

TRI-VALLEY STUDENT HANDBOOK

2026- 2027



TRI-VALEY SCHOOL
P.O. Box 400
Healy, Alaska 99743
907-683-2267 (School Office)
907-683-2632 (FAX)

Web Site
DENALI BOROUGH SCHOOL DISTRICT:
<http://www.dbsd.org>

TRI-VALLEY SCHOOL:
<http://www.dbsd.org/trivalley>

Contact Information

Principal: Tobe Gurley- email: tobegurley@dbsd.org
Secretary: Sarah Walker- email: sarahwalker@dbsd.org
District Nurse: Sam Kimmel- email: samuelkimmel@dbsd.org
Librarian: Jes Hampton- email: jessicahampton@dbsd.org
Special Education Director: Terri Schuetz, 907-206-3340, email: terrischuetz@dbsd.org
Counselor: Stephanie Stickle- email: stephaniestickle@dbsd.org
Technology: email: techhelp@dbsd.org
Superintendent: Bill Burr, 683-2278, email: billburr@dbsd.org

Mission Statement

Working together to nurture, empower, and inspire today's student to positively shape tomorrow's world

Foreword

Welcome to the Tri-Valley School (TVS) community. Tri-Valley has a long-standing tradition of academic and co-curricular success due to active parents, community, hard working students, and a highly qualified and professional staff. Our mission statement is that we are *working together to nurture, empower, and inspire today's student to positively shape tomorrow's world*. Students at Tri-Valley will experience a world-class education and challenges that will help them grow into life-long learners, productive citizens, and the leaders of tomorrow.

This handbook contains expectations and procedures that are essential to establishing a learning environment for our students. You are encouraged to visit the Denali Borough School District and Tri-Valley websites for more information. You are also encouraged to participate in meetings and visit with staff and myself with any questions or opportunities to help. Welcome!

Tobe Gurley

Principal

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Positive School Climate

The School Board desires to provide orderly and caring learning environments in which all students feel comfortable, share the responsibility for maintaining a positive school climate, and take pride in their school and their achievements.

The district shall encourage attitudes and behaviors that promote mutual respect and harmonious relations. The schools shall promote nonviolent conflict resolution techniques and provide students opportunities to voice their concerns about school policies and practices. The Superintendent or designee may initiate student courts, campus beautification projects, buddy systems, vandalism prevention campaigns, and other programs in which students may identify and solve problems that affect their school.

The schools shall not tolerate any comments or gestures which are vulgar or obscene or which denigrate an individual or a group. Students shall be subject to disciplinary procedures for bullying other students or for using insults, slurs, or fighting words, which may disrupt school activities.

The curriculum and counseling programs shall foster positive racial and ethnic identity, help students understand diverse cultures, teach them to think critically about racial bias, and show them how to deal with discriminatory behavior in appropriate ways. The Board encourages the use of cooperative learning strategies in the classroom in order to foster positive social interactions among students. School staff shall encourage and reward success and achievement, participation in community projects, and positive student conduct. See District Policy Manual for additional information regarding Students Behavior, Students' Rights and Responsibilities, Student Conduct, Consequences, Suspension, Expulsion, Search and Seizure, Riding the Bus, and Cold Weather Travel.

Character Traits

Current learning theory prioritizes the importance of considering the affective, as well as, academic competencies of all individuals within a learning community. The following list represents the attributes of character identified from our district's core guiding documents and reviewed against the document titled, "Overview: Measuring the Character Framework," by EL Education. This list articulates the measurable character outcomes we have prioritized for students and adults within Denali Borough School District.

Sub-Categories by color:

- Habits of Effective Learners
- Becoming Ethical People
- Contributing to a Better World

Character Trait	Definition	Related Terms
Responsibility & Ownership	the ability and willingness to lead and be responsible for their own learning, including setting their own goals and taking pride in their academic work.	Integrity, Self-Discipline, Craftsmanship, Agency
Growth Mindset	the beliefs that they have the potential to change those internal factors (such as perseverance, intelligence, work ethic) that are central to their performance in school (not external factors such as poverty, etc.)	Tenacity, Academic Courage, Self-Efficacy
Self-Management	the ability to reflect and self-monitor and manage their effort to optimize their learning	Self-Regulation, Discipline, Craftsmanship, Reflection
Active Engagement	the willingness and ability to deeply engage in learning activities	Contribution, Critical Thinking, Inquiry, Reflection, Creativity
Collaboration	the capacity to work with others productively	Communication, Cooperation
Perseverance	the capacity to stay focused and continue persisting on a task, even when confronted with difficulty, failure, or boredom	Persistence, Tenacity, Grit, Craftsmanship
Creativity	the ability to transcend traditional ways of thinking to propose new meaningful ideas and solutions	Innovative, Adaptability, Problem-Solver, Craftsmanship, Originality;
Empathy & Perspective Taking	the ability to consider the perspectives and share the feelings of another; the ability to engage peaceably in conflict-resolution	Caring, Socio-Emotional Skills, Peacemaker
Compassion	the willingness and desire to care for and help others	Kindness, Service, Altruism, Caring
Respect	to have due regard for the feelings, wishes, position, and rights of others	Socio-Emotional skills, Integrity, Social

