

NORTH DELTA SCHOOL



STUDENT HANDBOOK

2019-2020



Welcome to North Delta School!

We are very excited about the new school year and all the possibilities it presents. North Delta has a long tradition of excellence in both academic and extracurricular activities and we are extremely proud that you have chosen to be a part of our family. Together we will work to provide an educational experience that will serve each student well past graduation.

Our student handbook is designed to provide you information about the operations and policies of our school. Please take time to look through it and familiarize yourself with its contents. Throughout the pages of this document we have attempted to address most of the topics that relate to school life. However, if you feel there is something we've missed or needs to be clarified please contact our office and we will be happy to help.

Please visit the new North Delta School website often. Immediately, you will notice the improvements made over the summer. You may access it using the same address (www.northdeltaschool.net) as before. However, you will find it more user friendly and up to date. Our staff has put in countless hours to make sure it keeps you as informed as possible.

Proverbs 3:13 tells us that "Happy is the man who finds wisdom and acquires understanding." It is our desire to help students find wisdom and acquire understanding through all of our efforts. Thank you again for being a part of the North Delta School.

Sincerely,

Randle O. Poss, Ph.D.

Headmaster

Table of Contents

I. GENERAL INFORMATION	
INTRODUCTION	5
YOUR RECORD	5
MISSION STATEMENT	5
PHILOSOPHY	5
OBJECTIVES	5
HISTORY	6
GOVERNANCE	6
OPEN HOUSE	6
PARENTS' CLUB	6
II. ADMISSION	
RE-ENROLLMENT	7
NEW STUDENT ENROLLMENT	7
PRIORITY ADMISSION	7
CLASS SIZE	7
HEALTH RECORDS	7
TUITION AND FEES	8
MINORITY SCHOLARSHIP	8
III. ACADEMIC CURRICULUM	
NORTH DELTA COLLEGE PREPARATORY PROGRAM	8
MISSISSIPPI PUBLIC UNIVERSITIES ADMISSION STANDARDS	8
NORTH DELTA MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS FOR GRADUATION	9
REGULATIONS PERTAINING TO THE HONORS PROGRAM	9
COURSE OFFERINGS AT NORTH DELTA SCHOOL	9
GRADE CLASSIFICATION	10
GUIDANCE SERVICES	10
CLASS CHANGES	10
GRADING SYSTEM	11
NINE WEEKS TESTS	11
EXAMINATIONS	12
REPORT CARDS	12
PROGRESS REPORTS	12
HEADMASTER'S LIST AND HONOR ROLL	12
DIPLOMAS	12
ACADEMIC HONORS	12
TESTING PROGRAM	13
TUTORING	14
ASSIGNMENTS	14
IV. STUDENT CONDUCT	
DETENTION	15
CORPORAL PUNISHMENT	15
IN-SCHOOL SUSPENSION	15
OUT-OF-SCHOOL SUSPENSION	15
EXPULSION	15
MINOR INFRACTIONS	16
MAJOR INFRACTIONS	17
MARRIED STUDENTS	17
PREGNANCY AND ABORTION	17

BOY/GIRL RELATIONSHIPS	17
DRESS CODE	17
HAIR STYLES	19
CAMERA USE	19
USE OF TELEPHONE / CELL PHONE POLICY	19
LUNCH AND BREAK CONDUCT	19
LOCKERS	19
PERSONAL PROPERTY	19
VISITORS	20
SCHOOL SECURITY	20
V. ATTENDANCE	
ABSENCE	20
PREARRANGED ABSENCES OR EARLY DISMISSAL	20
MAKE-UP WORK	21
TARDIES	21
VI. ATHLETIC POLICIES	
ELIGIBILITY / PARTICIPATION	21
ND CURRENT YEAR ELIGIBILITY POLICY	21
PRACTICE TIMES	22
SCHEDULING OF ATHLETIC EVENTS	22
TEAM TRIPS	22
GYMNASIUM POLICIES	22
BOOSTER CLUB	22
CODE OF SPORTSMANSHIP	23
VII. STUDENT ACTIVITIES	
STUDENT COUNCIL	23
THE NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY	23
MU ALPHA THETA	23
CLASS OFFICERS	23
STUDENT PUBLICATIONS	24
SPECIAL INTEREST CLUBS	24
FIELD TRIPS	24
SALES OR FUND-RAISING PROJECTS	24
VIII. EMERGENCY INFORMATION	
ACCIDENTS AND SCHOOL INSURANCE	24
ILLNESS AND MEDICATIONS	24
EMERGENCY DRILLS	24
SCHOOL CLOSINGS	25
IX. ELEMENTARY SCHOOL INFORMATION	
ELEMENTARY CURRICULUM	25
STUDENT HEALTH	25
ELEMENTARY HONORS AND AWARDS	25
ELEMENTARY EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES	26
X. CLOSING PRAYER	26
Appendix A: Drug testing policy	27
Appendix B: North Delta Honor Code	29
Appendix C: North Delta Asbestos Inspection Notice	30

I. GENERAL INFORMATION

INTRODUCTION

North Delta School is a private, non-profit, non-denominational school of academic excellence for preschool through grade 12 (K3-12). The school is accredited by the Mississippi Association of Independent Schools and AdvancED/SACS. Its purpose is to develop to the fullest extent possible the talents and potential of its students so that they may be useful, productive citizens in their communities and our nation. Christian principles form the foundation of North Delta's moral fiber. Very high standards in both academic and extracurricular activities are maintained to prepare students for college level work. This is the major focus of the academic curriculum at North Delta School. Student achievement is limited only by individual ability, motivation, and dedication. Parental involvement in all aspects of the child's education is essential if we are to reach our goals.

YOUR RECORD

Every day you live you are making a record. You should ever be conscious that this record becomes synonymous with your name. The working world has learned through experience that a complete school record of your scholarship, activity, and citizenship gives valuable information in evaluating your ability and fitness to do certain jobs. Your school record is a link in your life that will be examined many times through the years by those concerned about you and your future. Remember that your record is what you make it. With the proliferation of social media and its role in the function of society, new responsibilities now fall on the shoulders of our students. Make your personal, scholastic, and online reputations ones that you will be proud to claim.

MISSION STATEMENT

North Delta School exists to provide its students with a college preparatory education in a Christian environment; and to complement the academic offerings with extracurricular activities that will enrich a student's current life while contributing to their future as citizens of high moral character, ethics, and productivity.

PHILOSOPHY

To achieve our mission, North Delta School will provide challenging learning opportunities at a pace which motivates students desiring to achieve academically at their highest possible levels within a safe, Christian environment. To insure our mission remains viable and in step with our society, North Delta School will subject its educational programs to constant review and development, seeking to maintain a progressive program that properly meets the changing needs of a global society and its student population.

OBJECTIVES

I. Intellectual Objectives

- A. To provide a safe and stimulating environment for learning
- B. To set high academic standards
- C. To motivate each student to perform at his/her highest level to achieve academic excellence
- D. To create the desire for a lifetime of learning
- E. To foster constructive, critical, and creative thinking by individuals

II. Spiritual Objectives

- A. To promote Biblical standards of ethics
- B. To help students develop a sound standard of values
- C. To help students in their daily walk with God through Jesus Christ
- D. To encourage an understanding of various religious and cultural backgrounds
- E. To educate students regarding honor and truthfulness through the school's Honor Code.

III. Social Objectives

- A. To provide a continual effort to encourage students:
 1. To respect the rights and feelings of others

- 2. To respect rules and property
- B. To provide an atmosphere for developing and encouraging acceptable social behavior and manners, both in personal relationships and in the realm of social media
- C. To provide opportunities for developing leadership
- D. To encourage students to work together, share their ideas, and make decisions as a group
- E. To develop an interest in community, state, national, and international affairs
- F. To promote pride in school, community, and country and to help students recognize their responsibility to each of these groups
- G. To promote good sportsmanship
- H. To prevent bullying in all of its forms

IV. Emotional Objectives

- A. To help students develop a positive, realistic self-concept
- B. To teach students to assume responsibility for their own actions
- C. To encourage cooperation with and respect for authority
- D. To work toward a supportive relationship among students, faculty, parents, and community
- E. To assist the students to develop a sense of purpose and direction as they prepare for college

V. Physical Objectives

- A. To encourage proper respect for the body
- B. To encourage interest and participation in physical activities
- C. To understand the relationship between a healthy mind and a healthy body

HISTORY

North Delta School, Inc., was organized in May 1987 from a merger of West Panola Academy and North Delta School. The WPA Green Wave and NDS Eagles began their educational services in the mid to late 1960s to provide an alternative educational experience to the existing school systems. The synergistic effect of each school's strengths, personality, and patronage has led to an organization which has achieved new heights in student performance and growth. The school now serves students from Panola, Quitman, Tallahatchie, Lafayette, and Yalobusha counties.

