



# **DESERT HILLS HIGH SCHOOL**

Student Handbook

20 24-25

Be Unstoppable

[www.dhthunder.org](http://www.dhthunder.org)

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# DESERT HILLSHIGH SCHOOL



### **Mission Statement**

*“Our Thunder Family is committed to student learning and ensuring that every student knows they belong”*

**Respect, Responsibility, Integrity**

## **School History**

Desert Hills High School opened in the 2008-09 school year as home of the black and gold Desert Hills Thunder. Construction on the school began in 2006 in response to growth in the Bloomington Hills and Little Valley communities.

In the beginning, Desert Hills High School opened with students being brought together from different schools with the challenge of creating their own unique traditions and culture. DHHS students responded to the challenge and have successfully evolved into a school where traditions are created and sustained by our students, faculty, community and entire Thunder family loyal to Thunder values. The students at Desert Hills High continue to set a high standard of excellence in academics, arts, and athletics.

Following community input Desert Hills High School adopted the name Thunder along with Thor, god of Thunder, as the school mascot. DHHS has embraced Thor's hammer and helmet as important school symbols.

- **Thor:** The school mascot Thor, god of Thunder, is the mightiest of the Norse gods. Thor was foremost of the Norse gods and most revered for his strength in battle and his ability to conquer his enemies with his mighty hammer. Thor's legacy even lives on as part of our weekly calendar, Thursday (Thor's Day) was derived from this mighty god.
- **Thor's hammer:** Thor's hammer, named "Mjöllnir", is a powerful weapon which commands respect. Mjöllnir is so powerful it emits ferocious lightning bolts when used in battle and never misses its mark. When thrown, Mjöllnir always finds its way back into Thor's hands. Thor's hammer is our symbol of strength and represents our work ethic and dedication to improving student achievement.
- **Thor's helmet:** Thor's protective helmet was invaluable in battle and likewise, symbolizes our knowledge and commitment to academics through lifelong learning. These important symbols are at the heart of Thunder pride and excellence.

Our faculty is dedicated to maintaining a culture of learning and carrying out our mission statement. *"Desert Hills High School is a community of lifelong learners held to high standards of academic scholarship, integrity, self-discipline, and citizenship."*



## **Faculty, Staff, and Assignments**

### **Administration**

#### **Justin Keate, Principal**

Mark Christensen, Assistant Principal/Student Services  
Dustin Drake, Assistant Principal/Athletic Director  
Officer Steve Linton, School Resource Officer

### **Counseling**

**Hall, Warren** (Names: A-C)  
Stratton, Carly (Names: D-K)  
Pugmire, Esther (Names: L-R)  
Sanders, Trevor (Names: S-Z )  
Waller, Julia - College Access Advisor

### **Secretaries**

Bangerter, Cari – Office Manager  
Brinkerhoff, Amy – Attendance  
Riggins, Dawn – Athletics  
Graf, Donna – Finance  
Peisley, Nikola – District Finance  
Whitehead, Lori – Registrar

### **Language Arts**

**Lowe, Ryan**  
Camargo, Angela  
Clayton, Cody  
Ford, Allyson  
Ketchum, Alissa  
Milne, Rylee  
Stewart, Jennifer

### **Mathematics**

**Nelson, Teena**  
Allred, Chris  
Allred, Craig  
Bingham, Matthew  
Mendenhall, Sara  
Zierse, Emily

### **World Language**

**Wallace, Diane**  
Mildenhall, Rich

### **Social Science**

**Dixon, Robyn**  
Brosier, Brielle  
Cave, Kevin  
Fielding, Logan  
Pugmire, Jared  
Skelton, Bryce

### **Science**

**Hadley-Hulet, Aria**  
Bringhurst, Jared  
Quilter, Ron  
Robinson, Taylor  
Watts, Kamryn

### **Phys. Ed./Health**

**Balderree, Tanner**  
Christensen, Marcee  
Christensen, Emily  
Denos, Ron  
Humphries, Ashlee (Trainer)  
Turley, Wade

### **Fine Arts**

**Myrick, Kyle**  
Candland, Kirsten  
Carr-Merrill, Ridge  
Pearce, Courtney  
Pollard, Michael  
Shakespeare, Jerilyn  
Woolf, Joe

### **Special Education**

**Black, Fran**  
Gardner, Tim  
Park, Beatriz  
West, Telia

### **Career &Tech. Ed.**

**Langston, Janelle – Business**  
Blake, Maryann – Ag. Science  
Busselberg, John – Automotive  
Crandall, Lou – Graphic Arts, Photography  
Jacobs, Ryan – Computer Technology  
Jones, Tanner – Welding  
McPherson (Davis), Tierra – FACS  
Mendenhall, Shelly – FACS  
Stevens, Sam – Woodworking

**Media – Moffett, Meridee**

**Tech. Support – Roberts, Clay**

**Learning Coach – Dixon, Robyn**

**Data Coach – Brosier, Brielle**

**Wellness - Christensen, Kim**

### **Custodians**

**Tuckness, Trace – Head Custodian**

Campbell, Wayne

Darling, Kelly

Eduok, Ekufre

Giffin, Matt

Gomez, Kelly

Hurtado, Artemis

Roberts, Jeffrey

Vaca-Paz, Irene

## Activity Coaches/Advisors

Baseball	Kevin Cave	Lacrosse (girls)	Emily Lunt
Basketball (boys)	Chris Allred	Soccer (boys)	Benji Nelson
Basketball (girls)	Ron Denos	Soccer (girls)	Benji Nelson
Cheer	Bree Hoyt	Swim	Tammy Reavis
Cross Country	Logan Fielding	Tennis (boys)	Christian Thurgood
Drill Team	Marcee Christensen	Tennis (girls)	Emily Christensen
Dance Co.	Courtney Pearce	Track (boys)	Logan Fielding
Debate	Cody Clayton	Track (girls)	Emily George
Drama	Kyle Myrick	Softball	Heidi Taylor
Football	Solomona Tapasa	Volleyball (girls)	Craig Allred
Golf (boys)	Ron Denos	Volleyball (boys)	Josh James
Golf (girls)	Marco Leoni	Wrestling (boys)	Brian Pace
Lacrosse (boys)	Zach Olsen	Wrestling (girls)	Jalen Weaver