		Intelligence
Integrity	to understand and adhere to one's beliefs or moral codes even in the face of scrutiny, lack of accountability or validation	Contribution, Courage, Self-Discipline, Self-Discovery
Leadership	to engage in courageous, initiative-taking behaviors that compel others to action	Courage, Socio-Emotional Skills
Civic Responsibility	to understand the importance of and demonstrate commitment to actions that service their community and the larger world	Active Citizenship, Service & Stewardship, Purpose, Global Awareness, Global Competence
Civic Empowerment	the belief that one has the capacity to positively impact and contribute to their community and the larger world	Active Citizenship, Service & Stewardship
Long-Term Purpose	to have purposeful goals for the future focused beyond the self and to act on those goals (actively work toward goals)	Active Citizenship

General Expectations

Guidelines For Success are:

Be honest. Be positive. Be respectful. Be responsible. Be learning.

With these guidelines, students and staff are consistent in their expectations for behaviors and help students transfer their character traits into action. Students, staff members, and parents are informed about the discipline plan through the Board Policy and District Handbook. The following procedures will be used when a student is referred for a rule violation:

- The student will be informed specifically of what rule has been violated.
- The student will be provided the opportunity to present and write an explanation.
- State law, district/school policies and the judgment of the person administering the discipline determines the consequence for the rule violation. "Consequences" may include referrals to other appropriate school or community resources such as the counselor and/or Student Assistance Teams (SAT), Office of Children Services, or law enforcement.
- Parents/Guardians of the student will be contacted by phone and/or email.

Student Recognition

Tri-Valley school staff, students and even community members are encouraged to recognize efforts that contribute to our positive school culture and the pursuit of learning. Look for invitations to nominate a Warrior throughout the school year. Students, staff, and volunteers are encouraged to take initiative in recognizing each other for exhibiting exemplary qualities and actions of a Warrior.

School Day

The school day at TVS is from 8:30-3:30 p.m. Monday through Thursday. Early release occurs at 1:30 p.m. every Friday to allow for staff development. We ask that all students are here and ready for class by 8:25 a.m. so that classes can start on time with all students present. The building is open from 8:00 a.m.-8:30 a.m. for students in grades 6-12 to be in the Commons Area. The elementary door opens at 8:10 and K-5 students can get into their classrooms at 8:15 a.m.

Before school opens at 8:00 am and after school closes at 3:45 students must be with a parent or guardian if they remain in the building. This includes attending a sporting event or club: students must be with their designated group outside of school hours.

The Denali Borough School Board believes that “regular attendance plays a key role in the success a student achieves in school. The Board recognizes its responsibility under the law to ensure that students attend school regularly.” *(BP 5113)

“The Board, recognizing that student effort is the single most important factor in determining success, requires regular attendance of all students. Therefore, students with excessive absences (seven or more per semester) will meet with the Principal to determine appropriate school options to meet their individual requirements. Parents/guardians shall be invited to participate in this process.”*(BP 5113)

“The district is under no obligation to provide supplementary opportunities to replace those lost through excessive non-school sanctioned absences.”*(BP 5113)

Attendance Procedures:

Sanctioned school activities and events are not calculated or recognized as absences. However, students are still responsible and accountable for required class assignments.

All students are expected to attend school regularly and to be on time for classes in order to benefit from the instructional program and develop the habits of punctuality, self-discipline and responsibility. There is a positive relationship between good attendance and school performance. Students who have good attendance generally achieve more, find school more enjoyable, earn better grades, and have more options after high school.

It is the parent/guardian's responsibility to notify the school of an unforeseen absence and the reason for the absence. It is the student's responsibility to make up work missed due to absence. Punctuality and attendance are necessary to maintain continuity of education. Students with excessive absences (7 or more per semester) will meet with the site administrator to determine appropriate school options to meet their individual requirements. Parents/guardians shall be invited to participate in this process. (BP 5113)

School Sanctioned Absences:

A student absence is considered to be school sanctioned if the "absence is for health reasons, family emergencies, religious instruction or participation in religious exercises or other reason the Superintendent or designee determines constitutes good cause."*(BP 5113) Under normal circumstances, the Principal will be the "designee."

Parent Sanctioned Absences:

Parent sanctioned absences are those that result from something other than those defined above. (BP 5113)

Pre-Arranged Absences:

Pre-arranged absences should be requested at least one week before and no later than the day of the absence. Pre-arranged absence forms may be picked up at the office.

Parents who choose to take their children out of school for extended periods of time (i.e., vacation) will need to make arrangements with teachers at least one week prior to absence, including the completion of a pre-arranged absence form. Students are expected to complete work or academic activities missed during absences—additional time may be needed to complete this work (before or after school or at lunch). Once completed, students will be given

credit earned for this work in accordance with the make-up work procedures of that teacher, but please understand that this late work may not be graded immediately. Pre-arranged absences will be subject to BP 5113 in determining if they are school or parent sanctioned.

Tardiness or Lateness to class:

A student is considered tardy if they are not in the classroom at the required time for any class. Three unexcused tardies per class, per semester, are excessive. If a student is tardy to class they must get an admit slip from the office. Tardiness without parental or school consent is unexcused. If a student is more than ten (10) minutes late to class without parent or school consent, the tardy becomes an unexcused absence for the purpose of attendance record keeping.

