



STILLWATER

CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

2011 - 2012 High School Student Handbook

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VISION

To develop life long learners who discern and apply God's Truth as they serve and lead wherever God calls.

MISSION

To equip students with the tools for learning through a Christ-centered, academically enriching, education where each discipline is subject to the authority of God's Word.

Is Stillwater Christian School Accredited?

Yes. Stillwater Christian School is accredited by the Association of Christian Schools International (ACSI) and the Northwest Accreditation Commission (NWAC). This means that our transcripts are accepted by any other accredited high school or college/university.

When does school start?

You are expected to be in home room when the bell rings at 8:10. You will hear a warning bell at 8:05, and that is your clue that school is about to start. While we are delighted to have you in school, we ask that you arrive no earlier than 7:45.

May I stay after school?

School is dismissed at 3:00, and you are welcome to stay late to participate in extra curricular activities supervised by school personnel. However, the office closes at 3:30, so you need to be heading home by then.

What if I am late to school?

If you are late to home room you will be marked tardy by your home room teacher. You must check in at the high school office before going to class. After three unexcused tardies you will land in detention (notice that you get two grace tardies with no consequence). If you are a habitual offender and manage to rack up three more tardies (for a total of six), you will land in detention again. After that, every time you are tardy you will get a silent lunch.

What if I am late to class?

Once you're at school we think it is important to be punctual as you go from class to class. You have 3 minutes to get from one class to another and to take care of any personal business. This is more than enough time for a school with only two hallways. If you are late to class it will be up to your teacher to determine if you had a legitimate reason for being late. You could find yourself in silent lunch for unexcused lateness. Remember, when you are late it is disruptive to class and disrespectful to both students and teachers.

What if I don't show up at all?

Absences are recorded as either excused or unexcused. Make sure you sign in or out at the high school office whenever you arrive late or leave early.

We believe it is important to be here in order to receive the full benefit of our high school educational experience. It is our goal to help students develop good work and study habits. This requires self-discipline and the ability to set priorities. Attendance does affect your achievement and progress in class. Students who simply choose not to come to school may be denied the opportunity to make up work for that class period. Concurrent credit courses have specific attendance policies, and excessive absences could result in a loss of the college credit.

What about make-up work?

You, not your teacher, are responsible for arranging to make up missed work! It is your responsibility to contact each teacher about all tests and assignments missed and to complete all make-up work within the time specified by your teachers. Generally you have one day to make-up assignments for each day you missed. Except as noted above.

Will I get a locker?

Yes. You will be assigned a locker by your home room teacher. Decorations and pictures inside your locker must be consistent with the values of SCS. Decorations to the outside of lockers are limited to school-related activities such as sports team decorations and messages of encouragement. All of your belongings should be kept inside the locker with the door closed. Any items left on top of the lockers or in the hallway will be thrown away or put in lost and found. While theft is not a regular problem, you should think twice about leaving valuable items in your locker as SCS is not liable for items taken or stolen.

What do I have to wear to school?

Clothing is a good start; then consider the following:

First of all, we think you should honor your parents with your choices of clothing. That doesn't mean you will always agree, but you will make an effort to listen to them.

Second, we believe God cares about what you wear and wants you to consider three Biblical principles for dress.

The Bible simply tells us:

1. That we should be modest in our dress (I Timothy 2:9), which means don't go out of your way to attract attention to yourself.
2. That there are some differences between the ways men and women should dress. (Deuteronomy 22:5)
3. That at a time when many young people try to find ways to shock adults with their costumes, you should dare to be different enough not to offend anyone with what you wear. (I John 2:15)

Third, since you will be with us all day, you have to dress in such a manner that the staff won't hassle you.

Because SCS is open to many visitors each day and we only get one chance to make a first impression, we don't expect you to embarrass the school with inappropriate clothing. SCS staff may ask you not to wear a certain article of clothing to school again. If this happens, please respect and follow the teacher's directive. You are given quite a bit of freedom regarding what you wear; in exchange we ask that you observe the following guidelines:

SHIRTS AND TOPS—Should be modest, not low cut or sheer. Tank tops (wide or thin straps), halter tops, midriff and muscle shirts are not allowed. Girls may wear sleeveless shirts. Logos or other advertising should be appropriate for the Christian school atmosphere.

