

North Star Charter High School

Developing Virtuous Citizens

Student Handbook 2008-2009

North Star Charter High School
International School of Business and Economics (ISBE)
1001 W. State
Eagle, ID 83616
(Eagle Nazarene Church)

Web Site: www.northstarcharter.org

North Star Charter School Calendar 2008-2009

August 21-22 Monday, August 25	Teacher In-service days, no school for students. First full day of classes with all students in attendance.
August 29 September 1	No school for students Labor Day, school closed
September 29-October 3	Fall Break
October 31 November 5-6 November 21 November 24-28	End of First Quarter Parent Teacher Conferences Teacher In-service – no school for students Thanksgiving break – school closed
December 19-January 2 January 5 January 16 January 19	Winter Break – school closed School resumes – full day of classes End of 1 st Semester Martin Luther King Jr. Day – school closed
February 13 February 16	No school for students Presidents' Day – school closed
March 19 March 20-27	End of 3 rd quarter Spring Break – school closed
April 1-2 April 24	Parent Teacher conferences No school for students
May 22 May 25 May 29	No school for students Memorial Day – school closed End of 2 nd semester
June 3	Early release 12:00 noon, last day of school

Administration

Phyllis Smith Principal psmith@northstarcharter.org
Diana Wold Vice Principal dwold@northstarcharter.org

Board of Trustees

Joe deVera Chairman
Brent Pipal Trustee
Chris Lawrence Trustee
Galen Merrill Trustee
Ken Carroll Treasurer
Lisa Szentes PTO Trustee
Liza Walton Trustee
Sallie Herrold Trustee

The PTO officers for 2008-09 are:

President: Susan Madsen
1st Vice President: Endi Fillmore
Treasurer: Jennifer Butler
Vice Treasurer: Karen Mehrhoff
Secretary: Jennifer Butler
2nd Vice President: Phyllis Smith
Past President: Lisa Szentes

Departments Teacher

Teacher e-mails are their first initial and their last name followed by @northstarcharter.org

Business

Huelse,
DeEtte

English

Davis, Shay
Johns,
Tamela
Lloyd, Krista

Foreign Language

Carley,
Carmen
Encelli, Jenny
Tenorio,
Shary

Mathematics

Ledesma,
Roy
Yandle,
Jacque

Music

Hughes, Camden
Stone, Tom
VanPaepeghem, Shirley

Physical Education

Conti, Dan
Sawyers, Georja

Science

Hettinger, Jill
Sitterson, Samantha

Social Studies

Hansen, John
Loveless, Molly

North Star Charter High School International School of Business and Economics

Mission:

We are a public charter school that equips students to think critically and to become virtuous citizen leaders in our local and world community.

Vision:

North Star Charter School guides our students to possess a passion to learn, serve and excel.

Purpose:

Our purpose in opening North Star Charter High School is to offer a continuation of our K-8 program where students exist in a small, safe, caring environment with an accelerated curriculum that meets and exceeds the State Standards. In addition, at the high school level, our purpose is to ensure all of our students are not only “college eligible”, but “college ready”.

Academics:

North Star High School will offer a curriculum that starts with Idaho Achievement Standards and Joint School District No. 2 adopted curriculum as the foundation and will build on that foundation to prepare students for college readiness. Students will be encouraged to pursue concurrent credit through local universities. North Star Charter School will seek the addition of Advanced Placement, International Baccalaureate, and dual enrollment programs as fit our need. The IB program requires schools to go through a two-year screening and training process before acceptance into the program.

North Star Charter High School will participate in all testing required by the State Board of Education and will meet the requirements of the No Child Left Behind Act to ensure that students are taught by highly-qualified teachers (Title 33, Chapter 52,33-5205 & 33-5210) and that students meet the proficiency standards therein.

North Star Charter High School’s graduation requirements will meet or exceed the minimum set forth by the State Board of Education. In addition, those requirements will be aligned with the Meridian School Districts graduation requirements. Service learning and community commitment will be strong emphases at North Star Charter High School.

Students at NSCHS will participate in job shadowing, internships and apprenticeships within our local business community.

Each grade level at North Star International School of Business and Economics will have a theme and a focus. Students will begin their high school experience with the theme of *Place* in ninth grade. Their sophomore year will focus on a theme of *Discovery*. In their junior year the students will advance to *Innovation and Entrepreneurship*. The student’s final year will center on *Research and Problem Solving*. Within the theme for each grade level, a common thread of economics, business and global perspective will be emphasized.

The International Baccalaureate (IB) Diploma Program is a challenging two-year curriculum, primarily aimed at students aged 16 to 19. It leads to a qualification that is widely recognized by the world's leading universities. More information can be accessed at ibo.org. Students learn more than a collection of facts. The Diploma Program prepares students for university and encourages them to:

- ask challenging questions
- learn how to learn
- develop a strong sense of their own identity and culture
- develop the ability to communicate with and understand people from other countries and cultures.

The curriculum contains six subject groups together with a core made up of three separate parts. Students study six subjects selected from the subject groups. Normally three subjects are studied at higher level (courses representing 240 teaching hours), and the remaining three subjects are studied at standard level (courses representing 150 teaching hours).

All three parts of the core—extended essay, theory of knowledge and creativity, action, service—are compulsory and are central to the philosophy of the Diploma Program.

Extended Essay

The extended essay has a prescribed limit of 4,000 words. It offers the opportunity to investigate a topic of individual interest, and acquaints students with the independent research and writing skills expected at university.

Theory of Knowledge (TOK)

The interdisciplinary TOK course is designed to provide coherence by exploring the nature of knowledge across disciplines, encouraging an appreciation of other cultural perspectives.

Creativity, Action, Service (CAS)

Participation in the school's CAS program encourages students to be involved in artistic pursuits, sports and community service work, thus fostering students' awareness and appreciation of life outside the academic arena. The requirement is 150 hours over their junior and senior year.

Rights and Responsibilities

Students.....