## Executive/Class Council Organizational Chart 2024-2025

Principal - Mr. Keate [justin.keate@washk12.org](mailto:justin.keate@washk12.org)

Assistant Principal - Mr. Christensen [mark.christensen@washk12.org](mailto:mark.christensen@washk12.org)

Assistant Principal/Athletic Director - Mr. Drake [dustin.drake@washk12.org](mailto:dustin.drake@washk12.org)

Adviser - Mrs. Dixon [robyn.dixon@washk12.org](mailto:robyn.dixon@washk12.org)

President - Tucker Larsen

Senior Class President - David Ford

Secretary - Lillie Hardy

VP Assemblies - Zander Christensen

VP Student Activities - Roz Wooley

VP Publicity and Media (Social Media) - Camden Buchanan

VP Publicity and Media (Posters) - Leiden Seethaler

VP Thunder Family Sports - Jack Wells

VP Thunder Family Fine Arts - Samatha Decker

Appointed Positions:

VP Technical Operations - Cali Bliss

VP Video Production - Lexie Pederson

Yearbook Rep - Brinlee Bingham

Cheer Rep - Lauren Stewart

Drill Rep - Brooke Guerisoli

Adviser - Mrs. Brosier [brielle.brosier@washk12.org](mailto:brielle.brosier@washk12.org)

Junior Class President - Kyler Hardman

VP Activities - Matthew Bleak

VP Media/Publicity - John Cottam

VP Media/Posters - Halle Burrows

VP Thunder Family - Conner Reese

VP Assemblies - Eliza Bateman

VP Thunder Family Fine Arts - Will Bangerter

Hype Squad Advisor - Cody Clayton [cody.clayton@washk12.org](mailto:cody.clayton@washk12.org)

Hype Squad Vice President: Lily Gardine

Hype Squad Vice President: Gabe Keate

Elections and Eligibility- Cody Clayton [cody.clayton@washk12.org](mailto:cody.clayton@washk12.org)

E&E Senior Chair - Ashley Mizukawa

E&E Junior Chair - Ryliegh Coates

Sophomore Representatives:

- Ira Larsen
- Eliza Fullmer
- Rylan Pettingill
- Daisy Larsen
- Shaylee Garr

## SECTION 1 – General Information

### **THUNDER CODE OF CONDUCT**

Desert Hills Thunder students are expected to abide by our behavior mission statement of Respect, Responsibility, Integrity. Students at DHHS will show Respect, Responsibility and Integrity in all areas of academics as well as athletic and school activities.

### **RESTRICTED ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATION DEVICES (ECDs)**

Desert Hills High School recognizes that technology is essential in today's world. Technological advancements have ushered in a constant stream of new electronic devices. Such devices would include, but are not limited to cell phones, laptops or any electronic communication device (ECDs) that allow live or online chatting, text messaging, sending, downloading, and emailing messages and photographs.

Photographic capabilities create additional problems. Their use in certain school situations can be very disruptive and could pose a threat to freedoms of privacy; examples include testing periods, locker rooms, or rest rooms, etc. In these settings, they are strictly prohibited. Consequently, DHHS prohibits the use of cell phones (or ECDs) on campus during scheduled class time, or misuse of ECD's anytime on campus or during the school day. Proper cell phone etiquette is expected at lunchtime and between classes. Students are personally and solely responsible for the security of ECDs. DHHS shall not be responsible for the loss, theft, or damage to ECDs.

The following are DHHS policies regarding cell phones and ECDs:

1. Students are expected to show Respect, Responsibility, and Integrity in regard to use of cell phones or other ECD's.
2. During class period, they must be turned **OFF** and stowed **out of sight**. If confiscated, a designated administrator has authority to review files.
3. Teachers, administration, bus drivers, and any school officials may confiscate ECDs (including the power source) that are **ON** or used during class time. The owner will be identified, the device labeled and then given to office staff for safe keeping.
4. It is insubordination for a student to refuse to give up an ECD and components and the student may be suspended. Parents will be contacted to meet with the administration.
5. 1<sup>st</sup> offense the device may be returned to the student at the end of the school day. The 2<sup>nd</sup> offense will be returned to the parent or guardian only. 3<sup>rd</sup> offense will be considered insubordination and disciplinary action will be taken by school administration.
6. All files on the device, including photos and videos, are subject to search by school administration. If files are found to be indecent or pornographic (as defined in the Utah Code), or compromise test or classroom data, or otherwise conflicts with school or district policy, the owner of the device will be disciplined by the school and held legally responsible for material found in the files.
7. Students may use ECDs at lunch and before and after school on campus.
8. Teachers may direct students to use ECDs for educational purposes when under their supervision.

### **STUDENT DRIVING and PARKING**

1. **Remember, you must be a licensed driver to operate a vehicle on campus.**
2. Maximum speed limit on campus is **10 mph**.
3. Students may only park in student parking spaces (painted with a gold background and black writing- parking in any spaces painted with a black background and gold writing as well as parking spaces labeled with a name is prohibited and can lead to a fine) during school hours 7:45 AM to 3:00 PM. **Students may NOT park in**



**faculty or VISITOR designated spots during school and may be subject to fines if they park in these designated spots.**

4. Students who park in handicap, or non-parking areas may be ticketed by law enforcement.
5. Desert Hills High School is not responsible for loss of or damage to vehicles.

### **18 YEAR-OLD STUDENTS**

DHHS requires that 18 year-old students have the same parental permission required of a 17 year-old. Eighteen-year-old students not willing to comply with this rule are encouraged to enroll at Southwest Adult High School.