PANTS, SLACKS—Good jeans, not torn. Tight-fitting or baggy extremes are not allowed. Thin, clingy, or stretch-type materials, spandex, or leggings are not allowed as outer garments. Dress shorts are allowed, no cut-offs or gym shorts. Shorts should extend beyond the fingertips. Sweat pants, lounge wear, or sleep wear are not permitted.

Do I have to wear something special for Chapel day?

Yes, you must wear something, and it should be somewhat special. If you are a lady (female), you must wear a modest dress or skirt and shirt. Men (male) get to wear a tie with a tucked-in, button-down shirt and pants other than blue-jeans. You should think of Chapel dress as “personal best,” a dress-up affair.

Do you care how I wear my hair?

Of course! In fact, the same principles that apply to dress also apply to hair. If you have a “faddish” or just plain goofy hair style or unnatural hair color, you will be asked to change it. In addition, hair guidelines for boys are that hair may not cover the ears, go below the collar, or extend beyond the eyebrows. Senior boys may also have facial hair as long as it is neat in appearance.

What happens if I break a rule?

First, let’s clarify terms. SCS operates more on a system of principles than a manifesto of rules. We believe behaving according to Biblical principles is the simplest and most effective method. Besides, there is not enough ink and paper to write rules to address every situation high school students might get themselves into.

Obviously you may not violate any local, state, or national laws while at school. Scripture paints the broad strokes for us. For instance, there is no place for crude or profane language. Honesty and truthfulness are given highest priority. Jesus himself gives us rules to live by that certainly apply to our school day and how we deal with one another. “...do to others what you would have them do to you.” And “love your neighbor as yourself.” Beyond these principles...

THOU SHALL NOT:

- I Chew gum! Chewing gum is prohibited. A \$5 fine will be imposed on anyone caught chewing gum.
- II Use IPODS or any other portable electronic entertainment device during school hours.
- III Disrupt class with your cell phone. This includes text messaging.

Violations of rules II and III will result in confiscation of the device.

Do we get to eat lunch?

That depends on how well you plan ahead. Hot lunch is available everyday. If you want hot lunch, you must sign up in home room. If you sign up, you should eat lunch. If you don't sign up, there may not be enough. You can also bring your lunch from home. Lunch is eaten in the cafeteria or outside on nice days.

Can I leave campus?

No! Well, not usually. We do not allow students to leave campus unless the administration approves and parent permission is given. This means no off-campus lunch, etc. The exception to this involve seniors who may be off-campus for senior seminar or who may be released early. There are occasions when school sponsored activities take students off-campus with parent permission.

Since I can't leave campus, can I invite someone else to visit me?

Maybe. We have a closed campus. That means when you are here, you stay here. It also means that if you are not a student at SCS you should not be here. However, there are times when it is appropriate to have visitors. You should request permission from the office a day or two in advance if you wish to bring a visitor to school.

Can I drive to school?

Yes, but only if you have a license. However, driving is an adult responsibility, and driving around a school requires special care and consideration. If you demonstrate that you are not up to the responsibility, you may be fined and/or lose the privilege of driving to school.



What do I have to do to get an “A” here?

Finally, a question about academics. First of all, teachers don't give grades. You, as a student, earn them. The grade you receive is primarily determined by the diligence and effort you demonstrate in completing the work assigned in the course. The grade reported will be based on the following scale.

GRADING SCALE (Middle and High School)

	Numerical	Grade Point
A	93 - 100	4.00
A-	90 - 92	4.00
B+	87 - 89	3.00
B	83 - 86	3.00
B-	80 - 82	3.00
C+	77 - 79	2.00
C	73 - 76	2.00
C-	70 - 72	2.00
D+	67 - 69	1.00
D	63 - 66	1.00
D-	60 - 62	1.00
F	59 and below	0

What do I have to do to graduate?

Good question! In order to receive a diploma from SCS you must successfully meet the following graduation requirements.