For your success you are expected to:

- Attend school daily
- Arrive to school on time
- Strive to do your best
- Be prepared
- Accept responsibility for your behavior and actions

Parents....

For your child's success you are expected to:

- Promote high expectations for your child's behavior, school achievement, and homework,
- Establish and maintain open lines of communications between home, school and teachers,
- Ensure that your child gets plenty of sleep, a good breakfast, and is dressed appropriately,
- Participate in school activities including parent-teacher conferences,
- Regularly discuss school work with your child
- Assist your child in being responsible for their behavior and actions.
- Ensure that you child arrives to school on time

School Personnel

For your child's success we will:

- Provide a safe and effective learning environment,
- Establish and maintain open lines of communication between school and home,
- Promote high expectations for students' behavior and academic achievement,
- Provide opportunities for every student to be successful,
- Promote students responsibility for behavior and actions.

Arrival/Departure of Students

Please be aware that no staff member is on duty before 7:30 A.M. To ensure your student's safety and to prevent any liability issue, we ask that you not send your child to school before 7:30 a.m. unless you have made special arrangements with the administrator. Similarly, school is out at 2:15 p.m. and staff duties end at 2:30 p.m. Students must be picked up by 2:30 P.M. unless arrangements have been made with the office.

Closed Campus

If you need to pick up your child during the day, please check them out through the office. For safety reasons, students are not to leave the grounds at any time, unless they leave with a parent or designated adult. A student who leaves school grounds without permission or without an adult will be considered truant. Local law enforcement will be contacted in the case of truancy.

Homework

Homework fosters student initiative, independence, responsibility, and teaches good discipline. An integral part of a good education requires that homework be given on a regular basis. Learning to budget time to fit homework among other activities teaches

students a valuable lifetime skill. Homework reinforces and supplements the school learning experiences, bringing the school and home closer together. Parents need to maintain a positive attitude toward learning and toward the value of homework; remain patient and encourage your child(ren). A set time and place to do homework is critical.

Daily Homework Makeup Policy

8th – 10th grade: all work missed for excused absences are due the day after the students return. For example, if the student is absent on a Thursday and returns on a Friday, the work is due Monday.

Work turned in one day late will be accepted with a 50% grade cut.

Student Dress Policy

1. Garments that advertise illegal substances, or display suggestive or obscene statements cannot be worn.
2. Gang attire of any kind is strictly prohibited. This includes, but is not limited to, garments that are suggestive, colors, bandanas, or belts that have gang symbols on them. Excessive baggy pants or sweat pants are not allowed.
3. Extremely brief garments such as halter-tops, bare midriffs, tube tops, spaghetti straps, tank tops and plunging necklines are not allowed. Shorts may be worn through warm months. However, shorts or skirts shorter than fingertip length are not allowed.
4. Sandals are acceptable for the classroom. Tennis shoes are required for PE. Bedroom slippers are not allowed.
5. Make-up – lipstick, rouge and eye make-up are not allowed until 6th grade.
6. Visible tattoos are not acceptable. No pierced jewelry is allowed except for the ears.
7. Any attire that is disruptive to the educational atmosphere, or that poses a threat to student safety, is not allowed.

Visitor's Policy

Parents are invited to visit the school or classes. Please make an appointment with administration beforehand. Siblings will not be allowed to accompany parents to high school classrooms. Please check in with the main office upon your arrival. Parents may not drop into a classroom, even for a few seconds, without checking in at the office and picking up a visitor's pass. School-age friends or relatives, who attend other schools and want to visit North Star, must receive permission from the administrator prior to a visitation day.

School Closure

Should inclement weather or emergency situations occur which would result in the closing of schools or the changing of start or dismissal times, the information will be announced by local radio and TV stations.

Electronic Devices

During the school day, which will be signified by the first and last bell, cell phones, CD players, I-Pods, and other electronic devices (excluding calculators in math or science classes) should be turned off, kept in student's locker, and not be visible during the school day. These devices must be kept in the student's locker. Students who have these items turned on or visible in the classrooms, hallways, or in the cafeteria will have them taken away. The electronic device will not be returned until a parent or guardian comes to school to get it.

Medical Insurance Policy

Even with the greatest precautions and the closest supervision, accidents can and do happen at school. They are a fact of life and a part of the growing-up process our children go through. Parents need to be aware of this and be prepared for possible medical expenses that may arise should their child be injured at school. North Star Charter School does not provide medical insurance to automatically pay for medical expenses when students are injured at school. This is the responsibility of the parents or legal guardians. North Star Charter School carries only legal liability insurance. Parents, please be prepared to pay for your child's possible medical expenses.

Bus Rules and Consequences

The following is a complete list of bus safety rules. Please read and share with your child in a way that is understandable to the child.

1. BEFORE YOU GET ON THE BUS:

- a. Be on time at your bus stop. The bus is not permitted to wait.
- b. Stand on the sidewalk at the bus stop. If there is no sidewalk, stand on or near the curb. Stay off the street!
- c. On dark or cloudy days, wear bright clothing.

2. GETTING ON THE BUS:

- a. Stay in line and get on the bus as quickly as you can.
- b. Help other students; do not crowd or push anyone.
- c. Use the handrail when going up the bus steps.
- d. Find a seat and stay in your seat. If needed, share your seat with another student.

3. WHILE RIDING ON THE BUS:

- a. **BE QUIET!** Talking loudly is never permitted.
- b. **DO WHAT THE BUS DRIVER TELLS YOU.** The bus driver has complete authority while you are riding the bus.
- c. **STAY IN YOUR SEAT.** When on the bus, students must stay seated for safety reasons.

