents will be notified via phone and asked to come to school for a meeting before suspending a student. After the period of suspension and upon the re-entry of a student into school, the parent and student are required to meet with the principal or designee on the morning of the re-entry day, or on the evening prior to this day.

## School Expulsions

A student may be expelled from the School on any of the grounds stated in state law, which include:

1. Continued willful disobedience or open and persistent defiance of proper authority;
2. Willful destruction or defacing of school property;
3. Behavior on or off school property that is detrimental to the welfare or safety of other students or of school personnel, including behavior that creates a threat of physical harm to the child or to other children.
4. Repeated interference with a school's ability to provide educational opportunities to other students.
5. Committing one of the following offenses on school grounds, in a school vehicle, or at a school activity or sanctioned event: Possession of a dangerous weapon without the authorization of the school or the school district; The use, possession, or sale of a drug or controlled substance as defined in section 18-18-102(5), C.R.S.; or The commission of an act that, if committed by an adult, would be robbery pursuant to part 3 of article 4 of title 18, C.R.S., or assault pursuant to part 2 of article 3 of title 18, C.R.S., other than the commission of an act that would be third degree assault under section 18-3-204, C.R.S., if committed by an adult.
  - A “dangerous weapon” is defined as a firearm, as defined in section 18-1-901(3)(h), C.R.S.; Any pellet gun, BB gun, or other device, whether operational or not, designed to propel projectiles by spring action or compressed air; A fixed-blade knife with a blade that exceeds three inches in length; A spring-loaded knife or a pocket knife with a blade exceeding three and one-half inches in length; or Any object, device, instrument, material, or substance, whether animate or inanimate, that is used or intended to be used to inflict death or serious bodily injury.
6. Carrying, using, actively displaying, or threatening with the use of a firearm facsimile that could reasonably be mistaken for an actual firearm in a school building or in or on school property.
7. Declaration as a habitually disruptive student.
8. Making an intentionally false accusation of criminal activity against an employee of an educational entity to law enforcement authorities, school district officials or personnel, or both.

A student who is denied admission pursuant to C.R.S. 22-33-105 and 106 will be afforded the same rights and process, to the extent required by law, as students expelled under this policy.

### Notice of Expulsion

If the School administration decides to proceed with a recommendation for expulsion, the student's parent/guardian will be provided notice of the recommended action, including the grounds for expulsion and details of any allegations, and a request for a hearing. The notice will inform the student or the student's parent/guardian of the student's due process rights and information about the hearing.

### Prior to the Expulsion Hearing

The School will prepare any necessary evidence to prove that the student committed the infractions that form the grounds for expulsion, and will provide all records that the School intends to use as supporting evidence for expulsion to the student or the student's parent at least two business days in which school is in session prior to the expulsion hearing. Upon discovery of a record not previously provided, the School must immediately provide the record to the student or the student's parent.

### Expulsion Hearing

The hearing will be conducted by a hearing officer. The hearing officer can either be the Executive Director of the School or an individual designated by the Executive Director. The hearing officer must not have a conflict of interest and must be impartial. The hearing officer cannot have been involved in the investigation of the alleged misconduct. The School must ensure that any person acting as a hearing officer receives training on how to serve impartially, including avoiding prejudgment of the facts at issue and conflicts of interest. Beginning January 1, 2025, a hearing officer must have completed an initial 5 hour training and annual training in the topics required by CDE and CRS 22-33-106.

At the hearing the School has the burden of proving by a preponderance of the evidence (meaning it is "more likely than not") that the student did what is alleged and violated section 22-33-106 and the School's code of conduct. The hearing officer will determine how the hearing will proceed and how evidence will be introduced, but at a minimum the student and/or student's parent must have the opportunity to present evidence, challenge any evidence of the School, call/question witnesses, and otherwise be afforded a reasonable opportunity to be heard and defend the student against the allegations.

If the proposed time and date for the hearing do not work for the student and/or the student's parent or guardian, the School will attempt, within reason, to re-schedule the hearing. If a student and/or student's parent or guardian fail to participate in the expulsion hearing then they forfeit their right to appeal or further participate in the process.

### Expulsion Fact Finding and Recommendation Report

If the Executive Director acts as a hearing officer to conduct the expulsion hearing then the Executive Director shall create a report with findings of fact and recommendations, including specific findings regarding consideration of : (a) The age of the student; (b) The disciplinary history of the student; (c) Whether the student has a disability; (d) The seriousness of the violation committed by the student; (e) Whether the violation

committed by the student threatened the safety of any student or staff member; and (f) Whether a lesser intervention would properly address the violation committed by the student.

If a designee acting as a hearing officer conducts the expulsion hearing, the designee shall, within 2 business days, forward findings of fact and recommendations to the Executive Director at the conclusion of the expulsion hearing, including specific findings regarding the factors (a) through (f) set forth above.

#### Executive Director's Expulsion Decision

Upon review of the fact-finding and recommendations report, the Executive Director shall, within 5 business days after the hearing, render a written opinion that imposes or refrains from imposing expulsion as a disciplinary sanction and the duration of any expulsion, not to exceed one year. In making a decision, the Executive Director will consider whether alternative remedies are appropriate and whether excluding the student from school is necessary to preserve the learning environment, and the student must not be expelled unless this is considered. The Executive Director shall provide the written opinion to the student or the student's parent. The Executive Director shall report on each case acted upon at the next meeting of the board of directors, in executive session, briefly describing the circumstances and the reasons for the Executive Director's decision.