### **VISITORS**

1. All visitors are to report to the main office.
2. **Students may not bring friends or relatives to attend school with them.**
3. Parents are welcome and encouraged to attend classes with their student anytime, however, we request that visiting parents schedule with the school officials and teachers.
4. Persons on campus without permission may be cited for trespassing.

### **SEARCH AND SEIZURE**

The following items are subject to search and seizure on campus:

1. **Students.** All students are subject to search if reasonable suspicion exists to suspect a violation of any school or district policy has occurred.
2. **Visitors and non-school persons.**  
Per **WCSD Policy 5220**, any person **and their vehicle** on any school campus are subject to search at any time.
3. **Lockers.** Students are not required to have a locker; however,
  - Students who are issued lockers are responsible for cleanliness and any damage to the locker.
  - Students who damage locks or lockers are subject to a fine.
  - Student lockers are school property and as such are subject to search at any time.
  - The school is not responsible for lost or stolen items.
  - PE and vocational teachers will issue locks and lockers as required. School lockers are **NOT** secure against loss of valuables. We recommend that valuables not be brought to school.

### **SKATEBOARDS, ROLLERBLADES, ETC.**

For liability reasons due to potential injuries, skateboards, rollerblades, bikes, hee-ies, etc., may not be ridden on campus. The campus includes hallways, classrooms, walkways, parking lots, and attached features – handrails, walls, etc. Students who bring skateboards to school must store them in their locker or the front office, they are not to be brought to the classroom.

### **PUBLIC DISPLAY OF AFFECTION (PDA)**

A public display of affection beyond handholding is prohibited. This includes kissing, necking, petting, full-body hugging. Students who persist in PDA will be warned, parents contacted, and ultimately suspensions could be imposed.

### **ASSEMBLIES**

The purpose of assemblies is to provide wholesome, positive, and uplifting entertainment for all students. Assemblies will be occasionally presented to the student body and all students are expected to attend. **Thunder Code of Conduct** requires that students exhibit respectful behavior during presentations. Classroom rules for ECD's are expected in all assemblies.

Disruptive students may be required to leave the assembly and report to the office for disciplinary action.

**DANCES AND DANCE DECORUM**

DHHS is **not** required to provide school dances; however, throughout the school year, there may be school sponsored dances. DHHS students will be expected to conduct themselves appropriately at school dances.

1. Inappropriate or outlandish dressing will not be allowed, and violators will be required to leave the dance.
2. A formal dance suggests appropriate formal dress.
3. Students who leave the dance area may not be allowed to reenter.
4. Vulgar, obscene or otherwise inappropriate actions may be cause for removal from the dance.
5. Dances are for DHHS students only. (Visitors must have a dance guest passed filled out 1 week prior to the dance)
6. Students who do not present their DHHS Student ID card will not be allowed in the dance.

A complete list of dance rules is provided in the faculty handbook and chaperones are to enforce the rules.

**FOOD, CANDY, DRINKS**

The lunch area, student commons, and outdoor quad are designated eating areas. Food, drinks, candy, etc., must not be consumed in any other building. Please put all trash in appropriate receptacles.

**SECTION 2 – Academics and Student Services**

**MISSION STATEMENT**

*“Desert Hills High School is a community of lifelong learners held to high standards of academic scholarship, integrity, self-discipline, and citizenship.”*

**A SUMMARY OF GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS**

<b>Subject</b>	<b>Credits</b>
Language Arts .....	4.0
Mathematics .....	3.0
Science .....	3.0
Social Science .....	3.0
Fine Arts .....	1.5
Healthy Lifestyles and Fitness .....	2.0
Applied Technology Ed. ....	1.0
Financial Literacy .....	0.5
Digital Literacy .....	0.5
Electives .....	<u>9.0</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b>27.0</b>

**Note:**

- All 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> grade students must have a “full” schedule unless otherwise approved by administration.
- Students may NOT drop a class to avoid failing (see Class Change Procedures below).

**CREDIT FROM ALTERNATIVE SOURCES**

- The courses must be completed prior to established graduation deadlines.
- All courses must be from an accredited institution.

- Courses taken at any other WCSD high school must be pre approved and NOT offered at DHHS.

### **GRADUATING SENIORS**

**To receive a DHHS diploma, students must be enrolled for a minimum of one academic quarter immediately prior to graduation.**

To participate in DHHS commencement exercises, students must complete all requirements and be approved by their counselor. Approval includes fulfillment of all graduation requirements (including credit from outside sources) and outstanding fees. The graduating senior will be counseled regarding his or her progress toward graduation; however, the responsibility for registration in required classes and the completion of those classes together with the completion and submission of all other required paperwork is that of the individual senior.

### **TOP HONOR STUDENTS**

Graduating seniors with a cumulative 4.0 GPA will be recognized at graduation. DHHS will not recognize an individual Valedictorian or Salutatorian. A class ranking of "1" will be included on student transcripts with a cumulative 4.0 GPA.

### **CLASS CHANGE PROCEDURES**

Students interested in a class change must contact their counselor at the designated times for class changes to occur. District mandated fees may apply to class changes. Class changes will not be considered after the deadline for each quarter. No student may drop a class to avoid an unsatisfactory grade.

### **GRADE REPORTING**

Power School is readily accessible for parents to keep track of their students' academic progress. We expect students and parents to regularly check Power School. Grades are reported on a quarterly basis for semester as well as full year classes.

## **SECTION 3 – Media (Library)**

### **MISSION STATEMENT**

The Library exists to foster pursuit of knowledge, excellence in learning and teaching and for intellectual interaction, collaboration, study and reflection. The staff is committed to serving the needs of students, faculty and staff.

### **HOURS OF OPERATION**

The media center is available for student use at 7:45 AM to 3:20 PM each school day.