Turning around or standing is never permitted. Windows may be opened, **BUT YOU MUST NEVER LEAN OUT THE WINDOW OR PUT ARMS OUT THE WINDOW.**

d. **KEEP THE BUS CLEAN.** By keeping feet off the seat back and putting all garbage in cans you will help make the bus safe. **THE STUDENT WILL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR ANY VANDALISM THAT IS INCURRED.**

e. **KEEP YOUR BOOKS AND OTHER PERSONAL BELONGINGS ON YOUR LAP.** Throwing of any material in or out of the bus is never permitted and will result in

IMMEDIATE SUSPENSION FROM THE BUS.

f. KNOW THE USE OF THE EMERGENCY EXIT. Keep aisles clean and clear at all times in case of an emergency. The back emergency door is to be used ONLY IN THE CASE OF AN EMERGENCY.

4. GETTING OFF THE BUS:

- a. REMAIN SEATED until the bus has COMPLETELY STOPPED.
- b. CROSS THE ROAD IN FRONT OF THE BUS, following the instructions of the driver. Do not walk out into the road between parked cars.
- c. WALK FACING TRAFFIC. When leaving the bus stop, always walk on the curb facing oncoming cars. Stay on sidewalks whenever possible. Do not cross the street unless necessary.

SAFETY IS EVERYONE'S BUSINESS!

We often tell children they need to take care of three general parts of their body while riding the school bus.

1. **Mouth** – Do not talk at a noise level that is distracting to the bus driver or use bad language on the bus.
2. **Hands and Feet** – Keep hands and feet to yourself. Does not push, hit, kick or throw things. Hands and/or feet must never be put out the window.
3. **Bottom** – Stay in your seat. Turning around or kneeling in your seat, or standing is not allowed.

If your child can assume responsibility for the three areas listed above and can show respect for self, other students, and the bus driver, citation will not be necessary. In the event your child violates a bus rule, the following consequences will be imposed.

1st offense: Warning; telephone call to parents and a copy of the driver's report.

2nd offense: Suspension of bus riding privileges for ten (10) school days. Parents will receive a telephone call from the school and a copy of the bus citation.

3rd offense: Suspension of bus riding privileges for the remainder of the calendar school year.

RIDING THE BUS IS A PRIVILEGE! FOLLOW THE RULES! THE BUS DRIVER'S REPORT CAN CAUSE SUSPENSION OF ANY STUDENT FROM RIDING THE BUS!

Severe Clause: North Star Charter School and/or contracted bus company reserves the right to suspend bus-riding privileges at any time in the case of severe misbehavior.

North Star High School Attendance Policy

Students are allowed six (6) absences per class period during the semester. Students who receive seven (7) absences in any class will lose credit unless the absence is cleared by the attendance office as extraordinary within five (5) days of the absence. Written or electronic communication must come from the parent within 48 hours of the absence to prevent truancy. All absences from class shall be counted unless the student physically remains within an accountable school setting such as with a counselor, nurse, administrator, etc.

Extraordinary Absences

Extraordinary absences require prior written request from a parent or guardian, except in the cases of illness, accident, or bereavement. Written or electronic communication must come from the parent within 48 hours of the absence to prevent truancy. The following criteria are used to determine extraordinary absences:

1. NATIONAL OR INTERNATIONAL ACTIVITIES: Events organized for the purpose of continuing competition or as an extension of an approved school program/contest, or special activities such as Olympic qualifying meets.
2. ILLNESS/ACCIDENT: Confinement either at home in a hospital, which can be confirmed in writing by a licensed physician, dentist, psychiatrist, nurse or other health professional.
3. COURT APPEARANCE: As verified by official documentation
4. PROFESSIONAL APPOINTMENTS: as confirmed by documentation by professional personnel such as medical doctors, optometrists, dentists, orthodontists, psychiatrists, or attorneys.
5. EXTENDED FAMILY EDUCATIONAL TRIP ABSENCE: In the instance that an extended family, educational trip occurs while school is in session, the parent and students requesting this exception must do the following:
 - a) Submit a letter of request to an administrator at least two (2) weeks prior to the trip
 - b) The requesting student must have passing grades in all classes
 - c) The requesting student has not exceeded six (6) absences in a traditional schedule
 - d) The requesting student does not have any trancies or school suspensions.
 - e) All pre-arranged work is due on or before the first day back to class.
6. BEREAVEMENT: Up to five (5) days for a member of the immediate family, i.e. father, mother, brother, sister, grandparents.
7. RELIGIOUS OBSERVANCES: When participation is required and can be verified by an appropriate church official or document.
8. ACTIVITY ABSENCE: An absence for a school sponsored program or activity
9. ABSENCE ON DAY OF ACTIVITY: A student who is absent during any part of the day of an evening performance or function may not participate in that performance or function unless deemed an extraordinary absence.

UNVERIFIED ABSENCES

1. All other absences except those before named in the extraordinary portion or under special provisions, are considered unverified absences. Unverified absences change to trancies if written or electronic communication does not come from parents within 48 hours.
2. Persistent truancy may result in suspension/expulsion from school.

EXCESSIVE ABSENCES

1. If a student is absent for fifteen consecutive school days, whether or not the absences are verified, the student may be dropped from school. If this occurs, and there is a waiting list, the student will be placed at the end of waiting list. At the time the student returns to school, if there is an opening in that grade, and they are at the top of the waiting list, the student may be re-enrolled in school.

Tardy Policy

There are two types of tardies at North Star Charter High School; 1) Unexcused Tardy in which there is no viable written, electronic, or verbal excuse to justify the tardiness, and 2) Excused Tardy in which the tardy is given a viable written, electronic or verbal excuse by a parent/guardian of the child within two school days of the tardy.

A maximum of three Excused Tardies will be allowed per class per semester. Excused Tardies beyond three will count as unexcused tardies.

A maximum of four unexcused tardies per class per semester will be allowed without loss of credit for that class. Each tardy beyond four may be made up through attendance at Saturday School in order to regain credit. A maximum of two Saturday Schools can be served in one semester for tardies.

- Tardies up to 4: Credit granted
- 5th Tardy: Loss of credit, redeemable through Saturday School.
- 6th Tardy or 5th Tardy in a second class: Loss of credit, redeemable through a second Saturday School.
- 7 or more Tardies: Loss of course credit, must appeal for credit.