#### Expulsion Appeal

A student who is expelled as a result of this process has ten business days after the decision of the Executive Director is rendered to appeal the decision to the board of directors. The appeal before the board of directors must, at a minimum, consist of a review of the facts presented and determined at the hearing, arguments relating to the decision, and questions of clarification from the board of directors. If the board of directors upholds the determination of the Executive Director to expel a student, the student is entitled to a review of the decision in court, pursuant to state law.

#### Alternative Education for Expelled Students

When a student is expelled, The School will provide any required educational services required by federal law for students with disabilities, and appropriate alternative educational services required by C.R.S. 22-33-203. student's parent is responsible for seeing that the student complies with continuing to receive an education during the period of expulsion.

#### Options for Students Charged with Certain Crimes

If a petition is filed in juvenile court that alleges that a student who is at least twelve years of age but under eighteen years of age has committed an offense that would constitute unlawful sexual behavior, as defined in C.R.S. 16-22-102(9), or a crime of violence, as defined in CRS 18-1.3-406, if committed by an adult or whenever charges filed in district court allege that a student has committed such an offense, basic identification information concerning the student should be provided to the School. Upon receipt of such

information, the board of directors (in executive session) or its designee shall determine whether the student has exhibited behavior that is detrimental to the safety, welfare, and morals of the other students or of school personnel in the School and whether educating the student in the School may disrupt the learning environment in the School, provide a negative example for other students, or create a dangerous and unsafe environment for students, teachers, and other school personnel. If a determination is made that the student should not be educated in the school, the School may proceed with suspension or expulsion in accordance with this policy.

## Gang Activities Prohibited

Pursuant to C.R.S. 22-32.109.1(2)(a)(F), the School is committed to keeping the School free from the harmful influence or effects of street gangs or similar organizations that advocate or promote illegal drugs, violence, or other criminal activity. The presence of any apparel, signs, symbols, activity, accessories, appearances, colors, or any other attribute that denotes membership in street gangs or that advocate or promote illegal activities are prohibited on school grounds, in school vehicles, and at school activities or sanctioned events.

## Video Recording

The School may utilize video recording and surveillance equipment in both interior and exterior areas of school property, including any school transportation vehicles, for the purposes of maintaining safety and security on School property. Students, parents, and visitors are hereby notified of the use of video surveillance systems on School property. Where appropriate, unless otherwise approved by the Executive Director, video cameras should be installed in a manner that is noticeable and not covert, and signage will be placed around the School facilities and vehicles to remind and notify individuals that they are being recorded.

Except as allowed by applicable law, Video cameras must only be used or installed with the approval of the Executive Director. Video cameras must not be used or installed in restrooms, locker rooms, or other areas where students, staff, or others have a reasonable expectation of privacy.

Video recordings shall be accessible to and monitored only by authorized individuals, and only on a need-to-know basis. Video recordings shall only be released to or viewable by authorized individuals or as required or provided for by applicable law, including without limitation FERPA.

Video recordings, and activities observed on those recordings, may be used for disciplinary purposes of students. Video surveillance and recordings will only be used only to promote the order, safety, and security of students, visitors, staff, and property.

# Health and Wellness

## Medications at School

Parents are responsible for their children's health. This includes the administration of medicine. Salida Del Sol Academy personnel encourage medicines to be taken at home if possible. Many medicines may be taken before school hours and/or after school hours. However, if school personnel are asked to take some of the responsibility, the following policy/procedures apply:

1. A written note from a doctor must state the exact dates the medicine is to be available to the child.
2. The container must be labeled with the original prescription. This includes the child's name (not another member of the family), date, name of physician, name of pharmacy, name of drug, the dosage, when and how to take the medicine.
3. Medicine will be made available only as the prescription states.
4. The child is responsible for requesting the medicine from the school nurse/health clerk or other delegated person in the school.
5. When the nurse/health clerk is not in the building, it is the responsibility of the principal or designated office staff member to make the medicine available to the student.
6. The written note will be given to the nurse so that it may be kept on file in the health office.

## Illness/Injury

When minor injuries occur at school, trained school personnel give first aid treatment. Parents will be called **if** there is a significant injury. Parents will also be called to pick up children who have a temperature above 100.0°F or diarrhea, vomiting, or a contagious disease. Please be sure we have your daytime phone number and at least one backup emergency number.

## Health Care Plan

An "emergency medical plan" form should be on file for any child with an existing medical problem and/or allergy (such as asthma, seizures, allergy to bee stings, etc.). If the school cannot contact parents in an emergency, an ambulance may be called to transport the child to the North Colorado Medical Center's emergency room.

## Hearing and Vision Screenings

The School will conduct hearing and vision screenings required and at the grade levels specified by C.R.S. 22-2-116. The school will make a record of all sight and hearing tests given during the school year and record the individual results of each test on each child's records. The parents or guardian will be informed when the testing results show a deficiency in the student's hearing or vision. A parent or guardian may opt-out of the screenings on religious or personal grounds.

## Nutritional Services

Salida del Sol Academy contracts with District 6 for the Nutrition program, which includes the Healthy School Meals for All program. The Nutrition Services Department is taking a proactive approach to offering healthier and fresher foods for the students in our community. Our 'home-cooked' meals are prepared fresh daily utilizing whole, natural ingredients. Eliminating processed foods and replacing them with items made 'from scratch' has allowed the department to significantly reduce the amount of sodium, preservatives and other artificial ingredients that are served to our students. In addition, the Nutrition Services Department continues to expand its Farm to School Program by purchasing fresh produce from local growers. This provides our students with the freshest fruits and vegetables possible, while also supporting the local community.