GOVERNANCE

North Delta School is a non-profit corporation operated under the supervision of a Board of Directors consisting of 12 members. This Board exercises all of the powers of the corporation, except those which are by law, the by-laws of North Delta, conferred upon or reserved to the members directly. Directors serve without compensation. The School encourages all parents to familiarize themselves with school policies, to participate fully in the operation of the organization in accordance with these policies, to take an active interest in what is being taught, and to offer constructive advice whenever they feel such offering to be warranted. The Headmaster and staff are responsible for directing the daily activities in such a way that every student will have the opportunity to maximize his or her academic, aesthetic, and athletic capabilities. The policies of the Board of Directors, accrediting guidelines of the Mississippi Association of Independent Schools, and laws of the State of Mississippi form the foundation of all North Delta rules, regulations, and procedures.

OPEN HOUSE

An Open House (orientation) will be conducted to enable parents to meet their child's teachers, be introduced to the curriculum, and tour the facilities. Announcements outlining the dates, times, and agenda will be sent to our students and their parents.

PARENTS CLUB

An active Parents Club is vital to the present and future success of our school. All parents should insure that their participation in their child's education is demonstrated by their active membership in the Parents Club. Periodic meetings are scheduled on the monthly calendar. Organization officers are elected annually at one of the spring meetings. The Parents Club sponsors several major events during the school year. Funds raised from these activities are used to support numerous school projects, such as library

modernization, computer lab installation, campus beautification, and securing classroom resources. Parents Club officers also provide assistance and advice to the Administration on many issues involving current situations and future school direction.

II. ADMISSION

Admission to North Delta School, its program, classes, and activities, is based on the applicant's ability to complete the course work successfully. North Delta welcomes the application of students of any race, religion, sex, color, and/or national origin and does not discriminate in its admissions practices.

RE-ENROLLMENT

A re-enrollment period will be established by the Board of Directors during late winter or early spring of each school year. Parents of students who will be returning to NDS the next school year will be guaranteed a classroom space ONLY during this re-enrollment period. Parents will be sent appropriate re-enrollment forms and tuition fee schedules prior to this registration period. Re-enrollment is achieved only when forms are completed in full and all enrollment fees are paid. Upon expiration of this period, new students will be assigned remaining classroom spaces in accordance with the date of their application.

NEW STUDENT ENROLLMENT

K5 and first grade

All entering K5 and first grade students may be given a readiness test if deemed necessary by the administration. The results of this test will be used to determine admissions. Mississippi State law requires that in order for a child to enter kindergarten, the child must be five by September 1. A child must be six by September 1 to enter the first grade.

Grades 2-12

In order to be considered for admission:

- 1) Provide grades for the previous two school years.
- 2) Provide results of achievement tests from previous school.
- 3) May not be age 20 or older at date of expected graduation.
- 4) Attend at least one semester before the semester of graduation to be eligible to receive a diploma.

After these tests have been evaluated by the admissions committee, a recommendation will be made to accept the student, reject the student, or accept upon condition.

PRIORITY ADMISSION

When classroom vacancies exist, first preference is given to brothers and sisters of students attending North Delta, NDS alumni, and/or children of the faculty. Special consideration also will be given to those students who do not progress as they should or for unusual circumstances must repeat a grade. All applications will be considered in order received and priorities will be exercised by application and payment of the required fees. Final approval of all applicants will be made by the Administration or Board of Directors.

CLASS SIZE

Class size normally will not exceed 25 students per class in grades 1-12. Kindergarten enrollment will be guided by a student to teacher ratio of 12:1. Exceptions to this guideline must be granted by the Board of Directors.

HEALTH RECORDS

The State of Mississippi has mandated that students attending preschool, kindergarten, or school must be vaccinated. The minimum number of immunizations required are:

Diphtheria, Pertussis, Tetanus	5
Polio	4
Measles, Mumps, Rubella	2
Hepatitis B	3

Varicella (chickenpox) 2

All preschool and kindergarten students, first graders, and transfer students must have a complete and up-to-date health record on file in the school office. As of the 2012-2013 school year and subsequent years the state requirement for entering 7th graders is an additional Tdap booster. Proof of this vaccine is due on or before the first day of school. The State of Mississippi requires that this record show proof of age by means of a birth certificate or birth certificate number, all required immunizations, and a physical examination by a physician. Children will not be considered accepted as students until these requirements are met.

TUITION AND FEES

Tuition, determined by the Board of Directors, is set annually. Payment plans are outlined in the tuition fee schedule and are coordinated through the school’s Director of Finance. Accounts that become problematic or fall into arrears could result in a student’s dismissal from school. Details about rules governing payment of tuition and other school fees are on file with the Director of Finance.

MINORITY SCHOLARSHIP

The North Delta School Board of Directors has set up a minority scholarship program. This scholarship will be made on the basis of academic achievement and financial need. The recipient of the minority scholarship will be selected by a scholarship committee. The criteria used in selecting the recipient are achievement test scores, present high school average, character, family income, and letters of recommendation. Interested parties should contact the Administration for appropriate application forms.

III. ACADEMIC CURRICULUM

The principle academic focus of NDS is to insure that graduates possess the tools necessary to succeed at the next level of their educational pursuit. Embodied within this focus are the goals stated in the NDS philosophy, including the school’s goals to prepare students at the spiritual level. Course offerings are tailored to meet or exceed the admission standards of most Colleges/Universities in the Mid-South area. North Delta School adheres to the recommended guidelines set for by the Miss. Institutions of Higher Learning (IHL), including the 24 credits recommended by IHL for readiness at the state’s universities.

**NORTH DELTA'S COLLEGE
PREPARATORY PROGRAM**

English	4 units (I, II, III and IV)
Mathematics	4 units (Algebra I & II, Geometry, plus one higher level course)
Science	4 units (Biology I & II, or A&P, Chemistry, Physical Science or Physics)
Social Studies	4 units (Miss. Studies, W. Geog., W. Hist., US Hist., Gov’t & Econ.)
Foreign Lang.	2 units (Spanish I&II, or Spanish I and Adv. World Geography)
Electives	4 units (including 2 fine arts)

MISSISSIPPI PUBLIC UNIVERSITIES’ ADMISSION STANDARDS

These admission standards apply to high school graduates who apply for regular admission to state universities.

SUBJECT	CARNEGIE UNITS
<i>English</i>	4

All courses require substantial communication skills components (i.e., reading, writing, listening, and speaking).

<i>Mathematics</i>	3
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Courses should include Algebra I, Geometry, and Algebra II. A fourth, higher level, mathematics class is highly recommended. North Delta offers to qualifying students College Algebra and College Trigonometry through a Dual Enrollment partnership with Delta State University. (See "North Delta Requirements for

Graduation.")

Science 3

Courses should include Biology, Advanced Biology, Chemistry, Physics, A & P, Environmental Science, Chemistry II, Earth Science, or any other science course with comparable rigor and content. One CARNEGIE unit from a rigorous Physical Science course with content at a level that may serve as an introduction to Physics and Chemistry may be used. Two courses must be lab-based.

Social Studies 3

Courses should include United States History (1 unit), World History (1 unit), MS Studies (1/2 unit), World Geography (1/2 unit), U.S. Government (1/2 unit), and Economics (1/2 unit), Geography (1 unit).

Advanced Electives 2

Requirements may be met by earning two CARNEGIE units from the following areas/courses, one of which must be in foreign language or Advanced World Geography.

Computer Applications 1/2

This course emphasizes computer as a productivity tool. Instruction should include use of application packages such as word processing and spread sheets. The course should also include basic computer terminology and hardware operation.

Eighth Grade Units

Algebra I or first-year Foreign Language, and/or Computer are examples of eighth grade courses that can be accepted for admission provided the course content is taught the same as the high school course. These rules are currently being changed by IHL, with the possibility of credits being earned in grades younger than eighth grade. North Delta will respond to those changes as appropriate.

NORTH DELTA MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS FOR GRADUATION

North Delta School requires 24 credits for graduation. These 24 credits must include 4 units in English, 4 units in social studies, 4 units in mathematics, 4 units in science, and the remainder in electives approved by the Administration. All students in grades 9-12 will be enrolled in a minimum of six courses which include math, English, science, and social studies classes each year they are enrolled at NDS. Courses taught in the eighth grade on a high school level may receive graduation credit. NOTE: Completion of the ACT or SAT is also a graduation requirement. Graduation is completed only after commencement exercise and the awarding of diplomas.