Saturday Schools will be arranged periodically throughout the semester by the administration. Saturday school must be completed within two weeks after the semester ends, or in the case of the spring semester, an equivalent detention to a Saturday school can be arranged with the administration. **A student who is ten or more minutes late to class will be considered absent.**

Truancy

Truancy occurs when a student is absent from any class without previous consent or knowledge of the parents or an appropriate school official. Repeated truanancies may result in expulsion from school.

Code of Conduct for Students at North Star Charter High School

Students on any school premises or at any school sponsored activity, regardless of location, are expected to obey school officials, protect property, maintain order and decorum, avoid excessive physical contact, fighting and public displays of affection(hand holding is permitted). Students shall conduct themselves in a positive manner. Disciplinary action for violation of this policy may involve up to, and including suspension and/or expulsion.

Honor Code

Cheating, which includes plagiarism, is in complete contradiction with the moral standards of behavior for any North Star student. Cheating in any form or manner on any K-12 school premises or at any K-12 school-sponsored activity, regardless of location, is prohibited. **Plagiarism** is defined as presenting someone else's words or ideas as if they were your own. Consequences for violations of this policy shall be based on the student's age and the severity of the infraction. Disciplinary actions for violations of this policy may involve up to and including loss of credit for assignments, complete withdrawal from a class, suspension and/or expulsion. Parents will be contacted in all cases.

North Star Athletics and Activities Grades 8-12

Athletic Eligibility

1. Athletes must have earned five credits the previous semester on a traditional schedule and six credits on an A-B block schedule.
2. An athlete is ineligible on the day of his/her 20th birthday.
3. An athlete must have an IHSA physical on file at the school. A new physical is required the freshman and junior years.
4. Athletes must follow all IHSA guidelines, rules and regulations.
5. Junior Varsity and Varsity athletes must maintain a 2.0 GPA.
6. Junior Varsity and Varsity athletes cannot have an F in any current class. Coaches will monitor the athlete's grade and the athlete will become eligible when they no longer have a failing grade.
7. A student must have ten days of practice prior to the first interscholastic athletic competition in a sports season.
8. Each individual coach will set standards for their team as to behavior in the classroom, practice rules and team policies. Athletes must abide by these standards to be eligible to play.

Attendance on the day of an activity

A student must be present for at least four full periods during the day of the event, evening performance, game or function to be able to participate in that performance or function unless deemed an extraordinary absence. A student suspended in school for more than one period or out of school on the day of an activity will not be allowed to participate in that activity, game, or practice.

Forms

The Idaho High School Activities Association requires that an athlete receive a physical examination and have on record **with the school the interim questionnaire prior to his/her first practice** in any IHSA sponsored sport (grades 9-12). Physicals are required prior to the first day of practice in the 9th and 11th grades. A student will not be required to have an additional physical examination during the 10th and 12th grades unless:

1. The physician recommends the student have an additional physical examination.
2. The parents request an examination via the Interim Questionnaire.
3. Affirmative answers on 1-9 of the Interim Questionnaire indicate a possible need for a repeat physical examination.

NOTE: The physical examination must **not** be completed before May 1 of the athlete's 8th or 10th grade year.

Physical examination forms are available on the website, <http://www.idhsaa.org/>. The Interim Questionnaire is a consent form that must be completed each year of participation by the

parents/guardians of the athlete. The original is given to the school principal. The original, completed Idaho Health Examination and Consent form must be on file at the school prior to the first day of practice.

Transportation

When students leave for school-sponsored activities during the school day or meet at the school prior to leaving, they must utilize the school transportation to the activity and back. Students who utilize school transportation to an activity must return to school on school provided transportation. Students may ride home with their parents, provided one parent makes personal contact with one of the activity sponsors. For evening or weekend activities in the metro area, students may drive their own vehicles provided that they do not meet at the school first. High school juniors and seniors may drive private automobiles between schools when participating in school sponsored programs. Students must meet the following conditions:

- a) A copy of the student's completed self-transportation form with express written permission from their parent/guardian and the building principal must be on file with the home school prior to use of the vehicle.
- b) A copy of the vehicle owner's insurance policy must be on file with the home school prior to the use of the vehicle. The student driving the vehicle must be covered on the insurance policy.
- c) A copy of the student's valid driver's license.

Activities Code of Conduct

It is the policy of North Star Charter High School to prevent and prohibit the possession, use, sale, distribution, and/or intent to distribute any illegal or controlled mood-altering chemical, medication, look-alike drug or abused chemical by any student. This also includes possession or use of alcohol, tobacco and tobacco products. Consequently, should any member of the school's administration, faculty, staff, or coaching staff witness or have evidence that a student is using, in possession of, or under the influence of any of the previously mentioned substances, that student will be dealt with according to the following procedure.

1. **First Offense:** A student will be ineligible to participate for a minimum of 25% of the total regular season contests, a minimum of three weeks of activities, or a maximum of six games/activities. A student must attend practice and complete the current season; the time of ineligibility will begin with the first scheduled event after the infraction. Should a student violate the Code of Conduct between seasons, including the summer, ineligibility will begin at the beginning of the next sport in which the student participates. When figuring a percent of the season to be missed, any part of a contest will be rounded up to the next whole number, i.e. 25% of 13 regular season contests = 3.25; contests missed = 4.
2. **Second Offense:** A student will be ineligible to participate for a minimum of 50% of the total regular season contests. The time of ineligibility will begin with the first scheduled event. These consequences are in effect for the entire school year.
3. **Third Offense:** The student will be ineligible to participate in any athletic activity for a minimum of one year from the date of infraction; the police will be notified. Cumulative offenses will carry through one calendar year, from the date of the first infraction.