### **CHECK OUT POLICY**

1. General Collection materials may be checked out for 10 school days.
2. English novels may be checked out for 30 school days.
3. Reserved, reference, and periodicals can be checked out for one day only.
4. Media materials checked out may be renewed but must be physically brought in for renewal.

### **GENERAL MEDIA INFORMATION**

1. Books will not be checked out to students who have overdue books.
2. The fee for losing a book is the cost to replace the book.
3. For damaged books, a fine may be assessed based on the degree of damage against the cost of the book.

4. The media may charge fees for copies, document binding, lamination, transparencies, and other services requiring special equipment.
5. Certain school supplies may be available for purchase from the Media Center.

### **INTERNET REGULATIONS**

Internet use is a privilege, not a right. School computers and online computer services are intended for educational use only. The Washington County School District has a Technology Acceptable Use Policy which states that students who violate the terms of the policy will immediately lose access and may be further restricted from using the internet. DHHS students are expected to practice Respect, Responsibility, Integrity with regards to internet use.

## **SECTION 4 – Clubs and Organizations**

### **ELIGIBILITY**

Students who participate in interscholastic activities must be eligible according to the Utah High School Activities Association (UHSSA) guidelines. In brief, academic eligibility requires participating students to show proof that they have a 2.0 grade point average and no more than one failing grade in the previous grading term. A **No Grade (NG)** or **No Credit (NC)** is considered an **“F”** until the actual grade has been awarded. Certain activities may set a more restrictive academic eligibility as determined by the coach or adviser. Parents and students in these activities will be notified prior to the beginning of the respective activity season. Participation in an extracurricular activity is a privilege offered to students who perform academically.

1. **Good attendance is paramount, thus a Truancy (or Sluff) renders a student ineligible for participation in the succeeding school sponsored activity.**
2. **Game day attendance is mandatory.**
3. **Students who miss class without prior administrative approval will be ineligible to play that day.**

### **PAY TO PLAY FEE**

Students participating in the following extracurricular activities are required to pay a pay-to-play fee: Wrestling, Football, Basketball, Softball, Baseball, Track, Volleyball, Soccer, Tennis, Golf, Swimming, Lacrosse, Debate (Forensics).

Note: (1) Students must pay for their own meal costs when they are scheduled to participate in away activities.

Note: (2) When a participation fee has been paid and lodging costs are incurred for “away” activities, the lodging cost will be provided by the school.

**Travel costs are to be collected at the time of the event** for the following:

Cheerleading, Secondary Field Trips, Music (Strings/Choir/band), Drill Team, Drama.

### **CLUBS AT DESERT HILLS HIGH SCHOOL**

Desert Hills High School supports clubs as opportunities for leadership and the building of student/teacher camaraderie. Involvement in clubs also enhances scholarship prospects. Students are encouraged to participate in one or more of the many existing clubs and activities sponsored by the school.

### **CHARTERING NEW CLUBS AT DHHS**

Desert Hills High School (DHHS) adheres to the Washington County School District policy 3640. DHHS allows chartering new clubs where interested DHHS students and sponsors of the club show support and has completed the process as outlined in WCSD Policy 3640.

### **Deadlines for Initiating New Clubs**

Application materials must be submitted by **September 15**, for the charter to be considered for the second semester of the current year, or by **January 15**, for the charter to be considered for the first semester of the following year. All non-curricular clubs must renew their applications annually.

#### **DHHS Clubs 24-25**

**(Will be updated by 8/31 for the 24-25 school year)**

<b>Astronomy Club</b>	Jared Bringhurst
<b>Book Club</b>	Meridee Moffett
<b>Breakfast Club</b>	Shelley Mendenhall
<b>DECA</b>	Janelle Langston
<b>Drama Club</b>	Kyle Myrick
<b>ESports</b>	Ryan Jacobs
<b>FCCLA</b>	Tierra Davis
<b>FFA</b>	Maryann Blake
<b>Misc. Games Club</b>	Bryce Skelton
<b>Diversity and Equality Club</b>	
<b>Get Outside Club</b>	Kamryn Watts
<b>Glamour Gals</b>	Logan Fielding
<b>Hope Squad</b>	
<b>HOSA</b>	Ron Quilter
<b>Hype Squad</b>	Cody Clayton
<b>Improv Club</b>	Cari Bangerter
<b>Japanese Club</b>	Rich Mildenhall
<b>Maelstrom</b>	Ryan Lowe
<b>Multicultural Club</b>	Jared Bringhurst
<b>National Honor Society (NHS)</b>	Teena Nelson
<b>NHSDA</b>	Courtney Pearce
<b>Orchestra Club</b>	Kirsten Candland
<b>Science Olympiad</b>	Taylor Robinson
<b>Service Club</b>	Jared Bringhurst
<b>Skills USA</b>	Tanner Jones
<b>Speech &amp; Debate Club</b>	Cody Clayton
<b>Student Government</b>	Robyn Dixon

Technical Theater Club	Kyle Myrick
The Art	Jerilynn Shakespeare
Thunder Buds	Beatriz Park
Tri M Music Honor Society	Kirsten Candland
UNICEF Club	Robyn Dixon
Unified Studies Club	Ron Quilter, Taylor Robinson, and Kamryn Watts
Washington County Youth Coalition	Pamela Holiday

## SECTION 5 – WCSD Policies

### ATTENDANCE POLICY (Link: [2900](#))

#### PHILOSOPHY

Inasmuch as it is our purpose and mission to “foster educational excellence where students acquire the skills, knowledge, and character necessary for success...” these procedures are established for structure and to support local and state school attendance policies. The intent is to help our students develop sound attendance practices and prepare them to be employable and responsible citizens.

**Good attendance is VERY important. YOU** are responsible for your attendance per District policy.

1. DHHS will focus on positive interventions for students having issues with excessive absences and/or tardies. Students who are marked truant from class will be required to attend lunch detentions to clear the truant marks.
2. Don't jeopardize your **eligibility** for activities. If you are truant, you will not participate in the next school activity.
3. Per WCSD Policy 2900, parents may excuse absences no more than one week after the absence.