Make-up Work and Tests:

It is the students' responsibility to demonstrate understanding of the content covered while absent from school through make-up work, tests, or alternative assignments. Each teacher will set reasonable time limits for any work and/or tests to be accomplished, in general, it is a day for each day absent. Teachers shall inform students about the class grading system at the beginning of the semester.

Attendance for Extra-curricular Activity Purposes:

If students do not meet all the eligibility requirements, including the attendance requirements, lined out in the Tri-Valley School Activities Handbook, their ability to participate in activities will become limited.

Student participants must be in regular attendance at school and in enrolled classes. A student with an unexcused absence for one or more classes or in attendance for less than half of the school day, whether or not the absence is excused, cannot practice or play on that day without the principal's **prior** permission. Student athletes must be in practice the day before a game and the practice after a game. Violations of this regulation may result in the student not being allowed to participate in the next scheduled event. These rules apply for all ASAA regulated activities and are not limited to sports.

In the event of a conflict between the DBSD Activities Handbook and the Tri-Valley Student Handbook, the Student Handbook supersedes the Activities Handbook.

"Students will not be able to access school facilities for school or non-school functions on the day of any absence without pre-approval of the site administrator. Participation in any school activity is not deemed an absence."*(BP 5113)

Withdrawn from School:

“As per State On-Line Alaska School Information System (OASIS) directive, after 10 consecutive unexcused absences, a student will be withdrawn from the school rolls. To re-enroll, a student must meet with the Principal and staff, as appropriate, in order to make plans to make up work missed and to make a plan for the student to attend punctually in the future.*(BP 5121)

Lunch

Food and Drink

Tri-Valley School and Denali Borough School District do not maintain a school lunch program, however Alaska Bounty for Children (ABC) a local non-profit group provides lunches to students at no charge. Donations to the program are accepted. For more information about ABC, please visit their website: <https://www.alaskanbountyforchildren.com/>

Students still have the option to bring their own meals. We have microwave ovens available if food products need to be heated. Students are encouraged to bring their own dishes and utensils if bringing their own lunch.

All students are encouraged to bring water bottles.

Closed Campus for students in grades K-8

Students in kindergarten through eighth grade shall not leave the school grounds at any time during the school day without written authorization of their parent/guardians and permission of school personnel.

Grades K-5 will be supervised by lunch/recess aides during their walks to and from the classrooms, in the lunchroom (MPR), and at recess. Not more than two boys and two girls are permitted to use the lavatories or drinking fountain at any one time from the lunch room.

Grades 6-12 are supervised by the lunch/recess aides. Grades 6-8 will go to the cafeteria for a minimum of 10 minutes to eat. After 10 minutes, students may elect to go to the Commons or Gym. Grade 9-12 Students may be in the gym, commons, or cafeteria. The library can be used for club and organization meetings, as well as for students who wish to quietly read or study, when the librarian is available to supervise. Teachers can invite students to their rooms for lunch.

Open Campus for students in grades 9-12

Tri-Valley school has an "open campus" for high school students who have completed the proper paperwork during the lunch period. Students in 9-12 grades shall not leave the school grounds without written authorization of their parent/guardians and permission of school personnel. The principal, lunch/recess aides, and the school secretary will monitor the entry and exit of students to ensure that only those with written authorization are exiting the building. Students must sign out when leaving and sign back in upon return. Students who leave school without such authorization shall be classified as truant and subject to disciplinary action. Parents will be notified when their student has excessive unexcused tardies or unexcused absences to afternoon classes. Students may lose the privilege to leave campus during lunch if they have excessive tardies and/or absences after the lunch break, or if they demonstrate a pattern of failing to sign themselves in and out.

Recess

Students in grades K-5 get at least 25 minutes daily for recess. All students must have appropriate outdoor gear. During the cold months (40 degrees and colder) students are required to have head covering, gloves and/or mittens, parka or warm coat and snow pants or a full body snowsuit, and winter boots. Many families choose to keep a full set of snow gear at school for their child, rather than transporting back and forth daily.

Outdoor recess will occur up to -20 degrees. The principal has the discretion to vary the cut-off temperature by 5 degrees based on the conditions and weather forecast.

For example:

Scenario A- It is -24 and there is no wind and no clouds. Students may go outside.

Scenario B- It is -15 and it is blowing, and snowing, and expected to get worse. Students will stay inside.

The Principal may also cancel outdoor recess due to inclement weather conditions such as blizzard conditions, excessive rain, etc.

Playground and Recess Rules and Expectations

Be Prepared: Wear appropriate outdoor gear and footwear during recess and on the playground at all times.

Be Safe: Students will walk when traveling between the school and the playground. Students need permission from a recess aide to leave the playground. No pushing, shoving, hitting, kicking, or throwing objects at others. Students are expected to use playground equipment as it was intended. Students are allowed on the soccer field with the recess aides' permission and supervision.

Be Respectful: Students are expected to follow staff directives at all times.

No electronics on the playground (cellphones, gaming systems, ipads, etc). Have fun!

Health and Safety

Immunization

All children in K-12 public Schools must meet the immunization requirements. Any child who lacks proof of immunization or a valid exemption will be excluded from school. The State of Alaska also requires Tuberculosis screening for children in public schools. If screening requires a Tuberculosis test, the District School Nurse may perform this test.