Sportsmanship

When to cheer and applaud

1. As your team comes onto the playing floor/field, students should cheer.
2. As your team is introduced, cheerleaders may go out onto the playing floor/field.
3. When an opponent or your own player has made an exceptionally fine play.
4. When a substitution is made on your team, cheer the outgoing player and incoming player.
5. As encouragement and tribute to an injured player.
6. When an opponent who has played spectacularly leaves the game. Such a cheer would be recognition of a fine exhibition and concrete example of good sportsmanship.
7. As encouragement to own team in its drive for a score.
8. As encouragement to own team in defense of its goal.

When not to cheer

1. When your team is penalized. The official is closer to the play than you and has expert knowledge of the rules under which the game is to be played.
2. When an opposing player makes a mistake or the opposing team is being penalized - this is poor sportsmanship.
3. When an opposing player is injured. Any expression of pleasure or joy over the injury of an opponent is bad taste.
4. If the opposing rooting section has already started a cheer or the opposing school band is playing.
A pre-game conference of opposing cheerleaders can help to avoid conflict with each other's effort. As announcements are being made over the speaker.

Discipline Procedures

North Star Charter School Suspension/Expulsion Policy

When any North Star Charter School (NSCS) student chooses unacceptable behavior, it is first addressed by the teacher in the classroom. If a student's unacceptable behavior includes but is not limited to flagrant unkindness, disrespect, defiance, bullying, intimidation, being continuously disruptive, harassment, cheating, stealing, fighting, verbal or written threats, alcohol/controlled substance use or distribution, the teachers and/or administrators and/or the district superintendent will address the problem when and in the manner deemed appropriate, which may include any of the following consequences.

:

- Lunch or after school detention for up to five days - attend class field trips only with parent chaperone.

- One day in-school suspension –loss of field trips for school year, classroom credit for this day, unexcused absence.
- Two days in school suspension –loss of classroom credit for these days, unexcused absences.
- Out of school suspension for 1-5 days –loss of classroom credit for these days, unexcused absences.
- Out of school suspension for greater than five days - loss of classroom credit and administration may begin expulsion process.
- Pre-Expulsion Placement in Idaho Digital Learning Academy (IDLA).
- Expulsion.

Suspension

- Before suspension, the student shall be provided a conference during which the charges will be explained and the student will be given the opportunity to respond to the charges.
- A pre-suspension conference is not required and the student can be immediately suspended when the student's presence poses a continuing danger to persons or property or an ongoing threat of disruption to the educational process. In such cases, the notice and conference shall follow as soon as practicable.
- Any suspension shall be reported immediately to the student's parent or legal guardian. A written and/or verbal notice of suspension shall state the reasons for the suspension, including any school rule which was violated, and a notice to the parent or guardian of the right to a review of the suspension.
- The suspension of a student may be extended by the Principal in accordance with Idaho State law. Written notice of the extension of a suspended student will be provided to the student's parent/legal guardian. Code 33-205: "a temporary suspension by the principal shall not exceed five (5) school days in length; and the school superintendent may extend the temporary suspension an additional ten (10) school days."

Students are forbidden to knowingly and/or voluntarily possess, handle, transmit, or use any instrument that can be used as a weapon or is a facsimile of a weapon. Any object which could be used to injure another person and which has no school-related purpose will be considered a weapon for purposes of this policy. Joint School District #2 lists the following as examples of instruments ordinarily or generally considered weapons: knives of all types, guns, lead pipes, chains, chuck-sticks, throwing stars, darts, metal knuckles, black-jacks, fireworks, explosives, mace or other chemicals. A weapon at school is an automatic suspension with an expulsion hearing in front of the NSCS Discipline Committee.

Expulsion

Students involved in any action that puts in jeopardy the health or welfare of the school facility or its occupants may be recommended for immediate expulsion for the remainder of the semester or, if a minimum of 20 days remains in the semester, the student may be expelled for the remainder of the current semester and the following semester. Students who are expelled are not allowed to be on the NSCS campus for the duration of their expulsion.

Idaho Code 33-205 states “The board of trustees may deny enrollment, or may deny attendance at any of its schools by expulsion, to any pupil who is an habitual truant, or who is incorrigible, or whose conduct, in the judgment of the board, is such as to be continuously, disruptive of school discipline, or of the instructional effectiveness of the school, or whose presence in a public school is detrimental to the health and safety of other pupils, or who has been expelled from another school district in this state or any other state. Any pupil having been denied enrollment or expelled may be enrolled or readmitted to the school by the board of trustees upon such reasonable conditions as may be prescribed by the board; but such enrollment or readmission shall not prevent the board from again expelling such pupil for cause.”

A NSCS administrator may recommend to a North Star Discipline Committee, who may recommend to the Board of Trustees, that the pupil be expelled for a period of time of up to one year. The following due process procedures will be followed:

1. The student and parent or legal guardian shall be provided written notice of the Committee hearing to consider the recommendation for expulsion, by registered or certified mail at least five (5) school days before the date scheduled for the hearing. The notice shall include the grounds for the proposed expulsion, the time and place of the hearing, information describing the process to be used to conduct the hearing, including the rights of the student to be represented by counsel, to produce witnesses and submit documentary evidence and the right to cross-examine adult witnesses who testify against the student.
2. Within the limitation that the hearing must be conducted during the period of suspension, an expulsion hearing may be rescheduled by the parent or legal guardian by submitting a request showing good cause to the Principal at least two (2) school days prior to the date of the hearing as originally scheduled. The Principal shall determine if the request shows good cause.
3. At the hearing, the student may be represented by counsel; present witnesses and other evidence, and cross-examine adult witnesses. Formal rules of evidence are not binding on the Committee.

Procedures for Suspension and Expulsion of Students with Disabilities

North Star Charter School shall comply with the provisions of the IDEA when disciplining students. No special education student shall be expelled if the student's particular act of gross disobedience or misconduct is a manifestation of the student's disability. Any special education student whose gross disobedience or misconduct is not a manifestation of the student's disability may be expelled pursuant to expulsion procedures, except that the disabled student shall continue to receive education services as provided in the IDEA during such period of expulsion.