HONORS PROGRAM

In addition to the regular college-prep curriculum, honors courses are offered to permit greater depth and acceleration of study. Selection of students is based on discussions with parents, demonstrated achievement at high levels, test scores, and teacher recommendations. Starting with eighth grade math, these courses lead to Dual Enrollment courses for college credit in the 12th grade. Student performance in grades 7-9 is very important in the selection process.

REGULATIONS PERTAINING TO THE PROGRAM OF STUDIES

1. The curriculum a student chooses must meet the approval of the parents, the counselor, and the Headmaster.
2. Each student will be required to register for a minimum of six classes (units) per semester
3. No student can earn more than 7 1/2 academic units during one regular school year.
4. Students who are taking Chemistry must be taking or have taken Algebra II.
5. Students who are taking Physics must have taken Algebra I, Algebra II, and Geometry (trigonometry is preferred).
6. Prerequisite for Biology II (Advanced Biology) is Biology I.
7. Foreign Language will normally be offered to freshman, sophomores, juniors, and seniors. Special courses could be offered in lower grades.
8. Athletics (9-12) will be considered as physical education during the course of the respective seasons. No

more than 1/2 unit may be earned for athletics during one school year with a maximum of 2 units for graduation credit.

COURSE OFFERINGS AT NORTH DELTA SCHOOL

DUAL ENROLLMENT: College Art, College Algebra, College Trigonometry, HIS 201, HIS 202 (These are college courses offered on the North Delta campus for qualifying seniors through Delta State University).

Notes: Honors and Regular Tracks available in most classes listed below. Sufficient interest from students required for all classes listed below to be offered.

ENGLISH: English 1, English 2, English 3, English 4

SOCIAL STUDIES: MS Studies, World Geography, World History, U.S. History, American Government, Economics and Advanced World Geography.

MATHEMATICS: Algebra I, Algebra II, Geometry, Trigonometry/Pre-Calculus,

SCIENCE: Biology I, Biology II (Advanced Biology), Anatomy and Physiology, Chemistry, Physical Science, Physics, Honors Advanced Biology)

FINE ARTS: Art I, Art II, Art III, Art IV, Theater Arts

ELECTIVES: Accounting, Driver's Ed, Life Management Under God, Yearbook

FOREIGN LANGUAGE: Spanish I, Spanish II, Spanish III, Spanish IV

BUSINESS EDUCATION: Computer Applications, Computer I, Accounting,

ATHLETICS: Varsity and junior high softball, football, basketball, baseball, tennis, track, golf, cheerleading, and peewee football, basketball and cheer for 5th and 6th graders

GRADE CLASSIFICATION

Academic credits required for classification:

Less than 6 units	9 th grade
7 units or more	10 th grade
12 units or more	11 th grade
17 units or more	12 th grade

GUIDANCE SERVICES

It is the goal of North Delta School to help each student profit as much as possible from the school programs and to assist him or her in plans for further study. Students and parents will find the counselor available to help students:

1. select and outline a program of study;
2. participate fully in the school program;
3. identify abilities, interests, and special aptitudes by use of standardized tests and other sources of information;
4. improve social and academic attitudes;
5. maintain good attendance at school;
6. obtain information on college entrance requirement and available scholarship awards;
7. achieve at the level of their abilities and to develop their maximum potential;
8. understand themselves and their opportunities;
9. make appropriate adjustments and decisions in light of their understanding.

The school encourages parents and students to contact the counselor when problems arise or when help is desired.

CLASS CHANGES

A student may request a schedule change, but the request must be made no later than three school days after the issuance of the first academic progress report (these are typically released about four weeks after the start of the school year). The requested change will be evaluated by the specific teachers, counselor, and the Administration. The decision to change a class schedule should be based on a specific and appropriate reason.

To change a class schedule, a student will report to the counselor to have his record checked and to get initial approval. The counselor will present the request to the teachers and Administration for final approval. After this final step, the counselor will supervise the change of schedule on the student's schedule and forward the necessary information of schedule change to the teachers involved. If a withdrawal is deemed necessary by the administration after the second progress report, there will be a "withdrawal failing" designation on the student's academic record.

GRADING SYSTEM

1. Academic grades for students 1-12 will be as follows:

90-100	A
80-89	B
73-79	C
70-72	D
Below 70	F

(Note: Dual Enrollment courses will follow the appropriate collegiate guidelines for grading.)

2. Conduct grades for students in 1-12 reflect classroom conduct and class preparation:

A	Excellent
B	Good
C	Needs Improvement
D	Poor
F	Unsatisfactory

3. Grade Weighting - Dual Enrollment Courses and Honors Courses will be graded on a 4.5 Quality Point System; and all other courses will be on a 4.0 QPS.

FAILURE OF CLASSES AND RETENTION

1. Credit will not be given for grades below 70.
2. Retention of students in kindergarten will be based upon the teacher's evaluation of work performance, achievement tests, and readiness for placement in the first grade.
3. In grades 1-3, retention will be evaluated based upon failure in either reading or math.
4. In grades 4-5, a yearly average of "F" in two major subjects (English, reading, mathematics, science, and social studies) will constitute a failure of the grade level. A student who has failed a grade may not attend summer school for the purpose of promotion to the next grade.
5. In grades 6-8, failure of two major subjects (English, mathematics, science, reading, or history) will constitute failure of the grade level. Students who have failed the grade level may be considered for promotion based upon summer remedial work.
6. In grades 9-12, students failing to receive a full credit in a year's major course may repeat the failed semester using an approved summer school, online or a correspondence course. Students are permitted to enroll in only three correspondence or online courses during their four high school years from an accredited source approved by the school administration.

Nine Weeks Test:

North Delta School will not assign nine week exams starting in school year 2018-2019. Should a teacher choose to give a nine weeks' exam, they will address those dates in their particular class.

Make-up policy:

Students are required to make up any missed assignments in two days after the initial absence. Make-up tests can be assigned by the teacher or the assignment can be completed during morning detention.

Ultimately, this decision should be made between the teacher and the student.

Gradebook policy:

Beginning in school year 2018-2019, teachers in grades 6-12 will use the following grading percentages:

Tests, Quizzes, and Major Projects: 60%

Daily Grades and Homework: 40%

EXAMINATIONS

Semester exams are given in grades 6-12. Semester grades are an average of the two nine-weeks' grades and the semester exam score. The exam score will count one-fifth, or 20 percent, of the semester grade. Exemptions from final examinations may be granted only to students in grades 6-12 with a yearly average of 93 or higher (semester grade of 93 for one semester courses). All other students are required to take semester examinations. These averages will be computed by the classroom teacher based on all course work (grades) during first and second semesters.

EXEMPTION POLICY

Beginning in school year 2018-2019, students in grades 6-12 will only be allowed to exempt 1 exam at the end of the course if the student has a 90 or above in the particular class. A teacher can overrule this policy if he/she wishes a student take an exam. Teachers and students will work cooperatively to determine who is eligible to exempt the exam. Exemptions are a privilege and will be treated as such.

Guidelines:

No detention or ISS; or 3 or more minor infractions during a semester

No more than 10 absences for the year in a single class

Any commitment of a major infraction, including cheating, or in-school or out-of-school suspension automatically excludes a student from exemption.

REPORT CARDS

The school year will be divided into four nine-week grading periods in grades 1 -12. Reports will be issued to each student via PraxiSchool (the school's online school information system) at the end of each grading period. Parents are requested to examine the electronic report card carefully.

PROGRESS REPORTS

Progress reports will be provided to all parents at the midpoint of each nine week grading period, also via PraxiSchool, the school's online school information system, to inform them of the student's academic/conduct progress in all classes. Telephone conferences and parent-teacher conferences are also encouraged to assist the parents' awareness of their student's progress.

HEADMASTER'S LIST AND HONOR ROLLS

The following honors will be recognized each nine weeks and at the end of the year at the Awards Day program:

- Headmaster's List for 93 or above in all subjects and an "A" or "B" in conduct each nine weeks
- Honor Roll for 85 or above in all subjects with no grade below 85 and an "A" or "B" in conduct each nine weeks

DIPLOMAS

The diploma will be awarded to students who (1) earn twenty-four units of credits as established by the State, MAIS, and School regulations, and (2) meet the attendance and conduct requirements of North Delta School, and (3) have attended the first semester of their senior year at North Delta if transferring from another school. *Note: A student who fails to earn the correct number of credits will not participate in the Graduation exercises.*

ACADEMIC HONORS

A student must take at least 8 honors courses, of that 2 must be dual enrollment, to be considered for valedictorian, salutatorian, or historian. Accumulated honors points will be reduced by 10 points per day for in-school or out-of-school suspension. Any candidate for Hall of Fame or Honor Graduate who is suspended may have his or her suspension point reduction reviewed by the Academic Honors Committee.