If your child is in middle school or high school and will be participating in an ASAA sanctioned sport, they will be required to have a sports physical and cannot practice without the physical. Those forms are in the school office or with the District School Nurse.

If your child needs a prescribed medication to participate in any school activity, please see the District School Nurse or the Activities Director for the required documents.

Beginning July 1st, 2013 parent/guardians choosing to obtain a religious exemption for their child must comply with the following:

- Religious exemptions must be documented on the official *State of Alaska Religious Exemption Form* (Form revision date 3/2013)
- Annual renewal of the exemption form is required (Previously signed religious exemption forms will not be grandfathered.)
- Religious exemption forms must be notarized.

All children in Alaska schools are required to be immunized against certain diseases. As of August 2001 all children need these immunizations upon entrance to school: Diphtheria, Pertussis, Tetanus, Polio, Measles, Rubella, Mumps, Hepatitis A, Hepatitis B, Varicella (or proof of disease).

Concussions

If a student is suspected of having sustained a concussion after hitting or bumping his or her head he or she must be taken to the nurse or office immediately. Concussion protocol from ASAA and BP 6145.22 will be followed.

Emergency Procedures

Denali Borough School District has in place a Crisis Response and Management Plan. If anyone is interested in reviewing the plan they can come to the school office and request to see a copy of the plan. It is also on the District website.

In an emergency or crisis situation that necessitates the evacuation from the school building, all students and school personnel will be moved to the following safe location and may be signed out with the staff there:

K-12

Community Center

683-1330

School Procedures and Policies

Dress & Appearance

Students are expected to dress for school in an appropriate manner, which does not substantially disrupt the educational process, or interfere with the rights of others. Personal cleanliness as well as cleanliness of student dress is expected as a matter of concern for health and aesthetics. The following guidelines apply to student dress, with the understanding that this list is not exhaustive and school staff have the ability to decide if an article of clothing meets the expectation of appropriate for school:

- No advertisement or depiction of alcohol, drugs, tobacco, violence, sexual behavior/innuendo, or inappropriate language.
- No provocative clothing, which may include, but is not limited to clothing that reveals underwear, bare midriffs, bare chests, or bare backs (to include boys without shirts).
- Dresses, skirts, and shorts will be no shorter than the student's fingertip length from a standing position. This also applies to rips, holes, or see-through areas of clothing.
- Strapless shirts or dresses are prohibited.
- Clothing will match the activity. For instance athletic uniforms, Prom, Homecoming Dances, etc that may not always align with regular classroom attire standards.
- Articles of clothing may not degrade or belittle any individual or group.

A student's attire must be neat and clean, and will not distract other students or individuals from the process of learning. The staff will determine if students' dress is appropriate. Students who are not dressed appropriately for school will be asked to change the clothing.

Student Expression

Students are allowed to display their personal property on their school issued lockers. Students are expected to respect the property of others or be subject to consequences. Advertisement or depiction of alcohol, drugs, tobacco, violence, sexual behavior/innuendo, inappropriate language or material that degrades or belittles any individual or group will not be allowed. Inappropriate displays should be reported to the principal. Students shall not post anything in the school hallways, windows, or bulletin boards without prior staff permission.

Public Display of Affection

Demonstration of affection between students in excess of holding hands is inappropriate at school and school events.

Mobile Devices

Students are required to either put their mobile devices in a class-designated space (mobile device parking lot) or leave them in their lockers. They are not to have them in pockets, coats, or bags near them in class. Mobile devices can be used for specific teacher-directed activities in class. Mobile devices are also allowed to be used before school, after school, and during breaks, including lunch.

Classroom Discipline Model

- a) Teacher or teacher and students develop classroom rules and post them.
- b) Teacher teaches expected behaviors and procedures.
- c) Teacher informs parents about classroom rules through distribution of class disclosure documents. Teacher teaches and has students practice appropriate behaviors.
- d) Teacher reinforces positive behaviors and addresses inappropriate behaviors.
- e) Staff supervises students in hallways, common areas and classrooms.
- f) For repeated inappropriate behavior, teacher contacts parents/guardians and may develop a behavior plan and/or call a Student Assistance Team meeting.
- g) Student misconduct of an extremely disruptive nature, for example, fighting, or endangering other students, will result in immediate removal from the classroom/common area and the student will be sent or brought to the office.

Search & Seizure

The Board authorizes school officials to conduct searches when there are reasonable grounds or suspicion that the search will uncover evidence that the student is violating the law or the rules of the district or the school.

Because lockers and student computers are under the joint control of the student and the district, school officials have the right and ability to open and inspect any school locker and the

right to inspect and search computers to include online, machines storage devices, and storage media without student permission when they have reasonable suspicion that the search will disclose evidence of illegal possessions or activity.

The Board urges the discretion, good judgment and common sense be exercised in all cases of search and seizure. Before searching a student's possessions, school officials will seek, but need not receive, the freely offered consent of the student. Whenever reasonably possible, a search of a student's person shall be conducted in the presence of the student's parent/guardian, a staff member, and/or the Site Administrator. The district shall notify the parent/guardian of the student being searched as soon after the search as possible.

Forms of Discipline at Tri-Valley School

Confiscation: Items inappropriate for schools. Confiscated items may not be returned and illegal items may be given to a law enforcement officer.