### Free & Reduced Meal Benefits

Recommendation is for every family to fill out the [Free and Reduced Meal Benefit Application](#) regardless of eligibility. Applications are only available online through the school and district's website. Only one application per household is necessary. Application processing can take up to 10 business days.

### Breakfast

Breakfast is served from 7:45 a.m. – 8:00 a.m. Students pick up their breakfast from the cafeteria and take it to eat in the classrooms. All students qualify for free breakfast meals. Breakfast is served in their classroom.

### Lunch

We do not require that students eat all their lunch; however, we do encourage them to try everything. Any food or beverage not consumed must be thrown away. Due to health regulations, **no one can store any uneaten food.**

### Cafeteria Expectations:

While in the cafeteria, students will:

- Stand in line with hands and feet to themselves.
- Walk in the hallway and lunchroom.
- Talk only to the people at their table.
- Use "quiet voices" when talking to students at their table.
- Use "excellent" table manners.
- Gross words, noises, or inappropriate actions will not be tolerated.
- Get permission before leaving their seat.
- Clean-up after themselves.
- Not bring glass containers to school.
- Sit in assigned areas.

# Parent Involvement

## Parent Involvement Opportunities

All parents are invited to participate in the various parent activities available.

Cafecito Meetings - Second Thursday of each month at 9:00- provides an opportunity for parents to meet with the principal to stay informed about the school and services available  
Padres Unidos – meets following Cafecito Meetings – parent led fundraising organization that raised money for school needs

WatchDogs – parents that support with supervision of students during lunch, recess and class time. For more information, please contact the office at 970-347-8223.

## Parent Volunteers

We encourage you to be involved as a volunteer, helping students and teachers in the classroom. For the safety of our students, all volunteers must pass a background check. For more information about volunteering, please contact the office at 970-347-8223.

## Parents and Visitors in the School Building

Parents and visitors are welcome to our building, and everyone should feel comfortable here. However, to ensure student safety, parents and visitors are asked to check in at the main office upon entry into the school and check out when leaving. Additionally, silence should be respected in the hallways during instructional time so students can profit from learning time. Parents should refrain from cellphone usage while in the building.

## School Accountability Committee (SAC)

This committee helps make decisions for the school. This committee looks at teacher and principal effectiveness, instructional decisions, and school budget. SAC meetings will be held 9/4/25, 12/4/25, 2/5/26, and 5/7/26. Times will be announced prior to each meeting.

## Seasonal School Parties

Salida del Sol Academy will conduct two parties during the school year, Winter and End of the Year. All parties will begin at 2:30pm unless otherwise noted.

In accordance with the Weld County Health Department, **all party treats or snacks must be store bought and prepackaged.** Food purchased from bakeries is acceptable. When planning a party, please bring your own supplies (cups, plates, napkins, utensils, etc.). Please check with your child's teacher before bringing any treats or food into the classroom.

## Birthday Parties K-8

Birthday parties for students will be held on the last Friday of each month at 3:00pm.

Distribution of outside party invitations is not permitted. Deliveries to school of flowers and similar tokens will be held in the office until the end of each school day, including party days; students may collect them at the close of school.

# Student Harassment and Discrimination Policy

In an effort to fulfill SDSA's role to provide a safe learning environment for students by responding to reports of harassment or discrimination, preventing recurrence of harassment or discrimination, and remedying effects of the harassment or discrimination; and in compliance with C.R.S. 22-1-143, SDSA adopts the following Policy.

## Definitions

For purposes of this student harassment policy only, the following definitions apply:

- “Advisor” means a person selected by a party, of the party’s own choosing, to provide support and advocacy during the process, including, but not limited to, a parent, legal guardian, or attorney.
- “Contractor” means a person who has direct contact with or supervision over students pursuant to a contract with the School.
- “Complainant” means a person who is subject to, and files a report of, alleged misconduct or discrimination pursuant to this policy.
- “Employee” means any employee of the School, including teachers, teacher aides, bus drivers, cafeteria workers, custodial staff, athletic staff, administrative and clerical staff, school medical staff and security staff, and contractors.
- “Harassment or discrimination” means to engage in, or the act of engaging in, any unwelcome physical or verbal conduct or any written, pictorial, or visual communication by a student or employee that is directed at a student or group of students because of that student's or group's membership in, or perceived membership in, a protected class based on disability, race, creed, color, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, family composition, religion, age, national origin, or ancestry, which conduct or communication is objectively offensive to a reasonable individual who is a member of the same protected class. The knowing or intentional use of a name other than a student’s chosen name, meaning the name a student requests to be known as to reflect the student’s gender identity, is harassment or discrimination. The conduct or communication need not be severe or pervasive to constitute harassment or discrimination and constitutes harassment or discrimination if:
  1. Submission to the conduct or communication is explicitly or implicitly made a term or condition of the individual's access to an educational service, opportunity, or benefit;
  2. Submission to, objection to, or rejection of the conduct or communication is used or explicitly or implicitly threatened to be used as a basis for educational decisions affecting the individual; or

3. The conduct or communication has the purpose or effect of unreasonably interfering with the individual's access to their educational service, opportunity, or benefit or creating an intimidating, hostile, or offensive educational environment.

Petty slights, minor annoyances, and lack of good manners do not constitute harassment or discrimination unless the slights, annoyances, or lack of manners, when taken in combination and under the totality of the circumstances, meet the standard set forth in herein.