1. *Valedictorian* -Highest grade point average of seniors with previous five semesters attendance at North Delta School and a minimum of eight honors courses.
2. *Salutatorian* -Second highest grade point average of seniors with previous five semesters attendance at North Delta School and a minimum of eight honors courses
3. *Historian* -Third highest grade point average of seniors (attendance and courses same as above)

Note: Grade point average used to select the above students will be Quality Points as described on page 11.

Numerical grades (85, 90, etc.) will be used to break all ties (2 decimal places).

4. *Hall of Fame* -Induction into the Hall of Fame will be based on a point system. These points will be awarded for outstanding performances while participating in North Delta's total scholastic program. Students will start earning points toward induction when they enter the ninth grade. Hall of Fame candidates can only earn academic points in college prep courses at North Delta. Points for induction in the Hall of Fame must be 85 or greater. Honor graduates must accumulate 65-84 points. Points may be removed from a student's total for disciplinary reasons. The Headmaster, counselor, and senior sponsors will serve as a Hall of Fame committee and will be the final authority.

The following list indicates number of points to be earned or lost:

1. *Grades*

Preparatory	Honors	Dual Enrollment
A = +2	A = +4	A = +5
B = +1	B = +3	B = +4
C = +0	C = +2	C = +3
D = -1		D = +2
F = -2		

2. *Memberships*

a. Scholastic Organizations	+1
Mu Alpha Theta, Quill and Scroll, National Honor Society, Spanish Honor Society	
b. Athletic Participation	+ ½ maximum per sport
c. Service Club (SOS)	
Must meet required number of hours	+ ½

3. *Honors*

a. Office held	+1
b. Honors won	+1

(The following are considered Honors: NDS WHO'S WHO; Beauty Revue Top 5; District and/or State Science Fair winners; ABC District and/or State winners; Math/Science competition winners; District and/or State individual athletic awards; select community sponsored awards; school selected awards

4. Citizenship/Discipline + I- 0 to 5 (based on the severity of the discipline)

TESTING PROGRAM

All students at North Delta School take standardized tests throughout their school years. The results of these tests should always be taken in context with all other methods of evaluating academic progress. Although the score of any given test may not be significant in and by itself, a series of scores over a period of time may provide a picture of the academic progress that a student is making. Parents and students are notified of test results at the earliest time; the guidance counselor or administration should be consulted if questions arise.

1. *Placement Tests.* Students entering North Delta School in grades 1-8 for the first time may be given placement tests to help determine the best placement in the school program.

2. *Readiness Tests.* Students entering kindergarten may be given readiness tests prior to the beginning of the school year to evaluate their educational and emotional readiness. Similar tests are administered in the spring to help determine the child's progress and readiness for first grade.

3. *School Ability Tests.* The Otis Lennon Student Ability Test is administered to students in grades 1, 3, and 5 each spring. Scores are recorded on the student's permanent record and provided to parents upon request.

4. *Achievement Tests.* Stanford Achievement Tests are administered during the spring of each year to grades K-5. Scores are recorded on the student's permanent record and sent to the parents. Parents are encouraged to discuss the scores with the teacher or the guidance counselor when a question arises.

5. *Standardized Tests*

Grades K-5 -The Stanford Achievement Test

Grades 6-10 - ACT Aspire

Grade 10-11 -PSAT, American College Test (ACT), Scholastic Achievement Test (SAT), and the ASVAB aptitude test. The ACT and SAT may be taken as often as a student desires.

Grade 12 -ACT, and SAT.

NOTE: The ACT and SAT are college entrance exams. Students must take either test at least once prior to graduation

TUTORING

North Delta School strives to provide to its students the highest standards of teaching in the classroom by its teachers and staff members during the regular school periods. Should a teacher or parent feel that a student is not advancing at a proper pace in a subject, and they feel additional tutoring services by a North Delta teacher or staff member would be appropriate, the school wishes to cooperate to provide an environment to assist them in obtaining this additional tutoring. Upon the referral or request by a teacher, or parent of a student, a student may receive outside tutoring assistance from a teacher, or other employee of North Delta School on the school property. The onsite tutoring by a staff member shall be subject to approval of the appropriate administrative principal (either elementary, middle school, or high school) following a conference with the parent. If the parent and principal agree that tutoring by a staff member would be appropriate, and the teacher requested is agreeable thereto, then tutoring may take place on the campus of North Delta School subject to the following conditions:

1. The tutoring should have the approval of the appropriate administrative principal;
2. The tutor shall be a current teacher or staff member of North Delta School;
3. All tutoring sessions shall take place following the completion of the regular school day and after school hours, so as to not interfere with regular class schedules.
4. All compensation for tutoring shall be negotiated directly between the parent and the tutor, and all fees paid are separate from tuition paid to North Delta School;
5. The teacher or staff member tutoring the student shall be employed directly by the parent as an independent contractor and the school is not responsible for any liability in tort or contract for the actions of the staff member while providing the additional tutoring services.

ASSIGNMENTS

A student's assignments and current grades postings may be obtained by checking the PraxiSchool link at the North Delta School website (northdeltaschool.net). If you need assistance in logging on to this link, please contact the school secretary. This service should replace the need for the secretary to collect a written compilation of assignments missed when a student is absent.

IV. STUDENT CONDUCT

The Board of Directors, administration, faculty and staff expect that all students are capable of conducting themselves in accordance with acceptable standards of behavior. Honesty and moral integrity are also expected of every student. Disruptive behavior that interferes with another student's opportunity to learn or interrupts a teacher's right to teach will not be tolerated; therefore, certain disciplinary actions will be utilized as consequences for student misconduct. Disciplinary measures will be recorded and kept on file in the office.

The school administration's main sequence of punishment is as follows: warning and/or loss of privileges, counsel with student and parents, Saturday detention, in-school suspension, out-of-school suspension, recommendation for expulsion. Also, there are times when the school administration will deem corporal punishment to be a necessary punishment. The details of each form of punishment are outlined below. Also, descriptions of minor and major infractions are provided below. Note: in the case of major infractions, the school administration has the option to immediately utilize the more serious disciplinary steps, including suspensions and recommendation for expulsion.

WEDNESDAY DETENTION

Wednesday Detention and in-school suspension will be part of the normal method of student discipline. Out-of-school suspension and expulsion are reserved for major infractions of school regulations. Students

who receive four infractions will receive detention. Detention will be held from 7 a.m. until 7:50 a.m. on Wednesday mornings. If late for detention, the student will serve the remaining time and will have to come again the next Wednesday. If a student does not report to detention, he or she will serve the next two Wednesday detentions. More than two Wednesday morning detentions within a semester will result in in-school suspension.

CORPORAL PUNISHMENT

- a. "Licks" may be used as consequences for unacceptable behavior.
- b. Parents will be given the option of "licks" or a one-day in-school suspension for their child's unacceptable behavior.
- c. The Elementary Principal will be advised prior to the administration of corporal punishment in the elementary grades.
- d. There will always be a faculty observer present when licks are administered.
- e. Records will be kept in the respective office.

IN-SCHOOL SUSPENSION

In-school suspension will be assigned by the Administration. A student must make up work missed in each class during his or her suspension; additionally, he or she is classified as absent. The absence will count as one of the absences allowed each semester. The following point deductions and penalties will occur per day of in-school suspension:

- a) two points from the nine-week average per academic class missed
- b) 10 honors points per day from accumulated honors points for Hall of Fame/Honor Graduate
- c) loss of eligibility of awarding of The Crest's Who's Who

At the next regularly scheduled monthly school board meeting, the Headmaster shall provide a report to the Board of Directors of all In-School Suspensions, with a disciplinary history for the student(s) suspended.

OUT-OF-SCHOOL SUSPENSION

Students who repeatedly violate school rules and regulations will be subject to suspension from school for a period determined by the severity of the act (not to exceed five days). Each day missed will be counted as an unauthorized absence and result in the following point deductions and penalties:

- a) three points from the nine-week average per academic class missed
- b) 10 honors points per day from accumulated honors points for Hall of Fame/Honor Graduate
- c) loss of eligibility of awarding of The Crest's Who's Who

All work is to be made up. The suspended student will be notified verbally and in writing of the suspension. Parents who seek recourse may appeal first to the Headmaster and then to the Board of Directors. The Headmaster will notify the Board at the earliest date of all suspensions. Prior to re-admittance following an out-of-school suspension, the student and parent (s) will consult with the Headmaster.

At the next regular schedule monthly school board meeting, the Headmaster shall provide a report to the Board of Directors of all Out-of-School Suspensions, with a disciplinary history for the student(s) suspended.