#### COMPULSORY ATTENDANCE

Utah Code, Section 53A-11-101 is specific in placing the responsibility of regular daily attendance on parents. As a school, however, we support a philosophy to cooperatively assist parents in helping their child develop sound attendance practices. The procedures herein provide a means where all parties can work together for the educational benefit of students. Our goal is to involve parents and school staff in resolving attendance problems before resorting to and involving juvenile court. A checklist is maintained for each student who has attendance problems to document earnest and persistent efforts by the school.

#### SCHOOL ATTENDANCE COMMITTEE

The *School Attendance Committee* consists of an administrator, counselor, School Resource Officer and attendance secretary. The committee will meet as needed (based on the recorded *habitual truancies or excessive unexcused absences*), to consider steps to correct attendance problems for individual students. Committee members will also serve as part of the mediation process as agreed upon by parents.

### DHHS ATTENDANCE POLICY

**Absences:** All absences are per class not total absences and all absences are considered in the total, excused and unexcused. Total absences, per class, will result in the following:

- At 5 absences with a failing grade, a first email sent to parents. The teacher contacts parents about the concern.
- At 7 absences with a failing grade, a second email sent to parents. An administrator or counselor will contact parents and discuss the concern and possible solutions.
- At 9 absences with a failing grade, parents and the student are required to meet with administration to discuss solutions/alternative placements.
- At 11+ absences and with a failing grade, students will fail the class and be transferred to an online version of that class immediately to recover the credit, students will have to pay the \$50 fee for credit recovery.
  - If the student recovers the credit before the first day of the next quarter, they may be reimbursed the \$50 fee as an incentive to quickly recover the credit. This will replace the credit for graduation, not the F on the transcript.
  - If the student does not recover the credit by the first day of the next quarter, they will be enrolled in a Basic Academic Skills class in place of an elective until they recover the credit for classes required for graduation.

**Skipping class:** Each time a student skips a class it will result in a consequence. First offense will result in two days of lunch detention and subsequent offenses will result in additional consequences including possible suspension or alternative placement. Truancy is defined as missing at least half of a school day without a valid reason. The consequences for habitual truancy are to refer the student and parents to juvenile court.

**Tardies:** A student is considered tardy if he/she is not in the classroom when the tardy bell rings.

It is the responsibility of the student and/or parent(s) to monitor tardies on PowerSchool, through progress reports, and by communication with the teacher. A tardy may be excused by a parent when an emergency situation results in a student arriving at school late. The student must check in the front office to be excused. For secondary students, a student may not be excused for tardiness between classes or after lunch.

It is the teacher's responsibility to communicate the expectation to students to be on time to class and plan meaningful and engaging lessons/activities that reflect that expectation. Teachers are expected to keep accurate attendance records including tardies. Total tardies, per class, will result in the following:

- At 2-3 tardies, the teacher will speak with the student in person and also email home to ensure parents are aware of the situation.
- At 4 tardies, the school will email/call home to discuss tardy issue (warn of consequences).
- At 6 tardies, there will be a meeting with parents, the student, and administration to discuss further consequences. Lunch detention assigned for every tardy from 7 tardies on.
- At 8 tardies, in-school suspension, or other interventions, as per administration will be imposed on the student including inability to participate in extracurricular activities.

There will also be consequences for total number of tardies in all classes. They are as follows:

- At 10 total tardies in all classes, parents will be notified and warnings of consequences will be issued
- At 12 total tardies, a meeting will be held with parents, the student and administration to discuss further consequences. Lunch detention will be assigned every tardy from 14 on.
- At 15 total tardies, in-school suspension, or other interventions, as per administration will be imposed on the student including inability to participate in extracurricular activities.

Students that refuse to make up their attendance by attending lunch detention or make other arrangements with administration are considered to be insubordinate. Consequences for insubordination include: in-school suspension, out of school suspension, and may NOT be eligible for graduation ceremonies or other extra curricular activities.

#### LEAVING SCHOOL DURING THE SCHOOL DAY

1. **Students must sign out at the attendance office before leaving campus *for any reason* (except lunch).**
2. Phone calls from parents are acceptable for check out.
3. Should a student miss school the day of an activity for **illness**, he or she may not participate in that evening's activities – including games and fine arts performances. **Don't jeopardize eligibility for activities.**
4. A truancy will render you ineligible for the subsequent event.

#### **BULLYING AND HAZING" SUMMARY OF POLICY (Link: [3510](#))**

The Washington County School Board is committed to protecting its students, employees and school guests from bullying or harassment of any type, for any reason. The School Board believes that all students, employees or guests are entitled to a safe, equitable and harassment-free school experience. Bullying or harassment in any form will not be tolerated and shall be just cause for disciplinary action. Conduct that constitutes bullying or harassment will be dealt with immediately and consistently.

**"Bullying"** is aggressive behavior that is intentional and involves an imbalance of power or strength. A person is bullied or victimized when he/she is exposed repeatedly and over time to negative actions on the part of one or more persons. Therefore "Bullying" means intentionally or knowingly committing an act that endangers the physical, and/or emotional health or safety of a student, a school employee, or a school guest. Any act involving any of the following elements will be considered bullying: (1) physical brutality, (2) forced or involuntary consumption of any food, liquor, drug, or other substance, (3) coerced actions or activities of a sexual nature or with sexual connotations, (4) physically obstructing freedom of movement, (6) verbal intimidation, such as teasing and name calling, (7) non-verbal and emotional intimidation through gestures, social exclusion. The conduct described above constitutes bullying, regardless of whether the person against whom the conduct is committed directed, consented to, or acquiesced in, the conduct.

**"Cyber-bullying"** is a form of bullying involving the use of email, instant messaging, chat rooms, cell phones, or other forms of information technology.