A special education student may be suspended for ten (10) days of school per incident, regardless of whether the student's gross disobedience or misconduct is a manifestation of the student's disabling condition. Any special education student who has exceeded or will exceed ten (10) days of suspension may be temporarily excluded from school by court order or by order of a hearing officer if North Star Charter School demonstrates that maintaining the student in the student's current placement is

substantially likely to result in injury to the student or others. The student shall continue to receive educational services in accordance with the IDEA during such period of suspension.

A special education student who has carried a weapon to school or to a school function or who knowingly possesses or uses illegal drugs or sells or solicits the sale of a controlled substance while at school or a school function may be removed from the student's current placement. Such a student shall be placed in an appropriate interim alternative educational setting for no more than forty-five (45) days in accordance with the IDEA.

Computer/Network Use and Conduct

Computers and computer networks, including Internet access, provide valuable tools that support the education of students in North Star Charter School. The student and his/her parent(s) should read and discuss the district policies concerning computer use. Unless a parent has signed a district "Internet Opt-Out" form, all students will be given access to the Internet. In many cases library research resources, such as databases of magazine, journal and newspaper articles, are only available through Internet access. Also, the Internet provides access to information and media resources, simulations, and other online educational activities. Its proper use can open new opportunities for research, learning and communication. North Star Charter School will make prudent efforts to limit improper use.

Students and users will be assigned a network login. With this access comes responsibility. Student logins on the school's network system(s) are considered a privilege, not a right. Students are expected to use only the software made available to them by their teachers or designated technology staff. They are allowed to save documents and other school-related files to their home directories on the network, or other drives only as specified by their teachers or designated technology staff. A student who gains access to inappropriate material on the Internet is expected to discontinue the access as quickly as possible and to report the incident to a staff member.

Students and users will not install/download/access games, utilities, plug-ins or other programs or files from the Internet or any other outside source, to the network or individual systems. Hacking (attempting, without authorization, to access or alter Internet, network or local hard drive functionality, configuration, data or software) is forbidden. This includes, but is not limited to, the creation or transmission of computer viruses, WORMs or any programs/files that would disrupt the use or functionality of the computers or network. Any attempt to harm or destroy functionality of computer-related equipment or data will be considered vandalism (see Idaho State Code 18-2202).

Students and users are expected to follow the guidelines and policies expressed in this acceptable use policy. If the guidelines and/or policies are violated, administrators will determine consequences based on the severity of the incident. This may include disciplinary action, loss of Internet access, loss of all computer privileges, removal from appropriate classes with an F grade, and/or legal action according to North Star Charter School policy (1001.30) and Idaho State Code (sections 18-2201 and 18-2202).

Network, Computer and Electronic Information System Code No. 1001.30

Computers and computer networks, including Internet access, provide valuable tools that support the education of students in North Star Charter School. Network users are expected to use all network resources for purposes appropriate to the educational environment at all times. Users must refrain from any use that is not consistent with the policies, purposes, or objectives of North Star Charter School.

In many cases library research resources, such as databases of magazine, journal and newspaper articles, are only available through Internet access. Also, the Internet provides access to information and media resources, simulations, and other online educational activities. Its proper use can open new opportunities for research, learning and communication. North Star Charter School will make prudent efforts to limit improper use.

All users are expected to abide by the following rules of Internet and network conduct:

- Users of electronic communications (including, but not limited to, email, web pages, on-line collaborations, listservers and discussion groups) should be mindful that communications originating within the district may be construed as representative of the school or district. Do not send, submit, publish, display, or knowingly access any material that is defamatory, inaccurate, abusive, rude, obscene, profane, sexually oriented, threatening, harassing, racially offensive, illegal, or that encourages the use of controlled or illegal substances, or is otherwise not consistent with the policies, purposes, and objectives of North Star Charter School.
- Users who accidentally access inappropriate material are expected to discontinue the access as quickly as possible and to report the incident to a teacher or network supervisor.
- Users will not violate any local, state, or federal regulation or statute.
- Users will not reveal personal information about others and be cautious when revealing personal information about themselves (age, gender, phone number, address, etc.).
- Users will not use the network, Internet or individual computers or other equipment in such a way that it would disrupt the use by others.
- Users will respect network resource limits. They will use their directories on the network to store documents they have created and will delete them when they are no longer needed. They will not download or copy large files unless they are necessary for a school-related project. Such files must be deleted when they are no longer needed. Through routine maintenance, individual files may be reviewed and deleted by designated technology staff.
- Users who can or think they can identify a security problem on the network must notify a teacher or system administrator. Users should not demonstrate security problems to others, nor should they go looking for security problems, because this may be construed as hacking, which is illegal.
- Users may not log in to or use someone else's account. Keep logins and passwords secure. Individuals are responsible for the contents of their network directories, and remembering their own passwords.
- Users will not use district Internet or network resources to sell or offer for sale any goods or services without Board approval.
- Users may not listen to music, online music, download or play online games, or visit social networking sites at school.

--Since external drives interact with the network, administrators reserve the right to view and confiscate inappropriate material, software, files, or items for discipline purposes

Intellectual Property.

All works that an individual creates on the network or computers should be assumed to be the intellectual property of that person. However, all works on the network, computers or storage devices are open to monitoring/scrutiny by district and building administration, Information Systems personnel, and/or designees of administrators. All files, materials or documents may be reviewed and deleted by designated technology staff.

Copyright and Plagiarism.

All users should abide by current copyright law. Plagiarism will not be tolerated (plagiarism is copying the ideas, writings or artistic creations of others and presenting them as though they were your own). If text or multimedia files from the Internet or other electronic sources are used, they must be used according to the Fair Use Guidelines established by federal copyright law and policies of North Star Charter School, and cited accordingly.

Electronic Devices.