EXPULSION

Students whose willful misbehavior endangers the welfare of other students or whose continued disregard for established rules disrupts the school environment are subject to expulsion. Should such conduct arise, the Headmaster will suspend the student and promptly notify the Board of Directors of the action for their consideration. If by majority vote, the Board of Directors votes to expel the student, then Notice of Expulsion shall immediately be mailed to the student's parents and/or guardians that are named on the student's contract. The Notice of Expulsion will entitle the student to a due process hearing before the Board of Directors if the student and/or parents follow the procedure to request a hearing. The Notice of Expulsion shall provide a detailed account of the violation(s). To request a "due process" hearing, the parents and/or guardians shall provide the Headmaster with a request for review, in writing, within ten days of the expulsion. If no hearing is requested within ten (10) days of the Notice of Expulsion being served on the parents/guardians, then the expulsion of the student shall be final.

MINOR INFRACTIONS

All teachers are responsible for the enforcement of school policies and procedures. Teachers are required to enforce (as a minimum) the infractions listed below. If problems persist with individual students, the Administration may be called in to address the issue. Examples of minor infractions include, but are not limited to, the following:

1. Any behavior which interferes with the daily function of the classroom or school;
2. Excessive tardiness;
3. Violation of the dress code;
4. Excessive displays of affection;
5. Gum chewing;
6. Eating outside the cafeteria;
7. Disruption of school functions, programs, and activities.
8. Littering of the building and the grounds (including the gymnasium)
9. Inappropriate or ill-mannered conduct with or toward other students
10. Entering any building at other than specified times without permission
11. Failure to be at an assigned place at any time during the school day unless permission of the teacher or administrator is obtained (including the gymnasium).
12. Loitering in the restrooms at any time.

MAJOR INFRACTIONS

Major infractions are considered serious and may result in suspension or expulsion from school. Examples of major infractions include, but are not limited to, the following:

- 1. Accountability** -The school must know where its students are during the school day. Students leaving the campus must sign out.
- 2. Truancy** -Students who absent themselves from school without permission will be subject to suspension. Repeated incidences may result in expulsion.
- 3. Disrespectful behavior** -Any student who is guilty of insubordination, disobedience, or the use of obscene or abusive language will be subject to suspension. This includes unsportsmanlike conduct as a participant or spectator at any school-sponsored activity. Any unauthorized recording and/or taking of pictures of students, faculty, or events will be considered disrespectful behavior and a major infraction. Repeated incidences of disrespectful behavior may result in expulsion.
- 4. Bullying** – North Delta School is committed to a safe and civil educational environment for all students, employees, volunteer and patrons, free from harassment, intimidation or bullying. Harassment, intimidation or bullying means any intentional written, verbal, or physical act, when the intentional written, verbal, or physical act: physically harms a student or damages the student’s property; or has the effect of substantially interfering with a student’s education; or is severe, persistent, or pervasive that it creates an intimidating or threatening educational environment; or has the effect of substantially disrupting the orderly operation of the school. Any student who engages in this behavior will be subject to suspension or expulsion.
- 5. Cheating** –To combat this problem, North Delta School adopted a School Honor Code in 2011. The complete Honor Code may be found as Appendix B to this handbook. Students must do their own work. Cheating is an immoral act which will not be tolerated. For the first offense, a grade of zero will be given on the paper or test, a notation will be made on the grade sheet, and a conduct grade of "D" will be given. Membership in the National Honor Society will be suspended if the student is a member. Repeated instances may result in suspension and/or expulsion. All instances of cheating will be reported by the teacher to the Administration and the student's parents. Any student who cheats will be ineligible for exam exemptions.
- 6. Tobacco** -The Board of Directors has declared the North Delta campus a tobacco-free environment; therefore, smoking, chewing tobacco, or dipping snuff is prohibited.
- 7. Fighting** -Fighting or committing any act that promotes fighting will result in automatic suspension. Appropriate legal actions may also be taken.
- 8. Vandalism** -Any student found in the act of or admitting guilt in the major (those acts of damage in excess of \$250) destruction, damage, or defacement of school property shall be immediately suspended and subject to expulsion. Appropriate law enforcement agencies may also be notified. In cases designated "minor" (e.g., writing on walls or desks), general disciplinary actions, detention and/or suspension may be used against the violator.

9. Stealing -All students are expected to respect the property of others at all times. Students who are found guilty of this action will be suspended and subject to expulsion. Appropriate law enforcement agencies may also be notified.

10. Alcohol and drugs -Any student found using, having in his/her possession (including vehicle), or being under the influence of any form of drugs, narcotics, or alcoholic drinks on campus or during school events (sporting events, dances, proms, field trips, etc.) shall be immediately suspended and subject to expulsion from school.

NOTE: The Administration reserves the right to request a drug test at any time if the health and welfare of students is suspected. This test would be at school expense, with subsequent test (if needed) at parent expense. Details of this policy are provided as an attachment to this handbook.

11. Weapons and fireworks -Any student in possession of weapons, fireworks, or other dangerous implements on campus or at any school function is subject to disciplinary action, including suspension, expulsion, and notification of law enforcement agencies. This policy may be extended to include rubber bands, paper clips, etc.

12. Automobile infractions -Students with valid driver's licenses may drive their automobiles on campus provided the student's drivers license number, auto tag number, and insurance phone number are registered in the office.

The speed limit on campus is five miles per hour (15 MPH on Green Wave Lane). Violations of parking rules, speeding, or reckless driving on campus is prohibited, and loss of driving privileges on campus, disciplinary action, including suspension, expulsion, and notification of law enforcement agencies may result if violations occur.

13. Parked Vehicles infractions -NO ONE WILL BE ALLOWED TO STAY IN PARKED VEHICLES ON CAMPUS. ONCE ON CAMPUS A STUDENT MUST HAVE PERMISSION TO LEAVE EARLY.

14. Felony -Any criminal offense that is defined as a felony by state or federal law is obviously considered a major infraction.

MARRIED STUDENTS

Married students may not attend North Delta School. Students who marry are considered adults and are no longer under the authority of their parents; therefore, they are not eligible to attend North Delta School.

PREGNANCY AND ABORTION

Because of our responsibility and concern for the health and welfare of North Delta's student body, students who are pregnant, or have been pregnant, and students who are responsible for a pregnancy are not eligible to attend North Delta School.

BOY-GIRL RELATIONSHIPS

Boyfriend-girlfriend relationships should be guided and chaperoned from the home. School is not the place for outward displays of affection for one's girlfriend or boyfriend. If such a situation occurs and persists, the school will be forced to take appropriate action.

DRESS CODE

North Delta School's dress code, which is for children in K5 through 12th grade, has been implemented to try to eliminate the ongoing clashes between modern fashion with more modest attire that is appropriate for the school setting. Current research clearly indicates that school uniforms help to improve academic focus, decrease student discipline problems and also promote a sense of belonging.

North Delta expects its students to be clean, neat, well groomed, and modestly dressed. Our dress standards are not intended to remove the creativity of the individual, but rather to eliminate distractions from the supportive environment. We wish to teach our students to dress appropriately for different situations. They should recognize that clothing suited for the beach, athletic practices, and some social events is not appropriate in the classroom. We ask parents to help us avoid sensitive moments by checking their children's attire before they come to school. If a student's attire for the school day or school-related activity is found to be unacceptable according to the Dress Code standards, the student will be asked to contact the parents to bring the item of clothing. If a student has to miss class due to such violations, the absence is counted as unexcused.

Our uniform provider is The Uniform Shop in Senatobia, MS. All uniform clothing is only available from The Uniform Shop.

Students in grades 6-12 will wear chapel attire on Wednesdays. Chapel attire for boys includes the logoed black ND polo shirt and khaki pants or shorts. Chapel attire for girls will include the plaid skirt with the

logoed black ND polo shirt.

To maintain our dress code in the classrooms, we require that outerwear come from The Uniform Shop or approved outerwear purchased through NDS. Non-NDS outerwear may be worn outside, but must be taken off once the student comes in the building.

Notes:

1. Shorts, skirts and skorts must be hemmed to an appropriate length no higher than 4 inches above the crease at the back of the knee.
2. Leggings or knee/crew socks must be solid black, white, or dark gray.
3. For males grades 6-12, shirts must be tucked in and a belt worn with all pants and shorts.
4. Obvious attempts by students to work against the function and purpose of school uniforms through inappropriate choices of shoes will be considered a violation of the school uniform policy.
5. The administration on special occasions may provide the students with a "casual day." Please refer to the "Casual Day" guidelines below.

The following items are not acceptable:

1. Boys may not wear earrings. No body parts may be pierced with the exception of girl's ears.
2. No visible tattoos, permanent or temporary, are allowed.
3. Any article of clothing, hairstyle, or shoes that is deemed distracting will not be allowed.