Restitution: Damaged or stolen items need to be replaced or repaired. An estimate for repair or replacement will be furnished to the student. The student and his/her family will be responsible for the cost of repair or replacement. As necessary, arrangements can be made for a student to work to pay a debt.

Mediation: A communication process in which people with the problem work together, with the assistance of a neutral third party; cooperating to resolve their conflict peaceably.

Detention: Assigned and supervised the same day by the teacher unless arrangements are made with the teacher. Students may work off their detention by assisting a staff member with a project, i.e. sweeping, emptying trash, making copies.

Suspended Laptop Use: The student loses the use of his/her school issued laptop for a period determined by the infraction.

In School Suspension (ISS) is administered by the principal. The student is permitted to come to school but is kept in a room apart from other students for 1-5 days and may lose the use of their school issued laptop for those days. The principal contacts the parents/guardians. Students will receive credit for schoolwork completed during the suspension and will visit with the principal regarding making better choices.

In School Alternative Placement: The parent/guardian of a suspended student agrees to come to school and attend classes with the child for the day(s) assigned.

Student Assistance Team (SAT): The Crew/Homeroom teacher convenes a SAT meeting by inviting parents/guardians, counselor, nurse, and other teachers, as needed, to discuss the student's strengths and potential and then to define the problem behavior as precisely as possible. (A SAT can be called for academic, social, or behavioral reasons.) The team creates a plan for resolving the problem; positive strategies and interventions are encouraged. The next meeting is then scheduled to review progress. (BP# 6164.5)

Out of School Suspension (OSS) is administered by the principal. Short term OSS will be 1-5 days and long term OSS will be 6-10 days. Student is sent home and is not permitted to come to school or be on school property during the OSS. Parents are contacted and a letter is sent home. Parents and student are required to meet with administration before reentering school.

Students can make up work during suspension and get credit for the work. The student is responsible to get his/her assignments.

Expulsion: A student is removed from the school for a length of time specified by School Board action.

Conflict Resolution

Please refer to Board Policy 1312 for detailed information concerning public complaints concerning schools and/or personnel.

Occasionally parents, students or other citizens have a complaint about the conduct of the school or district. Most problems can be resolved through direct and open communication with the person(s) involved in a dispute. Still, if you feel the complaint cannot be resolved, you are encouraged to write down your concern and discuss the problem with succeeding levels within the district. Complaints that have not been discussed at lower levels will be sent to the person responsible for the appropriate level or activity. The Board will deal with disputes only after a complaint has been addressed at all lower levels. The following are the steps of the complaint procedure:

1. Discuss the concern with the teacher or employee involved.
2. If not satisfied, put the complaint in writing, and then go to the principal/unit administrator to discuss the complaint. Site concerns are best addressed at the site level.
3. If not satisfied, address the dispute with the Superintendent

Definitions

Libel - a false, defamatory statement, injurious to an individual's reputation, which is communicated to another person in writing or in some other form of publication.

Obscenity - Pornography, more specifically, matter which (1) taken as a whole appeals to the prurient interest of an average person applying contemporary community standards; and/or (2) portrays sexual conduct, excretory functions or sexual organs in a patently offensive way; and (3) lacks serious literary, artistic, political or scientific value.

Slander - A false, defamatory statement, injurious to an individual's reputation, which is communicated orally to another person.

Academics and Grading

Grade Level Placement

Tri-Valley School will accept Kindergarten students who are at least five years old by September 1st of the current school year. Grade level placements up to and including grade 8 will be based on age unless otherwise specified by parent, or transfer from another school. For advanced placement; documentation, assessment scores, work samples, and other data may be required

prior to approval (BP 5123). High School students will be placed according to credits achieved with proper documentation and according to the grade the transferring school has placed them.

Guidance Services

The counselor for Denali Borough School District and Tri-Valley School exists to help students. It is important that students become aware of the guidance services available. The counselor, in conjunction with the Principal, assists and advises students and parents about personal concerns, academic issues, career choices, course selections, college choices and scholarship applications. The counselor also acts as the internship supervisor, sponsors informational sessions for parents on student financial aid, interprets test results, and facilitates advising throughout the district.

Grading Scales

There are several methods of grading used by schools and school districts. The most important thing to remember about grading is that it is simply a fast and easy way to list the student's progress in a given area. Teachers may use alternative grading scales, but Skyward, the student information system used by DBSD will translate them into these scale:

Grading Scale K-2nd grade

- O Outstanding Skills
- P Proficient Skills
- E Emerging Skill
- N Non-Existent Skill

Grading Scale 3rd-12th grade

- A (90-100%)
- B (80-89%)
- C (70-79%)
- D (65-69%)
- F (0-64%)

High School Graduation Requirements

The Denali Borough School District believes in high academic standards and the development of the individual students to enhance success in life after high school. "The Denali Borough School District supports eight (8) semesters or more of full-time active participation (five (5) or more classes per semester)." (BP 6146.1(a))

"The Denali Borough School District recognizes that this district has 4 distinct school communities and a one-size-fits-all approach is not always in the best interest of our students.

With this in mind, the district gives local autonomy to each site to decide how they will interpret the Denali Model of Instruction. In doing so, the Denali Borough School Board has set the following Graduation Requirements ” (BP 6146.1(a)):

- “Demonstrate proficient or advanced on standards through the minimum graduation levels or beyond.