**"Hazing"** is a form of bullying done for the purpose of initiation or admission into, affiliation with, holding office in, or as a condition for, membership or acceptance, or continued membership or acceptance, in any school or school sponsored team, organization, program, or event.

**No school employee, student, or guest, may engage in bullying, Hazing or cyber-bullying anyone else:** (1) on school property, (2) at a school related or sponsored event, (3) on a school bus, (4) at a school bus stop; or (5) while the school district employee or student is traveling to or from a location or event described above.

**To report violations anonymously:**



Click on the "Report Bullying" button on our website: [www.dhthunder.org](http://www.dhthunder.org) or call 674-0885 Ext. 4396

Each reported complaint shall include: (1) name of complaining party; (2) name of offender (if known); (3) date and location of incident(s); (4) a statement describing the incident(s), including names of witnesses.

Each reported violation of the prohibitions noted previously shall be promptly investigated by a school administrator or an individual designated by a school administrator. Formal disciplinary action is prohibited based solely on an anonymous report of bullying, hazing, or retaliation.

**Consequences or penalties may include but are not limited to:**

1. Student suspension or removal from a school-sponsored team or activity including school sponsored transportation.
2. Student suspension or expulsion from school or lesser disciplinary action, mandatory completion of the School of Life course at DHHS.
3. Employee suspension or termination for cause or lesser disciplinary action.
4. Employee reassignment.

**Discipline actions must also include, as appropriate:**

1. Procedures for protecting the victim and other involved individual from being subjected to further bullying or retaliation for reporting the bullying or hazing.
2. Prompt reporting to law enforcement of all acts that constitute suspected criminal activity.
3. Prompt reporting to the Office of Civil Rights (OCR) of all acts that may be violations of civil rights.
4. Procedures for providing due process rights under Section 53A-8-102

**DRESS CODE POLICY (2200)**

Students who attend the schools of Washington County School District are expected to come to school dressed and groomed appropriately for a learning environment and show respect for others by supporting the following dress and grooming standards. These standards are intended to ensure that every school in the Washington County School District will be a safe place for each student to learn, free from physical or moral threats and free from intimidation by others, to include gangs and gang appearance.

**Dress and Grooming standards:**

1. The attire (apparel) and grooming of all students should be neat, clean and safe.
2. Students have the responsibility to avoid apparel that causes a distraction or disruption, interrupting school decorum and adversely affecting the educational process. Students must also avoid apparel that is offensive, represents a risk, or threatens student safety.
3. Printed apparel is acceptable only if it is in good taste. Any apparel displaying profanity, suggestive slogans, pictures or graphics, or promoting substances illegal for consumption by a minor, will not be allowed.
4. Clothes that are mutilated or immodest are not appropriate school wear. Dresses, shorts, skirts, shirts, and blouses should be modest in length and not revealing. (Tank tops, tube tops and garments that reveal undergarments may be considered revealing).
5. Hats are not to be worn in school buildings during regular school hours.
6. Any apparel approved for school wear should be worn in accompaniment with appropriate undergarments.
7. Footwear must be worn and should be safe and hygienic. Shoes, boots and sandals are considered suitable footwear.
8. Clothing attachments or accessories which could be considered weapons are not allowed.

9. Students have a responsibility to cooperate fully with clothing standards required for special classes (such as, shop, home economics, laboratories, physical education) and special school activities.
10. Students have the responsibility to avoid grooming that causes a distraction or disruption, interrupting school decorum and adversely affecting the educational process. Students must also avoid grooming that is offensive, represents a risk, or threatens student safety. (Extremes in body piercings, hair styles and hair colors may be considered a distraction or disruption).
11. 3.1.4. Gang behavior, apparel or grooming is not appropriate at school. (Reference Safe Schools Policy 2110)

As gang grooming styles and clothing continually evolve and change, the following prohibited items that have commonly denoted gang membership or affiliation are only representative of prohibited clothing. Additional grooming styles and apparel may be considered gang-affiliated, as identified in consultation with school officials and law enforcement authorities. Bandannas or any article of clothing or accessory bearing gang symbols, names, initials, insignia, or style of dress that indicates gang affiliation will not be allowed.

**If a student's clothing is found to be in violation of the dress code the following steps may be taken:**

- **First offense** - Alternative clothing may be issued, or the student may be asked to change.
- **Second offense** - Alternative clothing may be issued. Parents are to be notified.
- **Third offense** - Considered insubordinate and disciplinary action may be taken, including suspension from school.

Again, the purpose of the Dress Code is that student dress or grooming not distract from or disrupt the learning environment. Students are expected to dress appropriately for school and learning as well as for safety to the student.

**FERPA NOTIFICATION (Link: [3260](#))**

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) and District Policy 3260 affords parents and students over 18 years of age ("eligible students") certain rights with respect to the student's education records. These rights are:

- 1) The right to inspect and review the student's education records within 45 days of the day the school receives a request for access. Parents or eligible students should submit to the school principal or assistant principal a written request that identifies the record(s) they wish to inspect. The school official will make arrangements for access and notify the parent or eligible student of the time and place where the records may be inspected.
- 2) The right to request the amendment of the student's education records that the parent or eligible student believes is inaccurate or misleading. Such requests should be in writing and addressed to the school principal or assistant principal. It must clearly identify the part of the record they want changed and specify why it is inaccurate or misleading. If the school decides not to amend the record as requested by the parent or eligible student, the school will notify the parent or eligible student of the decision and advise them of their right to a hearing regarding the request for amendment. Additional information regarding the hearing procedures will be provided to the parent or eligible student when notified of the right to a hearing.
- 3) The right to consent to disclosures of personally identifiable information contained in the student's education records, except to the extent that FERPA authorizes disclosure without consent. **The following information may be disclosed without consent:**