"Casual Day" Attire:

Boys: Only collared shirts, turtlenecks, solid colored crew neck shirts with no graphics or a NDS shirt/t-shirt may be worn on casual days. Shirts must be tucked in at all times. Shirts should not have any holes or any damage that alters the color or image or exposes the skin. On these days, blue jeans with no holes, tattered hems, patched holes, or distracting additions to the pants are acceptable. A belt is required to be worn on these days.

Girls: Shirts must be of modest style and cover the shoulders. In addition, they shall not reveal the chest, cleavage, underarm areas, midriff, or expose undergarments. Girls are allowed to wear blue jeans.

Leggings/Jeggings are not allowed.

All: All shirts, tops, and dresses must cover the top of the shoulders. Backs should be covered. No see-through apparel is allowed. No skin may show between the top of the pants or skirt and the bottom of the shirt. References to alcohol, tobacco products, or drugs are not permitted on any student clothing. If the student chooses to wear a t-shirt, it must be a NDS t-shirt. Sweaters may be worn over plain white t-shirts or turtlenecks. ND Sweatshirts may be worn as outerwear.

Game day attire:

Players will be allowed to wear jerseys once a week during the season. Shirts must be tucked in. An exception can be made, with prior approval, for games that require an early morning dismissal or travel before school starts.

Disciplinary steps for dress code violations:

1. First violation: warning recorded in Headmaster's office and correction of the violation.
2. Second and subsequent violations: If violations persist, parents will be asked to attend a conference to eliminate the problem. An assignment to Detention may also be considered appropriate for the violation.

HAIR STYLES

Girls' hairstyles should be kept combed out of the face and all bangs should be kept cut above the eyebrows. Extreme hair colors or permanent/semi-permanent adornments (i.e. feathers, beaded braids, etc.) will not be allowed.

The boys' hair styles should be neatly groomed at all times. The hair should not be combed forward to an extreme (below the eyebrow) nor should sideburns be below the lobe of the ear. The hair should not cover more than below the ear lobe or over any part of the shirt collar. Students will be clean shaven; no beards, goatees, or mustaches are permitted.

Penalty:

- a) the first offense will be a warning recorded in the Headmaster's office and the parent will have to bring a change of clothes that match the dress code policy
- b) the second offense will result in the student being sent home and will result in an unexcused absence and he/she will not be allowed to participate in after school activities. An assignment to Detention may also be considered appropriate for the violation.

HAIR STYLES

Girls' hairstyles should be kept combed out of the face and all bangs should be kept cut above the eyebrows. Extreme hair colors or permanent/semi-permanent adornments (i.e. feathers, beaded braids, etc.) will not be allowed.

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Penalty:

- a) the first offense will be a warning recorded in the Headmaster's office and the parent will have to bring a change of clothes that match the dress code policy
- b) the second offense will result in the student being sent home and will result in an unexcused absence and he/she will not be allowed to participate in after school activities.

USE OF TELEPHONE AND CELL PHONE POLICY

Students receiving calls will not be called out of class unless there is an emergency. Students in grades 6-12 having to call home due to an illness or an emergency are required to use the main office telephone. The secretary will place this call to the parents. Elementary students will see the elementary secretary or principal.

The use of cell phones and other PDA devices is prohibited during school hours.

Students who violate this rule by using a cell phone during school hours will be subject to the following disciplinary actions and fines:

First violation: Wednesday Detention (parents notified)

Second violation: Wednesday Detention (parents notified)

Third violation: In School Suspension, plus the phone will be kept in school's possession for the remainder of the school year.

Fourth and subsequent violations: Conference with parents, In-School Suspension (number of days determined by Headmaster)

CAMERA USE

Students may not use cameras, phone cameras, or video cameras without the permission of a teacher or member of the administration. Violation of this policy may be considered a major disciplinary infraction.

LUNCH AND BREAK CONDUCT

An optional lunch program is available for students in extended care and grades 1-12. Lunch menus will be available the week prior. Students may also bring a sack lunch. The lunch period is 20 minutes long. Conduct and behavior in the lunchroom should exhibit pleasing and acceptable manners. Students will not leave the lunchroom without special permission. Students are not permitted in the food service area by order of the Health Department. Students are responsible for maintaining a clean and neat break and lunch area. Failure to do so will result in disciplinary action. Students will remain in the designated area until dismissed by the bell or by a staff member. Snacks and drinks may be purchased during break time or the lunch period only. No food or drinks should be taken from the cafeteria without the consent of the Administration.

LOCKERS

Student lockers are the property of North Delta and are assigned to students as a privilege. Lockers are subject to inspection at the Headmaster's discretion. If a student chooses to put a lock on the locker, an extra key/combination must be kept in the main office. Each student will use only the locker assigned to him. Book bags should be stored in the lockers. Students are responsible for locker appearance and/or damage. Book bags must not be left on the floor.

PERSONAL PROPERTY

Students are responsible for the security of their personal property throughout the school day. Items not used for classroom/educational purposes should not be brought to school unless left in the office during the school day.

VISTORS/PARENTS/GUESTS

All parents, visitors, or salespersons must report to the office upon arrival on the campus. Parents may not sit in a classroom while class is being conducted without having been invited by the teacher.

NOTE: All deliveries must be brought to the office. Gifts/flowers should not go directly to a classroom.

SCHOOL SECURITY

North Delta School reserves the right for its Headmaster and/or administrators to search lockers, automobiles, and any school bags, without the student's knowledge or presence. Reasonable search of students may be necessary for the safety and welfare of our students and faculty. Any means practical may be exercised by North Delta School to ensure a drug-free environment, including the use of specially-trained drug dogs. Guns, knives, or any other instrument that could endanger other students are prohibited on campus and will be confiscated. Furthermore, North Delta utilizes a video surveillance system on its premises at all times.

V. ATTENDANCE

A student is required by Mississippi State Law to attend school each day unless a valid excuse is presented. Since regular attendance is paramount to normal progression through the curriculum, students are expected to remain in school every minute of each school day, including assigned study halls. Should excessive absences impact academic performance, parents will be contacted by a member of the faculty or the Headmaster. In order to receive a perfect attendance certificate, a student must attend every school day the entire day the entire school year.

ABSENCE

All students are required to be present 90 percent of class meetings for every course in each semester. A student missing a class more than 18 times within a full year's course or nine times within a semester course may not receive credit for the course missed regardless of the grade achieved. If this number is approached, the student and his parents will be informed and required to jointly confer with the Administration. A student must attend class for 30 minutes to be counted present. Four hours constitutes the minimum time for a school day. Each teacher is responsible for keeping accurate record of absences. Flexibility is required and each case will be dealt with on its own merit. School sponsored events are not counted as an absence. No student will be admitted to class 30 minutes after the tardy bell rings. This will be an absence from that class and a tardy from school. They will remain in the office until the bell rings for the next class period. The student is responsible for getting assignments missed.

Excused absences are those due to illness of the student, serious illness or death in the immediate family, medical appointments, school sponsored events, and those that have been coordinated by the parents with the Administration at least two days prior to the absence(s). PARENTS -If your child or children will be absent from school, or tardy please call the office between 7:45 and 9 a.m. If the school does not hear from a parent, the office will attempt contact. If no contact is made, parents must send a note to school the first day the student returns. Note: An excused absence will be counted against Perfect Attendance eligibility, with the exceptions of school-sponsored events.

ELEMENTARY OFFICE -563-9994

MIDDLE SCHOOL AND HIGH SCHOOL OFFICE -563-4536

Absences not verified by a note or personal contact from parents will be considered as unexcused. Students have three days after an absence to clear up unexcused absences.

Unexcused absences -If an absence is deemed unexcused or unauthorized reason or failure of parents to talk with the office or send a note, the student will be suspended for approximately the same period of time as the unexcused absence(s). The consequence of the unexcused absence and the suspension will be the loss of two points off the nine-weeks grade of every class missed during the absence.

If a student is absent from school or class for any reason, one of the following types of excuses must be presented to the teacher (K3-5) and the office (6-12):

1. A note or phone call from a parent or legal guardian stating the reason for the absence;
2. A medical doctor's note stating the reason for the absence.

PREARRANGED ABSENCES OR EARLY DISMISSALS

Students who are checking out must turn in notes before 8:30 a.m.