- Complete standard eight (8) semesters of full-time (5 or more classes) active participation or receive a waiver.” (BP 6146.1(a)) Waivers must be approved by the School Board as described in AR 6146.1(a) of the Board Policy Manual.

- “Language Arts (4 credits)

- Math (4 credits)

- Science (3 credits)

- Social Studies (3 credits to include Government, US History, at least ½ credit of Alaska Studies)

- Technology/Careers (1 credit)

- PE (1 credit)

- Health (1/2 credit)

- Electives (5.5 credits)

TOTAL 22 Credits” (BP 6146.1(b))

“Additional credits in Math, Social Studies and Science are recommended.” (BP 6146.1(b))

“The Denali Borough School District will issue a diploma to students who have met the requirements for graduation in Board Policies, and whose most recent semester of school attendance is in the Denali Borough School District School. (BP 6146.1(c))

P.E. Credit Waiver

The equivalent of one quarter (1/4) credit for the Physical Education requirement may be *waived* for each full season of participation in approved interscholastic athletic competition. School principals will provide a list of approved sports. **To receive credit a student must participate for the entire season.** The total credit waived shall not exceed one (1) credit. Elective credit must be earned to replace the credit that is waived. A waiver of credit under this section does not affect the overall minimum requirements. (BP 6146.1 (a))

List of approved high school sports eligible for waiver:

- Cross Country Running
- Co-Ed Soccer
- Girls Volleyball

- Hockey
- Boys Basketball
- Girls Basketball
- Track

College and Dual-Credit Classes

Students enrolled and receiving credits for a semester college class may also receive concurrent high school credit. Students must submit proof of successful completion to receive high school credit.

“Students may earn academic credits to be applied toward graduation requirements by completing online courses offered through agencies approved by the Board. Credit from an online or virtual course may be earned only in the following circumstances:

1. The online course must meet or exceed Denali Borough School District Performance Standards;
2. The course is not offered at the school;
3. Although the course is offered at the school, the student will not be able to take it due to an unavoidable scheduling conflict;
4. The course will serve as a supplement to extended homebound instruction;
5. The student is unable to participate in the regular school setting, but educational services are to be continued; or
6. The site Administrator, with agreement from the student’s teachers and parents/guardians, determines the student requires a differentiated or accelerated learning environment.

Students taking such courses must be enrolled in the District.

Students applying for permission to take a virtual course shall complete prerequisites and, if requested, provide teacher/counselor recommendations to confirm the student possesses the maturity level needed to function effectively in an online learning environment. In addition, the express approval of the Site Administrator/designee shall be obtained before a student enrolls in the virtual course. The school must receive an official record of the final grade before the credit toward graduation will be recognized.

Students taking virtual courses shall comply with all school rules, including student rights and responsibilities.”*(BP 6184)

Forms for prior approval are available from the Principal’s Office or can be found in the District Policy Manual, E 6184.

Graduation Honors

Honors students will be selected from the graduating members of the 12th grade class. The selection will normally be that of one Valedictorian and one Salutatorian. Early graduates will not be considered for these honors.

1. Valedictorian: Highest honors will be given to the student with the highest grade point average achieved by a member of the graduating class. The average must be at least a GPA of 3.0. The student must have enrolled in at least four courses and attended Tri-Valley School for the last four (4) consecutive semesters.

2. Salutatorian: This honor will be given to the student having the second highest grade point average achieved by a member of the graduating class. The average must be at least a GPA of 3.0. All other criteria for the selection must correspond with the requirements set for the valedictorian.

Graduating students with at least a 3.75 weighted GPA will be recognized as graduating with honors.

Independent Study

Students completing independent study courses who are not assigned a classroom teacher will generally be monitored in the Library by the librarian. They are to report to the tables at the start of their designated period of study and shall be supervised by the librarian.

Crew and Learning Lab

Secondary students (6-12) have a time period built into the regular school day that is designed to help connect students with each other and Crew leaders, reflect and monitor academic progress, and to focus on character development. The period is scheduled at the same time for all secondary students and teachers.

Students in grades 9-12 will begin each Learning Lab with their Crew. Each Learning Lab begins with a brief greeting and check in. After Crew Check In, students may move to another supervised room upon request or referral.

Special Education

If you are interested in enrolling a student who is eligible for special education services, please contact the District Special Education Director at 907-206-3340 to ensure your student's needs are addressed.

If your student is currently enrolled and you feel they may need to be assessed for the existence of a recognized handicapping condition, please contact the District Special Education Director at 907-206-3340 to discuss available options for your student.

Student Aides

In order to receive credit as a student aide, a student shall be considered enrolled in an internship and subject to the guidelines of the DBSD Internship Program. Student aides must remain on campus and under adult supervision. The teacher of record along with the Internship Coordinator is responsible for providing appropriate work and learning experiences.

Transcripts

The term "Transcript" refers to the course records and grades for high school students. Transcripts are based on work completed and records received from other high school attended. Transcripts are created at the end of each semester. Transcripts are prepared and sent upon request. Please allow a minimum of two weeks for transcript requests to be processed. All transcript requests must be made to the Tri-Valley School office except during summer when requests may be made to the Denali Borough School District Office. Tri-Valley School is not responsible for obtaining course credit information from outside vendors. It is your responsibility that Tri-Valley School receives this information.