Whether conduct constitutes harassment or discrimination is judged under the totality of the circumstances, which may include, but is not limited to:

1. The frequency of the conduct or communication, recognizing that a single incident may rise to the level of harassment or discrimination;
2. The number of individuals engaged in the conduct or communication;
3. The type or nature of the conduct or communication;
4. The duration of the conduct or communication;
5. The location where the conduct or communication occurred;
6. Whether the conduct or communication is threatening;
7. Whether any power differential exists between the individual alleged to have engaged in harassment or discrimination and the individual alleging the harassment or discrimination;
8. Any use of epithets, slurs, or other conduct or communication that is humiliating or degrading;
9. Whether the conduct or communication reflects stereotypes about an individual or group of individuals in a protected class; or
10. Whether the conduct includes an act of physical violence.

“Policy” means this policy.

“Respondent” means the individual who has been reported to be the perpetrator of alleged harassment or discrimination.

“Title IX” means Title IX of the federal “Education Amendments of 1972”, 20 U.S.C. secs. 1681 et seq., as amended.

## Reports of Harassment or Discrimination

Any individuals who believe that they or someone else has been a victim of or witness to harassment or discrimination as defined in this Policy are encouraged to make a report of their concern to the Coordinator. All employees of the School must make a report to the Coordinator of any harassment or discrimination of which they or someone else has allegedly been a victim, even if not witnessed first-hand by the employee. Other members of the community are encouraged to make a report of concerns regarding the same to the

Coordinator. Anyone, even if they are not the individual who experienced the harassment or discrimination, can make a Report to the Coordinator.

A concern or report may be submitted to the Coordinator in any format, although it is encouraged to utilize e-mail or hard copy transmission to better ensure a record can be more readily maintained of the content of the report or concern. The Coordinator will make and maintain notes from any verbal reports made.

It must be noted that an employee making a report of concerns for purposes of this Policy is separate and distinct from an employee's mandatory reporting obligations under state law when an employee reasonably suspects a child has been subjected to child abuse and/or neglect. Mandatory reporting of child abuse and/or neglect must be made directly to appropriate law enforcement and/or local child protection agencies and reporting to the Coordinator does not satisfy this requirement.

SDSA will accept formal reports of harassment or discrimination in writing or in-person; by phone, e-mail, or online form. Reports of harassment must be submitted to the following individual:

**District 6 Compliance Officer and Title IX Coordinator:**

Jim Donahue, Director of Title IX & Compliance Officer

1025 Ninth Avenue

Greeley, CO 80631

Phone: 970-348-6070

Email: [jdonahue@greeleyschools.org](mailto:jdonahue@greeleyschools.org)

The School or School employee shall not rely solely on a criminal investigation by a law enforcement agency in lieu of responding to a report of harassment or discrimination promptly and effectively.

## Investigations of Reports of Harassment

All reports, determined by the Coordinator to constitute harassment or discrimination as defined in this Policy, received by the School will be investigated by the Coordinator or a designee in a manner that is fair, impartial, and prompt. The Coordinator will conduct, or will assign a designee to conduct, the investigation and make findings. As appropriate, more than one individual may be assigned to conduct the investigation and/or make findings. The Coordinator or designee(s) must not have a conflict of interest with regards to the investigation in order to conduct the investigation and make findings.

The investigation and any findings or decisions resulting therefrom will be completed in a manner that ensures the following:

1. Each party will have a fair and impartial opportunity to be interviewed, present evidence, or provide information for consideration by the Coordinator or designee conducting the investigation.
2. The School will make a good faith effort to complete an investigation and make any findings within sixty days after the report, without infringing upon the rights enshrined in federal and state law of the complainant or the respondent; except that the School may extend the sixty-day deadline for up to thirty additional days for good cause, determined in the discretion of the School, with prior written notice to the complainant and to the respondent of the delay and the reason for the delay. The School may also extend the deadline at the request of a law enforcement agency
3. The findings must use a preponderance of the evidence evidentiary standard, meaning it is more likely than not that the allegations occurred or did not occur, to substantiate any allegations of harassment or discrimination.
4. All questions related to the investigation must be directed to the individual conducting the investigation, or the individual's designee, and the individual or designee conducting the investigation must consider any evidence of patterns of misconduct as relevant evidence.
5. Both the complainant and the respondent must have the same opportunity to have an advisor or other person present during any part of the investigative process.
6. The Coordinator or a designee will provide written updates about the status of an investigation or proceeding to the parties and the parties' parents or legal guardians at each stage of the investigation or proceeding, but at least every fifteen business days.
7. The School will provide for concurrent notification to the parties of the outcome of the investigation and any findings.

## Remedial Action

At the conclusion of an investigation, if the findings are that the allegations are substantiated, then the School will take appropriate remedial action, including without limitation, taking reasonable steps to ensure the harassment or discrimination does not reoccur, providing supportive measures and accommodations for the complainant, and implementing discipline against the respondent in accordance with the School's disciplinary policies. A complaint that is unsubstantiated must not serve as a basis for discipline, dismissal, termination, or any employment reference or licensing action unless the conduct establishes a pattern of the same or similar behavior.

## Retaliation Prohibited

Retaliation against an individual who makes a report, or participates in an investigation into a report made, pursuant to this Policy is prohibited. Charges against a student for

code of conduct violations related to the incident for the purpose of punishing a student for making a report or otherwise interfering with any right or privilege secured by this Policy constitutes retaliation.

The School shall not use a student report of harassment or discrimination, whether verbal or in writing, or information revealed in any investigation or disciplinary proceedings of the report, as the basis for, or a consideration in, investigating or exacting any disciplinary response for a school violation by the reporting student or complainant related to the reported incident for any of the following: Engaging in reasonable self-defense against the respondent, consensual sexual activity, drug use, alcohol use, late arrival, truancy, unauthorized access to facilities, talking publicly about the reported harassment or discrimination, or expressing a trauma symptom; except that nothing in this section prohibits the School from disciplining a student who knowingly makes a false report of harassment or discrimination, or disciplining a student when necessary to ensure the safety of any student or employee. A finding of no harassment or discrimination does not itself constitute a false report.