In all cases, to prearrange an excused absence or early dismissal during school days, please adhere to the following guidelines:

1. Parents should send a note stating the specific reasons for the absence or dismissal no later than 8:30 a.m. on the day such request is to take place.
2. All notes must have a home or business phone number of a parent or legal guardian for verification by the school.
3. The student should make arrangements with each teacher to complete the work that will be missed during the absence.
4. Students leaving the campus prior to the end of school must sign out in the office.
5. Parents who come to school to pick up a student should come to the office. The student/parent must sign out in the office before he/she leaves the campus.
6. If a student returns to school before the end of the school day, he should sign in at the office.
7. Students participating in athletic events that require early departure will be excused without a parental note. Siblings of these students are not excused without a parental note as described above.
8. Parents and students are encouraged to arrange dental, doctor, and senior portrait appointments after school or on Saturday when possible.

MAKE -UP WORK

When a student is absent, he/she will be permitted to make up missed work. Scheduling such make-up work is the student's responsibility, not the teacher's, and will be arranged at the teacher's convenience. A student will be permitted a period of time equal to the duration of his absence in which to make up missed work, except that in the case of an absence of one day or less, any assignment due on the day of the absence will be due the next day. For extended absences (over a week) the teacher may allow additional time. A student who has missed a test during his/her absence must report to a test make-up session scheduled before school. The student will be responsible for coordinating this make-up session with the teacher involved. A student who does not report to this make-up session will receive a zero on the test or tests to be made up. No student will be excused from this make-up session for extracurricular activities or appointments. Work missed near the end of the first or second semester must be made up in order for the student to receive credit or be removed.

TARDIES

Student not in their classroom before the tardy bell rings will be considered tardy. Tardy students must report to the Headmaster or the designated administrator to obtain a tardy slip before entering class. The penalty for tardiness will be administered according to the following guidelines:

- Sixth tardy and seventh tardies in a semester – Saturday Detention
- Eighth and subsequent tardies in a semester – In-School Suspension

Students who accumulate six or more tardies in a semester will not be eligible for exemption from final exams.

Note: In the event of unusual circumstances that result in a student receiving a tardy, a parent may request of the Headmaster that a tardy incident be excused. The request must be made in writing.

VI. ATHLETIC POLICIES

ELIGIBILITY/PARTICIPATION (NO PASS, NO PLAY POLICY)

A student must pass four major subjects and meet Mississippi Association of Independent School (MAIS) rules for eligibility to be permitted to play interscholastic sports at North Delta School.

NORTH DELTA'S "CURRENT YEAR" ELIGIBILITY POLICY

The following rules, which will be monitored by the school's Athletic Director, govern a student-athlete's preserving his or her eligibility during an ongoing school year:

- A student must pass four major subjects. No athlete, cheerleader, manager, student statistician, or film crew member will be allowed to participate in any sporting event if he/she fails two or more

subjects. The checkpoint dates for determining “current year” eligibility include:

- 1st nine weeks’ progress report
- 1st nine weeks’ report card
- 2nd nine weeks’ progress report
- Semester report card
- 3rd nine weeks’ progress report
- 3rd nine weeks’ report card
- 4th nine weeks’ progress report

At each checkpoint and with each probation and suspension handed out, the Athletic Director will notify all members of the coaching staff. Student-athletes will receive a written statement alerting the student-athlete of his or her probationary or suspended status, and a copy of this letter will be sent to his/her parents.

1. Conduct – A student will lose eligibility for two (2) consecutive weeks if he/she is given detention more than three times in any nine-week grading period. More severe consequences regarding athletic eligibility will be administered if unacceptable behavior persists.
2. A student must attend school for at least four periods to be eligible to participate in any activity on that day. A student unexcused from school Friday will not be allowed to participate on Saturday.
3. A physical examination by a physician, a signed parent consent form, proof of insurance, and an emergency locator card are also required.

PRACTICE TIMES

Length of practices is generally less than two and one-half hours and may be conducted only when the school-appointed coach is present. Athletes are expected to attend all regularly scheduled practices. Absences must be excused, just as in the case of class absences. When academic and athletic obligations conflict, the teacher, coach, Athletic Director, and/or Administration should be consulted. A student will not be permitted to practice if they were absent from school that day.

SCHEDULING OF ATHLETIC EVENTS

Schedules for all sports shall be made in collaboration with the head coach of each sport, the Athletic Director, and the Headmaster. Every effort should be made to reduce the number of missed classes due to early departures for activities. Once a team's schedule has been submitted and approved, there will be no other contests added or changed unless bad weather requires rescheduling. Contests will be limited to two per school week, except during district or state tournaments, and competition during examinations time will be carefully regulated.

TEAM TRIPS

Athletes traveling on team trips continue to be under the jurisdiction of North Delta if they depart directly from the school for that event. All school rules remain in effect, and the athletes are directly accountable to the school coach who is responsible for them. All athletes making trips with their team will be expected to return with the team on the bus unless an athlete's parents speak directly to the coach and request permission for the student to return home with them. This privilege will usually be granted. The student driver of a vehicle departing from the school and transporting students to school events, must be approved by the Administration and have parental permission. A student driving a vehicle departing during normal school hours and transporting other students must be at least 17 years of age. Student riders must have their parent's permission to depart school with a student driver.

GYMNASIUM POLICIES

1. Coordination of the use of the gym is the Athletic Director's responsibility. Request for keys, dates, etc., must be approved by the Athletic Director.
2. No one will be allowed to practice or play at any time without proper coaching/adult supervision.
3. Keys will not be given to students.
4. Locker rooms are to be locked at all times when not in use.

5. Tennis shoes only will be allowed on the playing surface.
6. Clothes or items left on the floor or in the locker room will be discarded.
7. All equipment should be properly stored after use.
8. No food or beverage will be allowed in the gym during school hours.
9. Horseplay of any kind will not be tolerated.
10. Spectators should walk outside the black painted line on the gym floor.

CODE OF SPORTSMANSHIP

Poor sportsmanship by any coach, player, or spectator cannot be tolerated and will undermine North Delta's good relationship with the Mississippi Association of Independent Schools and the teams with whom we compete. Athletes are expected to conduct themselves in an appropriate manner and any example of unsportsmanlike conduct during a contest is unacceptable. This expectation also extends to spectators, who in the heat of an exciting contest, may react in an un-sportsmanlike manner. Such behavior can lead to (serious) punitive action against North Delta by the MAIS.

Parents and spectators must understand that their behavior serves as a role model for our students; if we want them to be of strong character, we must demonstrate that type of principled behavior. To do anything less will not be accepted at North Delta School and will not be tolerated.

VII. STUDENT ACTIVITIES

STUDENT COUNCIL

Officers for the following school year are elected by the student body. Class representatives are elected from each class (9- 12): four seniors, three juniors, two sophomores, and two freshmen. Additional eligibility criteria are established in the Student Council By-Laws.

The purposes of this organization are to serve as a liaison between the student body and the Administration and faculty, to develop attitudes of the practices for good citizenship, to promote harmonious relationships throughout the school, to provide a forum for student expression, to safeguard the customs and traditions of the excellence of the school, to provide for the orderly direction of student activities and to promote the general welfare of the school.

THE NORTH DELTA CHAPTER OF THE NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY

Membership is open to second semester sophomores, juniors, and seniors. To be eligible, a student must have a cumulative average of 3.0 or above. Each high school semester is considered. All students who meet the academic requirements will be considered for induction based on the following criteria: service, leadership, character, and achievement. Documentable reasons for exclusion must be provided if a student's name is removed from consideration. Additional information is contained in the NHS by-laws. Any member who is found guilty of cheating on any academic work will be suspended from the chapter. Cheating goes against the values held in high regard by NHS.

MU ALPHA THETA

Mu Alpha Theta is a national high school and junior college mathematics club. Standardized test scores (90% on 8th grade achievement tests) coupled with above average grades in present mathematics classes and a 23 math subtest score on the ACT are criteria for membership for students in grades 9- 12.

CLASS OFFICERS

Grades 6- 12 will elect class officers to carry out activities for their class. The election of a President, a Vice President, a Secretary, and a Treasurer will normally take place early in the fall. A student who withdraws from school and then returns is ineligible to hold a class officer position if the withdrawal occurs during the semester the election is held.

STUDENT PUBLICATIONS

Periodic publications include a student newsletter and the yearbook, The Crest. Students wishing to become part of the journalism (yearbook and newspaper) staffs should make their desires known to the appropriate teacher/sponsor. Selection to the newspaper/yearbook staffs will depend on academic status and teacher/sponsor selection.

SPECIAL INTEREST CLUBS

Clubs of special interest open for membership are the Spanish Club, the Service Over Self (SOS) Club, the Fellowship of Christian Athletes, Student Venture, and The Future Business Leaders of America. Other clubs may be developed as interest dictates.

FIELD TRIPS

Field trips with meaningful educational purpose are a vital part of our educational system. To coordinate transportation etc., field trips must be cleared by the teacher through the Administration approximately one month prior to the desired date. To the maximum extent possible, grades K3-5 will outline their trip activities prior to the start of each school year. To go on a field trip, a student must have a signed and dated permission slip from his parents. For grades 6-12, field trips will not be scheduled after April 30th. Students will be expected to travel with their group when group travel arrangements are provided by the school.