Electronic communication or data devices will be used only in a manner consistent with the policies of North Star Charter School. These devices include, but are not limited to, handheld calculators, PDA's, cell phones, pagers, electronic book devices, and laptop computers.

Software and Peripheral Devices.

Only district-approved software will be installed by designated personnel on networks or individual machines. Appropriate licenses must be held for all software. Peripheral devices (including, but not limited to, printers, scanners, and storage/data devices) must be approved and installed by designated personnel. Donated equipment and software are subject to the same policies. Any condition or activity not specifically listed above that is not consistent with the policies, purposes, and objectives of the North Star Charter School is prohibited.

Solicitation:

Students or users may not use school technology equipment or email for solicitation or SPAM in any form, including political, religious or other groups not associated with the school without the express written consent of a school administrator.

Other technologies:

Users will not access/use other technologies during the school day such as laptops, cell phones, ipods, cameras, etc. If these items are inappropriately used on school grounds, administrators reserve the right to confiscate the item.

District Limitation of Liability

North Star Charter School makes no warranties of any kind, either expressed or implied, that the functions or the services provided by or through the district system will be error-free or without defect. The district will not be responsible for any damages, including but not limited to, loss of data, or interruptions of service. The district is not responsible for the accuracy or the quality of the information obtained through or stored on the system. The district will not be responsible for financial obligations arising through the unauthorized use of the system.

Information Network Service Acceptable Use Policy
2008-2009
North Star Charter School

Upon signed receipt of this form, all users will receive computer access and password. Internet service will be automatically issued to a user. If you would not like your student to use the internet, you must contact the school and fill out an internet opt out form.

I have read and agree to the terms and conditions stated in the Information Network Service Acceptable Use Policy. I further understand that violation of any part of this agreement will result in the loss of access to ALL TECHNOLOGY. Inappropriate use may also lead to legal action to recuperate damages. A user will be required to reimburse North Star Charter School for any losses, costs, or damages, including attorney's fees, caused by inappropriate use.

Consequences of Inappropriate Use of Network/Internet Resources

Any action by a user that is determined by an administrator or designee to constitute an inappropriate use of the network or electronic information/communication systems as per district policy or Idaho Code 18-2201 and 18-2202, or to improperly restrict or inhibit other users from using these resources, will result in disciplinary action. **Parents, please initial each!**

1st Offense: Removal of all campus computer and technology privileges for one week.

2nd Offense: Removal of all campus computer and technology privileges for rest of semester.

3rd Offense: Removal of all campus computer and technology privileges for the remainder of the school year.

4th Offense: Removal of all campus computer and technology privileges for the rest of the student's attendance at North Star.

If any student accesses/misuses a cell phone, camera, ipod, USB drive, etc. during the school day, administrators may view the images, texts, and/or files.

General Academic Policies

Alternative Courses

Credits earned through completion of courses may satisfy a high school graduation requirement **only if prior approval for such courses has been obtained from the principal or designee**. These courses include correspondence, summer school, evening school and Idaho Digital Learning Academy (IDLA). There are no alternative courses available for IB courses.

College Credits

The International Baccalaureate Organization does not certify concurrent credit courses. Most colleges accept IB credits in the same manner that they accept Advanced Placement credits. Some universities grant sophomore standing to students who possess an IB diploma from high school. Check with the college to verify the kind and number of credits granted for IB diploma and certificate holders. Other courses at North Star will be examined as to their eligibility for concurrent credit.

Course Load

North Star Charter high school students are required to register for a minimum of eight class periods each day during each of their eight semesters at the school.

Credit Acceptance

Credits will generally be transferred from any accredited high school upon receipt of an official transcript. Credits for courses completed at non-accredited secondary schools may be transferred upon receipt of an official transcript and successful completion of subject-area tests administered by North Star instructional staff. Home school courses are not accepted for credits. The North Star Administration reserves the right to determine acceptance of credit for all courses, for all incoming students. Credit will only be accepted for courses taken at the high school level in an accredited high school that teaches grades 9-12.

Credits for Graduation

To qualify for a diploma from North Star Charter High School, students must have completed the required 55 credits in the areas designated below:

English 9-12 (8)	Senior Internship - Thesis/Project (2)
Math (8)	Electives (8)
Earth Science (2)	PE (2)
Biology (2)	Health (1)
IB Science (4)	Foreign Language (8)
Government (2)	Micro/Macro Economics (1)
World History (2)	Personal Finance/Accounting (2)
Speech (1)	Business Marketing (2)
IB History of Americas (4)	Theory of Knowledge (2)

Failed Courses

Students are obligated to enroll in approved summer school or night school classes, or an approved correspondence course to earn credit for courses failed during the regular school year. Exceptions to this rule may be granted when needed courses are not available through any of these programs. (Example: IB courses.)

Grading System

A	4 points	90-100%
B	3 points	80-89%
C	2 points	70-79%
D	1 points	60-69%
F	0 points	0-59%

Grade Reports/Progress Reports

Grades are issued electronically four times per semester on the North Star website, www.northstarcharter.org. In the first semester, these are identified as Progress Report 1, Quarter 1, Progress 2 and Semester 1. During second semester, they are identified as Progress 3, Quarter 3, Progress 4 and Semester 2. Semester grades are posted on a student's permanent record. At the end of each semester, a report card will be mailed home. Assignments and their grades will be posted on the Power School web system every two weeks, by instructors, for the duration of each semester.

PowerSchool

PowerSchool helps your school access and maintain student, staff, and schedule information. PowerSchool is a database application that runs on a server, which is the center of your student information system. PowerSchool uses the Internet to facilitate student information management and communication among school administrators, teachers, parents, and students. PowerSchool Parent Portal is a tool that is integrated into the PowerSchool Student Information System (SIS) that is specifically developed for parents and students.

PowerSchool Parent Portal gives parents and students access to real-time information including attendance, grades and detailed assignment descriptions, school bulletins, lunch menus and even personal messages from the teacher. Everyone stays connected: Students stay on top of assignments, parents are able to participate more fully in their student's progress, and teachers can use their grade book to make decisions on what information they want to share with parents and students.