## Supportive Measures

The School will offer accommodations and supportive measures to a student experiencing harassment or discrimination that are designed to protect the safety of all students and that preserve and restore equal access to education for the student. Accommodations and supportive measures may include, but are not limited to, counseling, extensions of deadlines or other course-related adjustments, extra time for homework or tests, the opportunity to resubmit homework or retake a test, remedying an impacted grade, excused absences, the opportunity for home instruction, modifications to class schedules, and restrictions on contact between the parties to a report of harassment or discrimination. The School will not require a formal report or finding of harassment or discrimination before providing supportive measures.

The School will grant an excused absence to a student who has experienced harassment or discrimination for any time the student is out of school because of a therapy, medical, legal, or victim services appointment related to the harassment or discrimination. Students may contact the Coordinator to request accommodations or supportive measures. Additional accommodations may be available to students with disabilities to address any disability related limitations.

The School will also provide supportive measures required pursuant to Title IX, and may provide any other supportive measures as soon as it receives a report of harassment or discrimination.

## Notices

The School will post notices in multiple places in the School, written in simple and age-appropriate language, describing how and to whom a student can report harassment or discrimination to the School. The notices must be conspicuously posted in easily accessible and well-lit places customarily frequented by students and employees.

The School will prominently display this Policy on the home page of its website; annually distribute the Policy through electronic means to parents and legal guardians of students enrolled at the School and separately from any other document to students enrolled in sixth through twelfth grade; provide a physical copy of the Policy to each incoming student and the parent or legal guardian of each incoming student, upon request; and annually distribute the Policy to employees.

A copy of this Policy distributed to a student, parent, legal guardian, or employee, whether a physical or electronic copy, must be available in English and, upon request, in Spanish. The policy posted on the website must be in English and the School may also post the policy in Spanish.

## Records Retention

The School shall retain the records of a harassment or discrimination report for seven years. The record of a report includes any accommodations or supportive measures taken in response to a report or formal complaint of harassment or discrimination and documentation of the basis for the School's action and response.

## Confidentiality of Reports of Harassment

A report of harassment or discrimination received by the School is confidential and employees shall keep information learned during an investigation of harassment or discrimination confidential to the extent practicable. Nothing in this Policy prevents employees from reporting known or suspected child abuse or neglect as required pursuant to state mandatory reporting laws or reporting any other criminal activity to law enforcement. Nothing in this Policy prohibits the School or School employees from providing records to law enforcement, the department of human services, or a district attorney for the investigation or prosecution of any crime. A complaint that is unsubstantiated is confidential and not subject to disclosure pursuant to the “Colorado Open Records Act”, part 2 of article 72 of title 24,

## Required Training

Beginning no later than December 31, 2025, the School will provide training to all employees about harassment and discrimination. Each new employee of the School must

complete training upon hiring and at least every three years thereafter; except that an employee must complete training when transferring from a position working with elementary school-aged students to a position working with secondary school-aged students, or transferring from a position working with secondary school-aged students to a position working with elementary school-aged students. The training must be provided during the employee's normal working hours. Training provided on or after August 1, 2025 must be consistent with the best practices developed by CDE, or be the training developed by CDE, as required by state law.

The training must include, at a minimum, instruction on the following:

1. Recognizing harassment or discrimination, including indicators of grooming and child sexual abuse and distinguishing harassment and discrimination from bullying;
2. The appropriate immediate response when harassment or discrimination is reported to or witnessed by an employee;
3. Reporting harassment or discrimination to the School;  
and if the employee has direct supervision of students, the instruction must be specific based on whether the employee is supervising elementary school aged students or secondary school aged students and include the following:
4. The School's procedure for responding to allegations of harassment or discrimination, ;
5. The difference between the School's harassment or discrimination policy adopted pursuant to this section; obligations required by federal law in Title IX; section 504 of the federal "Rehabilitation Act of 1973", [29 U.S.C. sec. 701 et seq.](#); Title VI of the federal "Civil Rights Act of 1964", [42 U.S.C. sec. 2000d et seq.](#); and Title VII of the federal "Civil Rights Act of 1964", [42 U.S.C. sec. 2000e et seq.](#); and mandatory reporting requirements in state law;
6. Best practices for avoiding victim-blaming; the effect of trauma on victims of harassment or discrimination; communicating with victims sensitively, compassionately, and in a gender-inclusive and culturally responsive manner; and the impact of harassment or discrimination on students with disabilities; and
7. The types of supportive measures available to students and the provision of effective academic, mental health, and safety accommodations for students who report harassment or discrimination.

## Federal Laws

This Policy does not authorize the School or a School employee to violate any federal law, regulation, or guideline, including Title IX; section 504 of the federal "Rehabilitation Act of 1973", [29 U.S.C. sec. 701 et seq.](#); and Title VI of the federal "Civil Rights Act of 1964", [42 U.S.C. sec. 2000d et seq.](#), in carrying out the duties described in this section. If this section

conflicts with Title IX, section 504 of the federal “Rehabilitation Act of 1973”, or Title VI of the federal “Civil Rights Act of 1964”, the applicable federal law prevails.

If a person files a complaint alleging conduct or communication that is governed by federal law and this section, both the federal law and this section apply and the School shall concurrently evaluate the complaint pursuant to federal law and the procedures and policies required by this Policy.