- a) Directory Information:** The following information is designated as student directory information: student's name, address (to include internet address) phone number, date of birth, grade level, extracurricular participation, awards or honors, photograph, video or digital images, height and weight (if a member of an athletic team), previous school attended, dates of attendance, and parent's name. "Directory Information" may be disclosed without prior written consent. The District will also routinely disclose names, addresses, and telephone numbers to military recruiters. Parents or eligible students will have **two weeks from the beginning of the school year or date a student enrolls** to advise the school district, in writing, of any and all items they refuse to permit the district to designate as directory information for the balance of the school year.
- b) School Officials:** School officials with legitimate educational interests may also have access to records. A school official is a person employed by the school as an administrator, supervisor, instructor, or support staff member such as a bus driver (including health or medical staff and law enforcement unit personnel); a person serving on the School Board; a person or company with whom the school has contracted to perform a special task (such as an attorney, auditor, medical consultant, or therapist); or a parent or student serving on an official committee, such as a disciplinary or grievance committee or assisting another school official in performing his or her tasks. A school official has a legitimate educational interest if the official needs to review an education record in order to fulfill his or her professional responsibility.
- c) Other Schools:** The school may disclose education records without consent to officials of another school district in which a student seeks or intends to enroll.
- 4) The right to file a complaint with the U.S. Department of Education concerning alleged failures by the School to comply with the requirements of FERPA.

**Family Policy Compliance Office**  
**U.S. Department of Education**  
**400 Maryland Avenue, SW, Washington D.C. 20202-4605**

#### **REQUIRED IMMUNIZATIONS (2330)**

##### **Utah 53A-11-301 requires documentation of immunizations for school attendance.**

The Utah Department of Health maintains a voluntary, confidential record system to assist parents/guardians, health care providers, and schools in documenting your child's immunizations. This record system is called the Utah Statewide Immunization Information System (USIIS). Allowing your child's school to share your child's immunization history with USIIS will aid you, your child's health care provider, and the school to determine which immunizations your child has received, and which may still be needed. **If you do not wish to give permission for the school to your child's/legal dependent's immunization information with USIIS, please request an immunization opt-out form from the school.**

#### **SAFE SCHOOLS POLICY (Link: [2110](#))**

The Board of Education of the Washington County School District recognizes that every student in the schools should have the opportunity to learn in an environment that is safe, conducive to the learning process, and free from unnecessary disruption.

The safety and well-being of students at Desert Hills High School is paramount. Students who feel welcome and safe will better achieve academically and be more apt to develop an ownership in and a sense of belonging to our school.

To foster such an environment the following policy has been adopted and is based on the following principles: Each student is expected to follow accepted rules of conduct.

1. Each student is expected to show respect for other people and obey persons in authority at the school.
2. The policy applies to students while in the classroom, on school grounds, on school vehicles, and in school-related activities or events.

**Suspension** is not the deprivation of a right to learning but is the temporary denial of social interaction through school contact and the removal of the person from the classroom setting because of real and present disruptive effect of his/her presence, or a reasonable assumption that his/her presence will be disruptive or a threat to the well-being or safety of himself/herself and or other students or staff. Suspension may carry with it conditions which must be met to remove the suspension. Suspension is for no more than 10 school days per incident.

**Expulsion** is defined as the removal from school for any period longer than 10 consecutive days but not more than one school year.

**A STUDENT MAY BE SUSPENDED OR EXPELLED FROM SCHOOL FOR ANY OF THE FOLLOWING REASONS:**

1. Frequent or flagrant willful disobedience, defiance of proper authority or disruptive behavior, including the use of foul, profane, vulgar or abusive language.
2. Willful destruction or defacing of school property.
3. Behavior or threatened behavior that poses an immediate and significant threat to the welfare, safety, or morals of other students or school personnel or to the operation of the school, including bullying, emotional, physical or sexual harassment.
4. Possession or use of pornographic material on school property. (H.B. 100- 4-30-07)
5. Possession, control, or use of an alcoholic beverage as defined in Section 32A-1-105 of the Utah Code.
6. Possession, control, or use of tobacco;
7. Behavior that threatens harm or does harm to the school or school property, to a person associated with the school, or property associated with any such person, regardless of where it occurs.
8. Because of identification and association with gangs, the following will not be permitted
9. on school campuses or at school activities: bandanas or any article of clothing bearing gang symbols, names, initials, insignia, or anything else that signals gang affiliation.
10. When a school official determines that time is needed to establish further facts of an act or series of acts of disobedience and misconduct disruptive to the learning process which may lead to suspension or expulsion from school.

**A STUDENT SHALL BE SUSPENDED OR EXPELLED FROM SCHOOL FOR ANY OF THE FOLLOWING REASONS:**

1. Any serious violation affecting another student or staff member, or any serious violation occurring during school hours, including lunch/break time, in a school building, in or on school property, or in conjunction with any school activity, including:
  - a. Possession, control, or actual or threatened use of a real weapon, explosive, or noxious or flammable material;
  - b. The actual or threatened use of a lookalike weapon with intent to intimidate another person or to disrupt normal school activities;
  - c. The sale, control, or distribution of a drug or controlled substance as defined in Section 58-37-2;
  - d. The sale, control, or distribution of an imitation controlled substance as defined in Section 58-37b-2;
  - e. The sale, control, or distribution of drug paraphernalia as defined in Section 58-37a-3.
2. The commission of an act involving the use of force or threatened force which if committed by an adult would be a felony or class A misdemeanor.
3. A student who commits a violation of section 1A above involving a real or look alike, weapon, explosive, or flammable material shall be expelled from school for a period of not

less than one year, unless the Superintendent determines, on a case-by-case basis, that a lesser penalty would be more appropriate.

A student may be required to attend the School of Life life-skills course taught at DHHS as part of a consequence for behavior or academic violations.

A student may be denied admission to school on the basis of having been expelled from that or any other school during the preceding 12 months. A suspension or expulsion under this policy is not subject to the age limitations under Subsection 53A-11-102(1).