Withdrawal from courses

Students who withdraw from any class after the sixth school day of a semester, for any reason, will assign an 'F' for the class with the 'F' designation being placed on the official transcript and computed into the GPA.

North Star High School International School of Business and Economics

Offered course work and graduation requirements: Courses listed below may vary but will remain true to the social studies/economics/financial literacy theme through all grades K-12, as well as the International Business and Economics emphasis of the high school. The methodology used to teach many courses will encompass an interdisciplinary approach. However, the integrity of all courses will not be compromised. Distinct courses will be listed on student transcripts and will adhere to district and state content standards.

9th Grade - Freshmen

Freshmen	Semesters	Credits
English 9	2	2
PE	2	2
Math (Pre-Alg., Algebra, Geometry, Alg. 2)	2	2
Government	2	2
Introduction to Business and Economics	2	2
Earth Science	2	2
*Music	2	2
*Spanish	2	2
*Japanese	2	2

* Electives: Choose two

Total Credits for Freshmen Year

16

15 hours of Civic Leadership/community service is required at the freshmen grade level. The time is to be divided equally between community service projects, service learning projects, and school service. A foreign language in the 9th grade year is required.

10th Grade - Sophomore

Sophomore	Semesters	Credits
English 10	2	2
Speech	1	1
Health	1	1
Math (Pre-Alg., Algebra, Geometry, Alg. 2, Pre-Calculus)	2	2
World History	2	2
Entrepreneurship/Business Law	2	2
Biology	2	2
*Music	2	2
*Spanish	2	2
*Japanese	2	2

* Electives: Choose two

Total Credits for Sophomore Year

16

15 hours of Civic Leadership/community service is required at the sophomore grade level. The foreign language that the student took as a freshman must also be taken this year. Curriculum offered by ICEE will be incorporated: Hands on Banking, and the Stock Market Game. Curriculum from Junior Achievement will also be included.

11th Grade - Juniors

Junior	Semesters	Credits
English 11 IB	2	2
Math Studies IB or Math Standard Level IB	2	2
History of Americas IB	2	2
Economics (1st semester)	1	1
Theory of Knowledge (2nd Semester)	1	1
Biology IB	2	2
Environmental Systems IB	2	2
Chemistry IB	2	2
Geography IB	2	2
Music IB	2	2
Spanish IB	2	2
Japanese IB	2	2
Elective 1	1	1
Elective 2	1	1
<u>Total Junior Year</u>		<u>16</u>

A student must select one IB class from each of the following areas: Language (first language), Foreign Language, Social Studies (IB History of Americas), Math (Math Studies or Math Standard Level), and Science (Biology, Environmental Science or Chemistry). Each student must select a 6th IB class which can include Music or an additional science or geography or a second foreign language. A total of 6 IB classes as well as Theory of Knowledge are required. Successful completion of the IB classes, including an extended essay and community service (CAS) assignments will help students to prepare for success on IB exams in order to earn an IB Diploma issued by the International Baccalaureate Organization.

12th Grade – Seniors

Senior	Semesters	Credits
English 12 IB	2	2
Math Studies IB or Math Standard Level IB	2	2
History of Americas IB	2	2
Theory of Knowledge (1st Semester)	1	1
Biology IB	2	2
Environmental Systems IB	2	2
Chemistry IB	2	2
Geography IB	2	2
Music IB	2	2
Spanish IB	2	2
Japanese IB	2	2
Elective 1	1	1
Elective 2	1	1
*Internship	2	2
<u>Total Senior year</u>		<u>16</u>

Electives for senior year may include sociology, instrumental music, choir, art, drawing, painting, and business classes.

*The internship involves 150 hours with a local business which has international connections. This averages out to one hour a day the first and second semesters but may be arranged between the student, business and cooperating teacher. Also, significant time will be spent in class working on their final project. Students will work with a business to determine a problem that needs to be solved and will research solutions, develop products, enlist community support, and propose answers to solve that problem. Their findings will be presented in a thesis/project presentation at the end of the year. If a student wishes to take elective classes and work on the internship outside of school that is permitted.

North Star Charter School is a candidate school for the IB Diploma Program. North Star is pursuing authorization as an IB World School. IB World Schools share a common philosophy—a commitment to high quality, challenging, international education that (this school) believes is

important for our students. Only schools authorized by the International Baccalaureate Organization (IBO) as IB World Schools can offer any of its three academic programs: the Primary Years Program (PYP), the Middle Years Program (MYP), or the Diploma Program. Candidate status gives no guarantee that authorization will be granted. For further information about the IBO and its programs, visit <http://www.ibo.org>.

Credits required for Diploma of Distinction from NSCHS

English 9-12 (8)
Math (8)
Earth Science (2)
Biology (2)
IB Science (4)
Government (2)
World History (2)
IB History of Americas (4)
Speech (1)
PE (2)
Health (1)
Foreign Language (8)
Micro/Macro Economics (1)
Personal Finance/Accounting (2)
Business Marketing (2)
Theory of Knowledge (2)
Senior Internship - Thesis/Project (2)
Electives (8)

NSCHS Diploma of Distinction Credits required: 55
(Meets State Boards expectations for 2013)

Students who participate in some kind of International Education and earn 55 credits during high school will receive a Diploma of Distinction. To achieve this distinction, students may travel abroad with their parents, participate in an exchange program for between 6 weeks and a semester, host an exchange student in their home, or participate in an over-seas volunteer experience. The international exchange may take place some time during their junior year, summer between their junior or senior year, or during their senior year. Students will be encouraged to travel to one of our sister schools and students from our sister schools will be encouraged to come to visit our school, also.

Unless specifically covered in the North Star Charter School handbook, the Meridian Joint School District No. 2 policies shall apply.
<http://www.meridianschools.org/>