## Legal Notifications

### Notice of Nondiscrimination/Equal Opportunity

Notice of Nondiscrimination/Equal Opportunity compliance with Titles VI & VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972; Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the Age Discrimination in Employment Act of 1967, the Americans with Disabilities Act, the Genetic Information Nondiscrimination Act of 2008, and Colorado law, Salida del Sol Academy, Greeley-Evans School District 6, Greeley, Colorado, does not unlawfully discriminate against otherwise qualified students, employees, applicants for employment, or members of the public on the basis of disability, race, creed, color, sex, sexual orientation, marital status, national origin, religion, ancestry, or need for special education services. Discrimination against employees and applicants for employment based on age, genetic information, and conditions related to pregnancy or childbirth is also prohibited in accordance with state and/or federal law.

Complaint procedures have been established for students, parents, employees, and members of the public. Any student or parent/guardian who believes they have been a victim of unlawful discrimination or harassment as defined in Board policy, or who has witnessed such unlawful discrimination or harassment, is encouraged to immediately report it to an administrator, counselor, teacher or the district Compliance Officer and/or file a complaint as set forth in D6 Board policies AC-E2 or AC-E3. No student or parent/guardian shall be subject to adverse treatment in retaliation for any good faith report of discrimination or harassment. The following person has been identified as the

#### **District 6 Compliance Officer and Title IX Coordinator:**

Jim Donahue, Director of Title IX & Compliance Officer  
1025 Ninth Avenue  
Greeley, CO 80631  
Phone: 970-348-6070  
Email: [jdonahue@greeleyschools.org](mailto:jdonahue@greeleyschools.org)

Outside Agencies:

Complaints regarding violations of Title VI (race, national origin), Title IX (sex/gender), Section 504/ADA (handicap or disability), may be filed directly with the Office for Civil Rights, U.S. Department of Education, 1244 North Speer Boulevard, Suite 310, Denver, Colorado, 80204. Complaints regarding violations of Title VII (employment) and the ADEA (prohibiting age discrimination in employment) may be filed directly with the Federal Office of Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, 303 E. 17th Avenue, Suite 510, Denver, Colorado, 80202, or the Colorado Civil Rights Commission, 1560 Broadway, Suite 1050, Denver, Colorado, 80202. For more information, please see D6 Board policies: AC-E1 Nondiscrimination/Equal Opportunity (Notice of Non-Discrimination), AC Nondiscrimination/Equal Opportunity, and JB Equal Educational Opportunity, or as described in the Complaint and Grievance process summarized below.

## Prohibition Against Sexual Harassment Under Title IX

The School does not discriminate on the basis of sex and prohibits sex discrimination in any education program or activity that it operates, as required by Title IX and its regulations, including in admission and employment. Inquiries about Title IX may be referred to the School's Title IX Coordinator, the U.S. Department of Education's Office for Civil Rights, or both.

### **District 6 Compliance Officer and Title IX Coordinator:**

Jim Donahue, Director of Title IX & Compliance Officer  
1025 Ninth Avenue  
Greeley, CO 80631  
Phone: 970-348-6070  
Email: [jdonahue@greeleyschools.org](mailto:jdonahue@greeleyschools.org)

The School's nondiscrimination policy and grievance procedures can be located at <https://www.greeleyschools.org/our-district/title-ix-rules-regulations>. To report information about conduct that may constitute sex discrimination or make a complaint of sex discrimination under Title IX, please refer to <https://www.greeleyschools.org/our-district/title-ix-rules-regulations>

## Homeless Students Notification

The McKinney-Vento Act was enacted to address the numerous barriers homeless children face in obtaining an education. The Act ensures educational rights and protections for children and youth experiencing homelessness. Students may qualify for certain rights and protections under the federal McKinney-Vento Act if they lack a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence, which include without limitation if a student lives in any of the following situations: In a shelter ; In a motel or campground due to the lack of an alternative adequate accommodation; In a car, park, abandoned building, or bus or train station; Doubled up with other people due to loss of housing or economic hardship.

Eligible students have certain rights, including without limitation, the ability to enroll in school immediately, even if lacking documents normally required for enrollment; the ability to attend classes while the school gathers needed documents; or continue attending their school of origin (the school they attended when permanently housed or the school in which they were last enrolled), if that is their preference and in their best interests, and receive transportation to and from the school of origin, if requested.

If you believe you may be eligible, contact <https://www.greeleyschools.org/families/family-center> to find out what services and supports may be available.

## Notification of Rights under the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) & Colorado Open Records Act (CORA)

The staff and administrators of Salida del Sol Academy and District 6 safeguard the educational records of students in accordance with the requirements of federal and state laws, and consistent with district policy. Disciplinary information about a student may be provided to another school where they move, transfer, or apply for transfer. Consent of the parent, guardian, or student to release the information is not required. A principal or designee may communicate disciplinary information about a student enrolled in the school to all teachers and/or counselors who have direct contact with the student. The teachers and counselors who receive disciplinary information must keep it confidential and do not have the authority to communicate the information to another person.

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (“FERPA”) and Colorado law afford parents/guardians (“parents”) and students over 18 years of age (“eligible students”) certain rights with respect to the student’s education records, as follows:

1. The right to inspect and review the student’s education records within a reasonable time after the request for access is made (not to exceed 45 days). See JRA/JRC-R.
2. The right to request the amendment of the student’s education records that the

parent or eligible student believe are inaccurate, misleading, or otherwise in violation of the student's privacy rights. See JRA/JRC-R.