Activities and Athletics

Tri-Valley activities/athletic program is an integral part of the total education process for all students. The school believes that participation in extracurricular activities will provide opportunities and experiences, which assist students in their personal adjustment and development self-expression, mental alertness, and physical growth. Through participation students will develop good sportsmanship, self-discipline, and teamwork principles.

List of Possible Activities:

MS/HS Basketball	MS/HS Cross Country Running	Science Fair
HS Soccer	MS/HS Volleyball	Spelling Bee
HS Hockey	Close-Up	StudentGovt.
MS/HS Track	Battle of the Books	Robotics
MS Geography Bee	All-State Music Fest.	Variety Show
Aurora Music Fest.	State Solo/Ensemble Music Fest.	Esports

Activity offerings are dependent on sufficient volunteer and funding support as well as sufficient student demand. See each activity sponsor for more information. We encourage all students to get involved at Tri-Valley. All students participating in school activities are expected to maintain academic, attendance, and behavior eligibility. Further information regarding participation and eligibility can be found in the Denali Borough School District Student Activity Handbook.

Activity Fees

(AR 6145.6)

The rising costs of travel and energy costs associated with after-school activities make it necessary to implement an activity fee for students. Students participating in extra-curricular or co-curricular activities of the Denali Borough School District shall pay a fee to support the costs of these programs. The fee shall be applied to all participating students including correspondence or homeschool students who are participating in DBSD teams and activities. (BP 6145.6)

Schedule of Fees – For 2026-2027 School Year

High School Activities (9-12)	\$100.00 per student per sport
Junior High School Activities (6-8)	\$50.00 per student per sport
Extra-curricular Activities (non-sports related such as music and student government)	\$20.00 per travel activity

Family Limit

A family will pay a maximum of \$400 of activity fees in a given school year regardless of how many children they have or activities they participate in.

Reduction in Fees

If a student were to qualify for free or reduced lunches, their activity fee and their family's yearly limit shall be reduced. If a child qualifies for reduced lunch their activity fees and family limit are reduced by 50%. If a child qualifies for free lunch, their activity fees and family limit are reduced by an additional 50% to 75% of the regular fee.

Options for fee payment:

The funds can be paid by the individual family or raised through fundraising activities or sponsors (such as booster clubs). Payments by individual families are due before the first competition.

The method for raising funds must be agreed upon by the coach, activities director, and the school administrator. Money raised through fundraising must pay a portion or the entire fee for all participants or none at all. Plans to pay activity fees or a portion of the fee must be in place before the first practice with the total amount arranged via the fundraising paid by the last competition.

Sponsors such as booster clubs may opt to pay fees for students. Sponsors must notify the school administrator and activities director in writing of plans to pay activity fees for all participants before the first practice with the total amount due by the last competition. Sponsors must pay a portion or the entire fee for all participants or none at all.
(AR 6145.6)

Dances

Dances and other similar events must be scheduled through Student Council and approved by the principal. Events must have an adequate number of chaperones present during setup and the actual event. Only middle school students are allowed to attend middle school dances and only high school students are allowed to attend high school dances. If a student would like to bring a friend, guest, or date that is not a Tri-Valley Student to one of our dances, a Dance Pass form, found in the office, must be filled out and approved by the principal. Participants or guests must be a middle school or high school student.

Transportation

Bus Rules

(DBSD Policy)

First Student Bus Service provides bus transportation to and from school. If you are in need of transportation for your child or need bus schedule information, please contact Tri - Valley School office. Be advised that bus service may be canceled if temperatures reach 50 degrees below zero or colder.

During cold weather the following special expectations apply to students who are traveling. These expectations are designed for the students' safety. For temperatures below 20 degrees Fahrenheit, to help ensure health and safety, students traveling in district owned or contracted vehicles must have with them the clothing listed below. It will be the responsibility of individuals chaperoning the school-sponsored trip to see that the students have the necessary clothing. A student without the necessary clothing may not travel in the school vehicles. Necessary clothing includes, but is not limited to the following:

1. Head covering which covers the ears

2. Gloves and/or mittens
3. Parka or warm coat and snow pants or a full body snowsuit
4. Winter boots

If a student does not follow behavioral expectations, the following general procedures will be followed depending on severity of offense and prior record of student.

1. Student will be advised of inappropriate conduct.
2. Student may be assigned a special seat.
3. First Student will inform the parent, guardian or custodian of the misconduct and request their cooperation in checking the child's behavior.
4. Student bus privileges may be suspended.
5. Disciplinary referral form may be filled out and First Student representative and principal will meet with student and/or family.

School vehicles are used routinely to transport students for field trips or for student activity events. A permission slip and trip itinerary will be provided to the parent well ahead of time and the permission slip must be filed with the classroom teacher prior to the student attending any field trip off campus as a result of the instruction day. When in transport, whether it be by bus or school vehicle, students should remember that they are representatives of the school and the same expectations and rules of conduct apply as when they are in the school building. Detailed information regarding the transportation policy can be found in the DBSD Student/Parent Handbook.

