

Vista Values: Respect and Responsibility

Everyone within a school community has a unique role. Although those specific roles may differ slightly, we expect everyone to have a common goal and focus. "Vista Values" are the expectations for each individual in this school community. All behaviors and attitudes fall under two simple themes: Respect and Responsibility. As our core focus is to provide a safe and effective learning environment for all students, it is important to maintain behaviors and attitudes that fall in line with these two themes wherever you are in the building and in whatever you are doing. Always be aware of your role within the school and how you can demonstrate our "Vista Values".

	Respect	Responsibility
All	Allow learning to happen. Treat yourself, others, and property kindly, causing no harm. Follow directions. Use appropriate language.	Do your best. Be accountable for your own actions. Follow school policies.
Classroom	Allow teachers to teach and students to learn. Follow reasonable requests. Be attentive. Use equipment as intended.	Do your best work. Arrive on time. Be prepared for class. Take action to correct mistakes. Follow class rules & procedures.
TEAL Time	Behave in a way that allows learning to happen. Follow rules for the activity you attend.	Choose to improve your learning and grades. Check your grades often and identify missing assignments. Arrive with supplies and assignments.
Hallways	Be considerate of others' property. Maintain personal space. Display affection appropriately. Allow learning in classrooms to continue without disruption. Travel safely: walk, hands to self	Use and maintain your own locker. Avoid sharing your combination. Control your belongings. Go directly where you need to be; return to class quickly. Stay in allowed areas.
Cafeteria	Wait patiently in line for food. Follow directions from staff. Use an arms' length voice. Share table space. Be considerate of other's property.	Clean up after yourself- throw away trash. Report problems to staff. Control your property. Sit in seats.
Assemblies	Turn off electronic devices. Give attention to the program. Show support to participants without causing disruption.	Be positive. Sit in designated areas.
Other Places (Auditorium, bus, gym)	Stay in your seat. Leave other people alone. Follow directions and rules for the situation.	Keep your belongings with you. Clean up after yourself.

Vista Heights Demerit System

In order to assure a healthy and safe learning environment, and to help students adhere to our Vista Values, we have created a tiered behavioral intervention system. As part of this system, students will be issued demerits (or points) for violating rules and policies. Serious rule violations or accruing too many points will result in the consequences described. For minor violations, students may be issued a written warning prior to receiving demerits.

Not all rules can be written. The behaviors listed are merely examples. Similar behaviors will receive similar punishments and points. Disciplinary action will be determined based on numbers of demerits and the category violation. Repeated violation of the same rule may result in more severe consequences and additional points.

Examples of consequences include:

Consequence	Description
Loss of Activity	Students are not allowed to participate in activities based on demerit points. Assigned to students who have accumulated several points just prior to the activity being held.
Lunch Detention	Student eats lunch in assigned room, completes reflection activity. Assigned for repeated or overt minor infractions.
Student Contract	Student may be placed on a written probation contract that outlines specific behaviors that are expected of them.
In-School Suspension	Student spends 1-4 days in assigned room completing course work and reflection activities. Student does not attend classes and is not in the hallway. Assigned for blatant infractions or violations that harm others or property.
Long Term In-School Suspension	Student spends more than 4 days in In-School Suspension. Student could be in long-term ISS for 2-3 weeks as new behaviors are learned. Assigned for larger infractions or when other consequences have not resulted in changed behaviors.
School of Life	Student will attend 8 hours (4 weeks) of an after school course designed to build character and correct behaviors. Requested for students who have repeated rule violations or who have not corrected behavior after assigned to other consequences.
Suspension	Student is out of school for up to 10 days. Work is collected by the school and completed at home. Assigned for behaviors that are detrimental to the school environment (safety concerns, disruption of learning, etc.)
District Hearing	Student is out of school until a hearing is held with Alpine District's Student Service department. Hearing can result in probation, long-term suspension, or expulsion. Assigned for severe safety violations or for repeated and blatant violations of school rules.