3. The right to privacy of personally identifiable information in the student's education records, except to the extent that FERPA and state law authorize disclosure without consent. See JRA/JRC-R.
4. The right to file a complaint with the U.S. Department of Education concerning alleged failures by the district to comply with the requirements of FERPA. The name and address of the office that administers FERPA is Family Policy Compliance Office U.S. Department of Education 400 Maryland Avenue, SW Washington, DC 20202-8520.
5. The right to refuse to permit the designation of any or all the categories of directory information. See JRA/JRC-R.
6. The right to request that information not be provided to military recruiting officers.

For more information about students and parents rights and responsibilities under FERPA, please refer to Board policies JRA/JRC-R, JCA/JRC-E1, JRCB, and KBBA, or contact the Student Records and Transcripts Department for Greeley- Evans, Weld County School District 6. See website for more details at Records & Transcripts.

Also, the Colorado Open Records Act (CORA) requires education records to be available within 3 days of the day the school receives an access request. For more information about CORA, please refer to Board policies BEC, GBJ, and KDB.

## FERPA Notice for Directory Information

FERPA requires that the district, with certain exceptions, obtain your written consent prior to the disclosure of personally identifiable information from your child's education records. However, the District may disclose appropriately designated "directory information" without written consent, unless you have advised the district to the contrary in accordance with District procedures. The primary purpose of directory information is to allow the district to include this type of information from your child's education records in certain school publications.

"Directory information" means information contained in a student's education record that would not be considered harmful or an invasion of privacy if disclosed. Directory information which may be released includes but is not limited to: the student's name, e-mail address, photograph, date and place of birth, major field of study, participation in officially recognized activities and sports, weight and height of members of athletic teams, dates of attendance, grade level, enrollment status, degrees, honors and awards received, the most recent previous education agency or institution attended by the student, and other similar information. Directory information also includes a student identification number or other unique personal identifier displayed on a student ID badge or used by the student to access or communicate in electronic systems, but only if the identifier cannot be used to gain access to student education records except when used in conjunction with one or more

factors that authenticate the user's identity, such as a password known only by the authorized user. Student telephone numbers and addresses shall not be disclosed pursuant to this section.

In addition, two federal laws require local educational agencies (LEAs) receiving assistance under the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (ESEA) to provide military recruiters, upon request, with three directory information categories – names, addresses and telephone listings – unless parents have advised the LEA (local educational agencies) that they do not want their student's information disclosed without their prior written consent.

The parent or eligible student has the right to refuse to permit the designation of any or all of the categories of directory information if such refusal is received in writing in the office of the principal of the school where the student is in attendance no later than September 7 or the following Monday if September 7 is a Saturday or Sunday of the current school year.

SDSA has designated the following information as directory information:

- Student's name
- Photograph, video, or electronic images maintained by the School of students engaged in classroom and extracurricular programs, activities or school functions
- Students school issued e-mail address
- Date and place of birth
- Major field of study
- Dates of attendance
- Grade level
- Participation in officially recognized activities and sports
- Weight and height of members of athletic teams
- Degrees, honors, and awards received
- The most recent and previous school or institution attended
- Student ID number, user ID, or other unique personal identifier used to communicate in electronic systems, but only if the identifier cannot be used to gain access, by itself, to education records.
- A student ID number or other unique personal identifier that is displayed on a student ID badge, but only if the identifier cannot, by itself, be used to gain access to education records.

## Sharing of Student Records/Information between School District and State Agencies

It is the Board of Education's intention to utilize all avenues under state law to facilitate the sharing of relevant student records and information when necessary to protect the safety

and welfare of school district staff, visitors, students, and the public and to protect property.

Sharing of information by the school district:

Disciplinary and attendance information shall only be shared with a criminal justice agency investigating a criminal matter concerning a student enrolled or who will enroll in the school district when necessary to effectively serve the student prior to adjudication. Such information will not be disclosed to any other party, except as specifically authorized or required by law, without the prior written consent of the student's parent/guardian. School personnel who share disciplinary and attendance information concerning a student pursuant to this policy are immune from civil and criminal liability if they act in good faith compliance with the state law.

Nothing in this policy shall prevent administrators, teachers, or staff from disclosing information derived from personal knowledge or observation and not derived from student's education records.

Information obtained from state agencies:

Within the bounds of state law, school district personnel shall seek to obtain such information regarding students as is required to perform their legal duties and responsibilities, including protecting public safety and the safety of the student. Such information may be obtained from the judicial department or any state agency that performs duties and functions under the Colorado Children's Code.

If such information is shared with another school or school district to which the student may be transferring, it shall only be shared in compliance with the requirements of federal law, including the Family Education Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA).

When a petition is filed in juvenile court or district court that alleges a student between the ages of 12 to 18 years has committed an offense that would constitute unlawful sexual behavior or a crime of violence if committed by an adult, basic identification information, as defined in state law, along with the details of the alleged delinquent act or offense, is required by law to be provided immediately to the school district in which the juvenile is enrolled.

Please refer to District 6 Board Policy JRCA for more information.

## Sex Offenders

Colorado Revised Statute 22-1-124 instructs school districts to notify parents of their right to request information concerning registered sex offenders in the community. More information on accessing such information may be obtained online at either of the following: [http://dcj.state.co.us/odvsom/Sex\\_Offender/SO\\_Pdfs/schoolresourceguideregistration.pdf](http://dcj.state.co.us/odvsom/Sex_Offender/SO_Pdfs/schoolresourceguideregistration.pdf) OR [http://www.cde.state.co.us/cdeprevention/download/pdf/School\\_Sex\\_Offender\\_Guide.pdf](http://www.cde.state.co.us/cdeprevention/download/pdf/School_Sex_Offender_Guide.pdf) Furthermore, according to the Sex Offender Registration Act, C.R.S. 16-22-101, the Colorado Bureau of

Investigation has established a website listing certain high-risk registered sex offenders at [www.sor.state.co.us](http://www.sor.state.co.us). Board policies KI, GBEB-R2, and GCQF-R provide more information about this topic. For additional information parents may also contact the District's Director of Safety and Security at 970-347-7777 or visit the Safety and Security page listed on the district 6 website.