### **Sexual Harassment ([2116](#))**

The Washington County School District is dedicated to cultivating an educational environment in which all individuals are treated with respect and dignity. No person on the basis of sex, shall be subjected to discrimination or sexual harassment under any education program or activity receiving Federal financial assistance. (20 U.S.C. 1681(a)).

#### **2.2. Sexual Harassment**

Sexual harassment shall not be tolerated. Employee violations shall be subject to disciplinary action up to and including dismissal from employment and referral for criminal prosecution.

Student violations shall be subject to corrective action to include the possible loss of privileges, community service, suspensions, expulsions, and referral for legal prosecution.

Employees or students affected by sexual harassment shall be afforded avenues for filing complaints, which are free from bias, collusion, intimidation, or reprisal.

#### **Discrimination Statement (from WCSD Policy)**

Sexual harassment is prohibited by Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 and by this Policy in all of the District's educational programs including academics, extracurricular activities, and athletics. Allegations that originate off-campus which impact the victim's ability to effectively access and continue their educational program **may** be addressed under this Policy at the discretion of the Designated District Title IX Coordinator. This may include allegations of sexual harassment through the internet, electronic mobile devices and/or social media.

Persons alleging educational program discrimination or other related violation of civil rights may file a complaint with the District Civil Rights Coordinator (the Assistant Superintendent of Secondary Education, WCSD). Persons alleging employment practices discrimination or other related violations of civil rights may file a complaint with the District Human Resource Manager. WCSD is committed to co-educational course programs including physical education and other athletic opportunities for both sexes as required by Title IX of the Educational Amendment of 1972. Information regarding the grievance procedure for addressing possible discriminatory actions may be obtained from: Mr. Richard Holmes, Assistant Superintendent Washington County School District, 121 West Tabernacle, St. George, UT 84770. Questions regarding 504 procedures should be directed to Mrs. Karen Bess, Director of Student Services, at the same address.

### **Technology Acceptable Use Agreement ([Link to policy](#))**

#### **PURPOSE**

The purpose of this agreement is to ensure that the use of computers, Internet, and other electronic or communication devices by District students, patrons, and employees are used appropriately, responsibly, ethically and legally. The Technology Acceptable Use Agreement will address the use of computers, the Internet, and the interference or distraction caused by electronic and communication devices.

## **A PRIVILEGE, NOT A RIGHT**

Washington County School District is able to provide computers, Internet, and other technological advances for the District employees and staff, students, and other patrons. The use of this technology is a privilege, not a right, and inappropriate use will result in the loss of these privileges to those within the Washington County School District.

## **DO'S for COMPUTERS and INTERNET**

- Use your own account and not someone else's. The use of another's account may result in the loss of your own
- Access only the servers, files, databases, and sites you have permission to access. Attempts to access restricted areas may result in adding more restrictions to your account or the permanent removal of it.
- Use games, chat rooms, instant messaging etc., ONLY if it is directly related to education, instruction, and/or work assignments. The use of such, other than for educational purposes, is a waste of technology resources and can degrade network equipment, software, or system performance.
- Use the technology provided to enhance homework and other assignments, being careful not to borrow material that is not yours. If someone else came up with the idea, wrote the paper or has a claim to the information being borrowed give the credit where the credit is due!
- Be careful not to engage in any illegal activity which may hamper the use of district technology. Such activity may include: using copyrighted material, using and/or communicating threatening or obscene material, and material protected by trade secrets.
- Be aware of another person's privacy and keep personal information such as: addresses, phone numbers, or other personal information private.
- Use the technology provided for the betterment of education and educating not for commercial and/or personal gain.
- Understand that any attempt to change or destroy another's data or network that is connected to the Internet is vandalism.
- What is yours is yours and what is theirs is theirs!
- Above all, respect others. **Accessing, downloading, storing or printing files or messages that are profane, obscene, or contain bad language can be very offensive to those around you.** This type of activity is also a waste of technology and other resources.

Once again, the use of this technology is a privilege, not a right, and inappropriate use will result in the loss of these privileges.

## **PPRA Notice ([Link](#))**

The Protection of Pupil Rights Amendment (PPRA), 20 U.S.C. § 1232h, 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:

- **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)–
- **Receive notice and an opportunity to opt a student out**
- **Inspect, upon request and before administration or use**

## **Civil Rights Disclosure ([Link](#))**

The Washington County Board of Education ensures an equal educational opportunity in accordance with several Federal Civil Rights Laws.

The Washington County School District does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability, gender identity, sexual orientation, religious affiliation, age, pregnancy, parental or marital status in its programs or activities.

**Handling Students with Lice** ([Link](#))

In managing lice in the schools Washington County School District refers to the recommendations as per the Utah Department of Health (UDH), UDH Office of Epidemiology, the Center for Disease Control (CDC), American Academy of Pediatrics, and the National Association of School Nurses (NASN).

## **Bell Schedules**

**Monday & Thursday Homeroom**

1A/5B	8:15 - 9:25
Homeroom	9:25 - 10:05
2A/6B	10:10 - 11:20
Lunch	11:20 - 12:15
3A/7B	12:20 - 1:30
4A/8B	1:35 - 2:45

**Tuesday & Wednesday**

1A/5B	8:15 - 9:35
2A/6B	9:40 - 11:00
Lunch	11:00 - 11:55
3A/7B	12:00 - 1:20
4A/8B	1:25 - 2:45

**Friday**

1A/5B	8:15 - 9:10
2A/6B	9:15 - 10:10
3A/7B	10:15 - 11:10
4A/8B	11:15 - 12:10
Lunch	12:10 - 12:45

\*Buses will run at 12:45

# **DHHS School Fight Song**

## **Thor's Revenge**

Our home is roaring as the lightning strikes!  
Thor's hammer hits with thundering sights.  
Our honor lies within the skies  
As the pounding thunder roars!

The crash is heard both loud and clear!  
We beat the rest as they shake with fear!  
What is seen is our victory,  
As the pounding thunder roars!

DH-HS, DHHS, DH-HS, GO THUNDER!