Parking/Driving

Cooperation from parents and others driving on school property is essential in providing a safe environment for our students. Please follow the posted 10 mph speed limit on school grounds and use the parking lots. Do not park in the driveway in front of any exit door. The driveways are fire exits and must be kept clear for any emergency vehicles. Do not park in the front of the elementary north entrance. This causes an extremely unsafe and dangerous situation for children who are exiting the building. It is recommended that parents park their vehicles in the parking lot and then come into the building to pick up their children. Vehicles shall not be left running at or near the entrances to the school. If the weather is extremely cold (well below zero) and a parent feels it is necessary to keep the vehicle running, it shall be parked in the parking lot, away from school entrances.

Student Vehicle Registration

Students must be 14 years of age or a licensed driver to drive and park a motorized vehicle on school grounds. Students who drive an ATV, snowmobile, and/or vehicle must register with the school office by completing the Student Vehicle On Campus Registration Form (available in the

office). Failure to register the vehicle may result in losing the privilege of parking for the remainder of the school year.

Cars and trucks are to park in the west parking lots. Snowmobiles and ATVs are to park in the south parking lot next to the school building. Only school owned trucks can park on the east or south areas so that all fire lanes are open. Please do not park in front of the entrances because those also need to be kept open in case of emergency. Parking spots in the gym side parking lot with plug in accessibility are reserved for school employees and/or district vehicles.

Information for Parents or Guardians

Communication

The school will communicate with students, parents and community members regularly through a school newsletter (Saga), emails distributed via Skyward, website updates, and posted fliers. Regular communication between teachers and parents may take many different forms, but generally serves to inform parents of expectations of students in class and their progress. In the event of an issue, students are expected to approach the teacher first. If the issue is not resolved at the student level, parents and teachers will work towards a resolution. If the issue is not resolved at the parent/teacher level, the principal may become involved. Tri-Valley school values constructive, courteous discussion and expects staff and parents to resolve issues amicably.

Visitor Procedures

Tri-Valley School welcomes visitors to our school. To ensure minimum interruption of the instructional program, visits during school hours should be first arranged with the teacher and Site Administrator or designee. If a conference is desired, an appointment should be set with the teacher during non-instructional time. Visitors must first sign in at the school office. During the school day, student visitors may visit at lunchtime with permission. (BP 1260)
School age visitors are not allowed during class time.

Volunteers in the Classroom

One of the variables that determine the success of a child in school is directly related to the amount of parental involvement in their child's education and school. Tri-Valley encourages parents to volunteer in a variety of places and activities such as classrooms, library, school office, sports and class activities.

If you are interested in volunteering your services you may speak directly to the classroom teacher or contact the school office where you will be directed to the person to whom you need

to speak. All volunteers must pass a background check prior to providing services at the school. Forms are available in the school office. All volunteers must check in and out at the school office.

Release of Records

In compliance with the Family Education Rights and Privacy (FERPA) Act of 1974, Tri-Valley School will request records from a student's indicated previous school. Parents (including guardians) have the right to see, obtain copies from, and contest the contents of education records (for additional information, contact the school principal). Upon parent/guardian request, notice of transfer to another school, or a request for records from another educational institution, Tri-Valley School will forward education records in accordance with governing regulations.

AI Use for Grades 6-12

Artificial Intelligence (AI) is a powerful tool that is reshaping our current and future world. It is important for students to have a general understanding of its applications and weaknesses, as well as have the opportunity to work with it in a meaningful way. With this in mind, the following metrics have been adopted for grades 6-12. The intent is to have clear expectations for how and when AI is used for assignments and what accountability measures will be expected from teachers. The following has been adopted from the state of North Carolina and may be modified for our use and purposes in the future. All class assignments are at Level 0 unless the teacher identifies a higher level of acceptable AI use.

0 AI FREE	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Work must be completed entirely without any AI assistance.• Students must rely entirely on their own knowledge, understanding, and skills.• Any AI use is a violation of student academic integrity policy.• An academic honesty pledge that AI was not used may be required.
1 AI ASSISTED	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• AI is used for tasks as specified such as brainstorming, planning, feedback etc.• No AI content is allowed in the final submission.• Usage beyond specified tasks is a violation of academic integrity.• Disclosure statement should be submitted with final product; be prepared to share links, screenshots, etc., as evidence of all AI Chats.
2 AI ENHANCED	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• AI is used interactively throughout to enhance your knowledge, efficiency, & creativity.• Student must provide human oversight and evaluation of all AI generated content.• Interactivity with AI and critical engagement with AI-generated content is required.• Student is responsible for the accuracy and fairness of all AI-generated content.• Disclosure statement should be submitted with final product; be prepared to share links, screenshots, etc., as evidence of all AI Chats.
 AI EMPOWERED	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The full integration of AI allows for the creation of things that were previously impossible, empowering students as critical thinkers, creatives, and problem solvers.• Student must provide human oversight and evaluation of all AI-generated content.• Student is responsible for the accuracy, fairness, & originality of all AI-generated content.• All AI tools used and how they were used should be cited in a disclosure statement.

Source: Adapted by Vera Cubero 4/28/24 for the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction (NCDPI) from the work of Dr. Leon Furze, Dr. Mike Perkins, Dr. Jasper Roe FHEA, & Dr. Jason Mcvaugh. Link to Original Work: <https://arxiv.org/abs/2312.07086>