Category	Behavior Examples (Not all behaviors are listed)	Minimum Points
Repeated Minor Class Behaviors	Nuisance item, talking repeatedly, throwing papers, etc.	5+
Insubordination	Ignoring teacher request, repeatedly breaking the same rule, etc.	5+
Defiance	Overtly refusing to follow directions, back-talking to authority	15+
Non-Physical Targeting	Calling a name, spreading a rumor, rude gestures, etc.	3+
Bullying	Repeated verbal, social or physical targeting of a single person	20+
Physical Targeting	Horseplay, pushing, shoving, repeated unwanted touching, other minor aggressive actions, etc.	10+
Physical Aggression	Fighting, hitting, deliberate physical harm	20+
Tardy	Not being to class or assigned location on time	5+
Truancy	Failure to be in assigned place at assigned time, deliberately avoiding class, failing to attend TEAL assignment, leaving campus during the day, not checking out before leaving	10+
Miscellaneous Vista Values violations	Failure to clean-up at lunch, knocking on doors, disrupting in auditorium, littering, etc.	1+
Language	Using inappropriate language, swear words or gestures	1+
Dress Code	Any violation of dress code	1+
Nuisance Items	Cell phones, spinners, skateboards, sports equipment. Any item used inappropriately or at the wrong place/time can be considered a nuisance item.	1+
Out-of-Bounds	Being in faculty areas, being in unauthorized areas, leaving lunchroom during lunch, not using a hall pass etc.	5+
PDA	Holding hands, lengthy hugs, kissing, etc.	5+
Academic Integrity	Sharing assignments, copying tests, sharing pictures of assignments or tests, using unauthorized software to complete assignments, plagiarizing, etc.	5+
Safe-School Violation	Threats, weapons, drugs, fireworks, lighters, fires, etc.	15+
Sexual Harassment or Assault	Touching students in private areas, unwanted touching, sexual based comments	20+
Property Violations	Vandalism, theft, destruction, etc.	10+
AUP Violation	Inappropriate use of technology, hacking others' accounts, searching/sharing/actively viewing pornography	10+

Safe School Policy (ASD Policy 5182)

The ASD Safe School Policy includes avoiding the following:

Abetting is the act of supporting, encouraging, and/or assisting activities which violate the safe school policy.

Bullying is defined as aggressive behavior that is intended to cause harm or distress, exists in a relationship in which there is an imbalance of power or strength and may be repeated over time. Bullying may be physical, verbal/written or psychological, and through cyber space.

Physical Bullying includes, but is not limited to, pushing, grabbing, pinching, shoving, poking, tripping, kicking, hitting, and destroying property.

Verbal/ Written Bullying includes, but is not limited to, name calling, mean teasing, spreading false rumors, intimidation, sexual comments, harassing and threatening comments which are communicated verbally, in writing or through electric media.

Cyber Bullying includes, but is not limited to, using email, web pages, text messaging, blogs, instant messaging, or any other electronic means for aggression, intimidation, or harassment against another person. Examples may include, but are not limited to sending mean, vulgar, or threatening messages or images; posting inappropriate pictures that are sensitive, private information about the victim; pretending to be someone else to hurt that person; rude comments; lies; stalking; threats; extortion; harassment; and transmission of unflattering or embarrassing photographs.

Acts of Violence that disrupt the daily operation of the school include but are not limited to physical or sexual assault, intimidation, aggression, possessing or displaying a dangerous weapon, or committing acts of terrorism.

Dangerous Weapon means any items capable of causing death or serious bodily injury, or a facsimile or representation of the item. (Weapons shall include but not be limited to firearms, knives, metal knuckles, straight razors, explosives, noxious, or poisonous gases, poisons and drugs.)

Hazing/Harassment means intimidation or any act that injures, degrades, or disgraces a student or staff member.

Gang/Secret Societies/Hate Groups means a group of three or more people who form an allegiance and engage in a range of anti-social behaviors that may include violent or unlawful activity or which advocate hatred or discrimination on the basis of race, religion, sex, national origin or disability.

Gang Activities shall include students who:

1. Wear, possess, use, distribute, display or sell any clothing, jewelry, emblem, badge, symbol, sign or other things which are evidence of membership or affiliation in any gang.
2. Commit any act or use any speech, either verbal or non-verbal (gestures, handshakes, etc.) showing membership or affiliation in a gang.
3. Use any speech or commit any act in furtherance of the interests of any gang or gang activity, including, but not limited to: a. soliciting others for membership in any gangs; b. requesting any person to pay protection or otherwise intimidating or threatening any person; c. committing any other illegal act or other violation of school district policies; d. inciting other students to act with physical violence upon any other person; e. defacing school property (i.e.: books, lockers, walls, etc.)

Drug/Alcohol/ Tobacco Policy

(ASD Policy 5430)

Vista Heights Middle School is a "Drug Free Zone," this means that these rules not only apply to campus, but they are enforced up to 1000 feet off campus. Any student in violation of drug and alcohol policy shall be subject to the following actions:

- Suspension from school for up to ten school days.
- Referral to the local police department.
- Referral to a district expulsion hearing

A drug offense consists of the possession, use, or distribution (giving away or selling) of any controlled substance (including marijuana, cigarettes, e-cigarettes, cocaine, steroids, prescription drugs, or other drugs listed in the law): or any imitation controlled substance (something that looks like a controlled substance, even though it isn't): or any drug paraphernalia (things like hypodermic needles, bongos, roach clips, hash pipes, etc., which may be used to produce, package, distribute, or use drugs.)