- 4.0 credits in Literature
- 2.4 credits in Bible (1 course per year of attendance)
- successful completion of a senior thesis
- 4.0 credits in History
- 3.0 credits in Science
- 3.0 credits in Mathematics (Algebra I and Geometry required)
- 1.6 credits in Logic/Speech/Rhetoric
- 1.0 credit in Computer
- 5.0 credits in electives
- 24 credits for graduation

For many students graduation will result from the promotion through four years of high school at SCS. During your course of study you must carry a minimum of 5.6 credits each school year. Listed below are the required core courses you must take to meet the graduation requirements.

REQUIRED CLASSES

Freshmen will take the following courses:

- 1.0 Literature
- 1.0 History
- 0.6 Bible
- 1.0 Conceptual Physics
- 1.0 Algebra I or Geometry
- 0.4 Speech and Logic Applications
- 5.0 Required credits

Sophomores will take the following courses:

- 1.0 Literature
- 1.0 History
- 0.6 Bible
- 1.0 Conceptual Chemistry
- 1.0 Geometry or Algebra 2
- 0.4 Rhetoric
- 5.0 Required credits

Juniors will take the following courses:

- 1.0 Literature
- 1.0 History
- 0.6 Bible
- 1.0 Biology
- 1.0 Algebra 2 or Advanced Math
- 0.4 Rhetoric
- 5.0 Required credits

Seniors will take the following courses:

- 1.0 Literature
- 1.0 History
- 2.0 Senior Seminar (Bible/Rhetoric/Senior Thesis)
- 4.0 Required credits

Keep in mind there are elective requirements as well. Your promotion from grade to grade is based on the number of accumulated credits as follows:

- End of 9th grade 6 credits
- End of 10th grade 12 credits
- End of 11th grade 18 credits

If you are unable to complete the required number of credits, you may need to earn credits outside the normal school year. There are several options for summer study or additional course study during the school year. Course work

done to make up credits must be approved by the administration. Grades below a “C” will not be accepted, and GPA and class rank will be calculated using only grades earned at SCS.

How are credits assessed at SCS?

At SCS our courses are full year rather than semester courses. As such you earn full rather than half credits. Credit is awarded upon completion of each course with a passing grade. Your course grade is determined by averaging your semester grades and your final exam grade. Your transcript will reflect first and second semester grades and credit received for each course. Dropping a course may result in loss of any credit for that course.

Can I drop a class in the middle of the year?

Yes, there are provisions for dropping a course. However, you need to know that most of our courses are year long and must be maintained all year to earn any credit. Beyond losing credit there may be other penalties associated with dropping a course. Carefully review the following policies below before deciding to drop any course.

A course may be dropped:

- without grade points or transcript record if it is dropped within the first two weeks after the beginning of the course.
- without grade points but with transcript record if it is dropped within the first week of any quarter after the first quarter. The transcript will show a WP or WF (withdrew passing or failing) depending upon the cumulative course average up to the most recently completed quarter. No credit is given for any incomplete course.
Due to performance preparation, choir and band may be dropped at the semester only.
- with grade point and transcript record if it is dropped after the first week of a quarter. It will be listed as a WF. An “F” grade will be used for that course to calculate GPA. An “F” will also be used in determining eligibility and honor roll status for the quarter in which the course was dropped. No credit will be given for the course.

Will I get any progress reports?

Yes, Infinite Campus, our internet-based school communication system, which is accessed by going to stillwaterchristianschool.org gives you and your parents instant access to your course grades any time day or night. It is like getting a progress report every day! The website also allows you to keep up with course assignments and calendars online. In addition, paper progress reports may be sent home at midterm to parents of students who have below a “C” in a class.

Do I have to maintain a certain GPA at SCS?

Well, doing your best academically is crucial to successfully completing high school. If you fall below a 2.0 GPA during any quarter, you will be listed on academic probation for the following quarter. If you are on probation, you may not be able to participate in extracurricular activities. In addition, camping out on probation quarter after quarter may lead to your being asked to withdraw from SCS. If you are in sports, you should consult your athletic handbook for complete eligibility requirements.

What if I have really good grades or other positive characteristics?