## Notification of Rights under the Protection of Pupil Rights Amendment (PPRA)

PPRA affords parents of elementary and secondary students certain rights regarding the conduct of surveys, collection and use of information for marketing purposes, and certain physical exams. These include, but are not limited to, the right to:

1. Consent before students are required to submit to a survey that concerns one or more of the following protected areas ("protected information survey") if the survey is funded in whole or in part by a program of the U.S. Department of Education (ED)–
  - Political affiliations or beliefs of the student or student's parent;
  - Mental or psychological problems of the student or student's family;
  - Sex behavior or attitudes;
  - Illegal, anti-social, self-incriminating, or demeaning behavior;
  - Critical appraisals of others with whom respondents have close family relationships;
  - Legally recognized privileged relationships, such as with lawyers, doctors, or ministers;
  - Religious practices, affiliations, or beliefs of the student or student's parent; or
  - Income, other than as required by law to determine program eligibility.
2. Receive notice and an opportunity to opt a student out of –
  - Any other protected information survey, regardless of funding;
  - Any non-emergency, invasive physical exam or screening required as a condition of attendance, administered by the school or its agent, and not necessary to protect the immediate health and safety of a student, except for hearing, vision, or scoliosis screenings, or any physical exam or screening permitted or required under State law; and
  - Activities involving collection, disclosure, or use of personal information collected from students for marketing or to sell or otherwise distribute the information to others. (This does not apply to the collection, disclosure, or use of personal information collected from students for the exclusive purpose of developing, evaluating, or providing educational products or services for, or to, students or educational institutions.)

3. Inspect, upon request and before administration or use –

- Protected information surveys of students and surveys created by a third party;
- Instruments used to collect personal information from students for any of the above marketing, sales, or other distribution purposes; and
- Instructional material used as part of the educational curriculum.

These rights transfer from the parents to a student who is 18 years old or an emancipated minor under State law.

The School develops and adopts policies, in consultation with parents, regarding these rights, as well as arrangements to protect student privacy in the administration of protected information surveys and the collection, disclosure, or use of personal information for marketing, sales, or other distribution purposes. The School will directly notify parents of these policies at least annually at the start of each school year and after any substantive changes. The School will also directly notify, such as through U.S. Mail or email, parents of students who are scheduled to participate in the specific activities or surveys noted below and will provide an opportunity for the parent to opt his or her child out of participation of the specific activity or survey. The School will make this notification to parents at the beginning of the school year if the School has identified the specific or approximate dates of the activities or surveys at that time. For surveys and activities scheduled after the school year starts, parents will be provided reasonable notification of the planned activities and surveys listed below and be provided an opportunity to opt their child out of such activities and surveys. Parents will also be provided an opportunity to review any pertinent surveys. Following is a list of the specific activities and surveys covered under this direct notification requirement:

Collection, disclosure, or use of personal information collected from students for marketing, sales, or other distribution.

Administration of any protected information survey not funded in whole or in part by ED.

Any non-emergency, invasive physical examination or screening as described above.

Parents who believe their rights have been violated may file a complaint with:

Student Privacy Policy Office

U.S. Department of Education

400 Maryland Avenue, SW

Washington, D.C. 20202

## Prohibition of Alcohol, Drugs, Tobacco, and Weapons

The unlawful or unauthorized use of drugs and other controlled or illegal substances (including marijuana), alcohol, tobacco products, or weapons on School grounds is

detrimental to the health, welfare and safety of all students and staff. It is a violation of the School's policies to possess, use, distribute, gift, purchase, exchange, sell, or be under the influence of drugs or other controlled or illegal substances (including marijuana), alcohol, tobacco, or weapons without authorization or unlawfully on school property, in school vehicles, or at a school sponsored activity.

Tobacco products include any product that contains nicotine or tobacco or is derived from tobacco and is intended to be ingested, inhaled, or applied to the skin of an individual including but not limited to cigarettes, cigars, vaping, pipe tobacco, snuff, chewing tobacco, or liquid nicotine/e-liquids.

Weapons include a firearm; any pellet, BB gun, or other device, whether operational or not, designed to propel projectiles by spring action or compressed air; fixed blade knife with a blade that exceeds three inches in length; a spring-loaded knife or a pocket knife with a blade exceeding three and one-half inches in length; or any object, device, instrument, material, or substance, whether animate or inanimate, that is used or intended to be used to inflict death or serious bodily injury but not limited to, a slingshot, bludgeon, nun chucks, brass knuckles or artificial knuckles of any kind.

A violation of this policy will subject a student to appropriate disciplinary action, up to and including expulsion. Situations in which a student seeks counseling, provides information for the purpose of overcoming substance abuse, or otherwise discloses substance use for purposes of seeking help will be handled on an individual basis depending upon the nature and particulars of the case.

## Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act (AHERA)

### Annual Legal Notification

The Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act (AHERA) and its regulations require public school districts and non-profit schools including charter schools and schools affiliated with religious institutions to:

- Inspect their schools for asbestos-containing building material
- Prepare management plans and to take action to prevent or reduce asbestos hazards

The district has Asbestos Management Plans available for review at each school and at the Facilities Office.