That's awesome. If you have good grades, you will probably find yourself on the honor roll. Honor rolls are based on your quarterly grades. You may not be on an honor roll if you have a grade of "C -" or below. Check below to see where you fit.

Honor Roll	3.20 to 3.69
High Honors	3.70 or above

Besides honor roll, if you excel academically or in other ways you may find yourself recognized for those achievements or character traits at our honors dessert held during the third quarter of each year. We typically recognize students in the following categories:

Class Awards – teachers select the student with the highest average in their classes and those students in the grade who show outstanding effort.

Christian Character Awards – these awards are given to individuals who exhibit various Christian character traits throughout their involvement at SCS. Past awards have been in the areas of service to others, humility, Christ-like attitude, and pursuit of excellence.

Honor Rolls

- Academic Merit – students who have achieved honor roll all of the first three quarters.
- Academic Honor – students who have achieved high honor or honor roll all of the first three quarters.
- Academic Excellence – students who have achieved high honor roll all of the first three quarters.

ACSI Distinguished High School Student – this award is given to juniors and seniors who are selected by the high school faculty.

Does SCS have a local chapter of the National Honor Society?

Yes, we do. NHS is open to sophomores, juniors, and seniors. Students must have a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.5 and demonstrate excellence in leadership, service, and character. Induction into the NHS is normally held in the fall each year.

Are there computers I can use on campus?

Yes. There is a computer lab, a mathematics lab, a mobile computer cart with wireless access and computer terminals in the library for student use. At the beginning of the year you will receive an Acceptable Use Agreement that you must sign in order to use school computers. Everything you need to know will be in that document.

What happens if I get hurt at school or on a school activity?

It is our hope that doesn't happen! However, you are protected by accident benefit coverage if something happens at school or a school activity. This coverage is secondary to any insurance your parents would have and is limited to \$5,000.

Does SCS have a Sexual Harassment policy?

Yes, it is the policy of SCS to prohibit sexual harassment of all students. Students who believe an employee or student of the school is subjecting them to sexual harassment are encouraged to report the matter promptly. (The full policy statement is available upon request.)



Go Cougars!

Appendix “A”

Discipline Consequence Guidelines

Silent Lunches may result from:

- Late to class
- Book uncovered
- No pen, pencil, etc.
- Dress code violations
- Failure to return signed notes or absence notes
- Failure to pay obligations
- Failure to attend a silent lunch (results in having two silent lunches)

Detention may result from:

- 3 silent lunches per quarter
- Continuing an action after correction
- Deception
- Showing disrespect through body language
- Failure to attend one of two reassigned silent lunches
- Verbal confrontation between students

Suspension may result from:

- Obscene, vulgar or profane (taking God’s name in vain) language
- Cheating/Plagiarism
- Lying
- Direct disobedience
- Cutting class
- Wrestling, punching, pushing, shoving, or other physical displays of anger
- Vandalism
- 4 detentions in a school year
- Stealing
- Fighting

Disciplinary Probation

A student is placed on disciplinary probation for the following reasons:

- Suspension
- Demonstrating a negative attitude or influence
- Failure to comply with the regulations of the school
- Conduct outside of school that has an adverse effect on the name of Christ.

Expulsion

A student involved in the following may be considered by the school board for expulsion:

- Immorality
- Drugs
- Ongoing misbehavior that disrupts the learning processes or is scornful of God.
- 2 suspensions in a school year

I Corinthians 13

If I speak in the tongues of men or of angels, but do not have love, I am only a resounding gong or a clanging cymbal. If I have the gift of prophecy and can fathom all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have a faith that can move mountains, but do not have love, I am nothing. If I give all I possess to the poor and give over my body to hardship that I may boast, but do not have love, I gain nothing.

Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. It does not dishonor others, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres.

Love never fails. But where there are prophecies, they will cease; where there are tongues, they will be stilled; where there is knowledge, it will pass away. For we know in part and we prophesy in part, but when completeness comes, what is in part disappears. When I was a child, I talked like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child. When I became a man, I put the ways of childhood behind me. For now we see only a reflection as in a mirror; then we shall see face to face. Now I know in part; then I shall know fully, even as I am fully known.

And now these three remain: faith, hope and love. But the greatest of these is love.



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