SALES OR FUND-RAISING PROJECTS

All fund-raising projects, or any program where goods/services are sold or solicited on campus, must be approved by the Administration. All money collected for any activity must be deposited with the school bookkeeper as soon as it is collected. Students should turn in money to the staff member responsible for the project or their homeroom teacher. No organization may keep an account separate from its school account without specific coordination with the Administration. Furthermore, fundraising under the name of North Delta for non-school events (such as student trips) is prohibited.

VIII. EMERGENCY INFORMATION

ACCIDENTS AND SCHOOL INSURANCE

If a student sustains an injury, he should report immediately to his teacher. Each and every accident must be reported to the office by the student or by the teacher in charge of the student at the time of the accident, and a written report must be filed. Students having to go to a doctor for treatment of any accident covered by school insurance should notify school officials. The school will not accept any liability for medical bills due to an accident. The school urges parents to have good insurance coverage on their children or to purchase regular school insurance. All athletes (boys and girls) and cheerleaders must be insured.

ILLNESS AND MEDICATION

At the beginning of each school year parents will complete emergency information forms on each student. These forms will be kept on file and will contain lists of emergency phone numbers, allergies, other medical problems, and medications which may be administered to the student. All medications for students in 1-5 must be kept and dispensed by the elementary personnel; medications for students in 6-12 will be kept in the main office.

EMERGENCY DRILLS

Emergency drills for fire, earthquake, and tornado are held at irregular intervals throughout the school year.

1. Fire. The signal for a fire drill is one loud, continuous sound of the buzzer. Instructions indicating how to exit the building are posted in each classroom. Students should move quickly and quietly to the designated area.
2. Earthquake. In the event of an earthquake, students are instructed to remain calm. If outdoors, they should remain outdoors away from electrical wires, poles, or anything else that might fall. Students who are in the classroom should drop to the floor, take cover under a desk or table, and hold this position. Students should stay away from windows and outside doors.
3. Tornado. The signal for a tornado drill is a series of short rings by the bell. All students will take cover against corridor walls, cover their heads, and pull up their knees. A bell will ring when the drill is over.

SCHOOL CLOSINGS

On days when snow, ice, or other inclement weather precludes school operation, announcements will be made over local radio stations and network television stations. (WBLE-Batesville @ 100.5 & 106.9). Also, please check the school web site for information.

IX. ELEMENTARY INFORMATION

ELEMENTARY CURRICULUM

I. Subjects

The following subjects will be evaluated: English (Language), Reading, Process Writing, Spelling, Handwriting, Mathematics, Science, and Social Studies. The "activities" will not be evaluated: Art, Bible, Computer, Library, and P.E.

II. Testing

A variety of tests will be used regularly to determine the level of proficiency achieved. Unit and chapter tests are permissible however, no final exams will be given to students in Elementary School.

When tests are missed due to absences, the teacher will determine the time for the completion of the work. No tests should be administered during any instructional period.

STUDENT HEALTH

North Delta School is committed to maintain a healthy environment for our students and teachers. Students should not return to school after being ill until they are fever free for at least 24 hours. Also, students who have head lice or any lice activity (including eggs or "nits"), may return to school only after they are treated. To protect the health of all students, students will be periodically checked for lice and when returning to school after missing due to head lice.

ELEMENTARY HONORS AND AWARDS

An "Elementary Awards Day" will be held each year to honor the students who have exceptional achievement in the areas of academics, art, and attendance

The criteria for fourth grade academic honors are as follows:

Headmaster's List: Each grade on the report card is an "A" and no conduct grade is below a "B".

High Honor Roll: All yearly averages are 93 or above and no yearly average in conduct is below a "B".

Honor Roll: Students who have made the Honor Roll each grading period by having all A's and B's will receive the Honor Roll Certification or whose yearly average are all A's and B's.

The criteria for attendance awards are the following:

Perfect Attendance: The student must have been present in the classroom each day for the entire school day (8 a.m. until 2:45 p.m.). Students who are tardy or who leave the classroom early for any reason are ineligible for this award.

Special Recognition for Attendance: The student may have a cumulative absence of no more than one-half the school day.

Please note that students may lose eligibility for all awards should their behavior be deemed unacceptable by the teachers and administration. Written notification will be provided the parents in event this should occur.

Other awards to be presented are for Art, Accelerated Reader, Mother's Day Essays, Spelling Bees, Motivation for Academic Performance, and academic competitions approved by the faculty and administration.

EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

I. Parties

A. The homeroom teachers and the administration must approve any parties given on the campus. Parents are asked to defray the costs of the two non-academic parties (Christmas and Easter). The homeroom chairman in each homeroom will coordinate the planning with the teacher and the parents. Consideration will be given to the expense so that no family will be asked to contribute more than \$15.00 for a single event. Parents will choose one of the two events to help sponsor. The Christmas party is on the last half-day of the first semester and the Easter party is given the afternoon of the last day of school prior to the Easter Holidays. (No class may leave the campus before 11:45.)

B. Grades should function as a single unit for the Easter party as well as for all other events--with the exception of Christmas, unless accommodations on the campus permit the combination of sections.

C. Theme parties planned by the teachers as culminating activities must be approved by the administration and must be scheduled two weeks in advance. Only parents who volunteer sponsorship of these classroom events will be asked to assist in any way.

D. Birthday parties for students or teachers at school must have prior approval of the Elementary Principal and may occur only during lunch, recess, or break. The simplest of refreshments are to be served and no class time should be involved.

E. Parties given for students at North Delta but not included in the text above are not the responsibility of the school personnel. Such invitations must not be distributed at school unless every student in the class is invited. Students attending these parties must have written permission from their parents should they be departing the campus with a different ride.

II. Grandparents Day

If the school calendar permits, the grandparents of the students are invited to the campus for an afternoon. The guests visit the classrooms, tour the campus, and enjoy refreshments provided by the homeroom mothers. If donations are forthcoming, these benefit the elementary library focusing on the Accelerated Reader program.

III. D.A.R.E.

The Batesville Police Department conducts the D.A.R.E. program for the second graders and fifth graders during the second semester of each school year. A "graduation" event is held in May.

NOTE: The Handbook will be reviewed annually. Suggestions and comments are welcomed and encouraged.

A Closing Prayer:

Dear Father,

Thank you for our school. We humbly ask for Your continued blessings on our school, including the safety the health of our students and teachers, and our families. Our desire is to have a school that is pleasing in Your sight. We know from the Scriptures that submission to authority is important to You; thus, may our students learn this important part of life while they are in attendance at North Delta. We pray that we as a school would operate in submission to Your will and desires. Thank you for sending Your Son to die on the cross for our sins.

In Jesus Christ's holy name, we pray, Amen.

APPENDIX A: NORTH DELTA SCHOOL DRUG TESTING POLICY

All students in grades 9-12 are required to participate in the drug testing program.

PURPOSE OF THE PROGRAM

The purpose of the drug screening program is as follows:

1. To educate the student concerning the dangers of drug abuse.
2. To help prevent any drug use or abuse by the students of North Delta School.
3. To identify any student who may be using drugs and to identify that drug.
4. To see that any chronic dependency is treated and addressed properly.
5. To provide reasonable safeguards in order that every student who attends North Delta School is medically competent.
6. To remove the stigma of drug abuse from those students who are users.
7. To reassure parents, students and the community that the health and academic progress of each of its students is the primary goal of North Delta School.
8. To re-emphasize to the student his or her responsibility as a positive role model.

TESTING PROCEDURE

1. The parents of each student, by signing the educational contract, are consenting to their child's or children's participation in the program.
2. All students will sign a form and give their Social Security Number during registration.
3. All administrators, teachers, employees and board members will be subject to random testing.
4. Each student will be tested during the school year and will be subject to random testing at any time thereafter.
5. The method of testing is a form of urinalysis. Any positive drug result will be confirmed by an additional test at a laboratory selected by North Delta School.
6. The selection and coding of specimen samples will be executed in a manner insuring total confidentiality and identification.
7. The urine samples will be collected and analyzed by a private laboratory using the most up-to-date methods of pathology.
8. Specimen samples will be identified by number only to insure total confidentiality.
9. Drug screening results will be reported to the Headmaster only.
10. The cost of the initial test will be included in the student's tuition. Any additional costs will be paid by the parents.
11. Once a student is picked to take the test, he/she may not leave the testing area until sample is taken. No exceptions.

FIRST INCIDENT OF A POSITIVE RESULT

All specimens showing positive result will be automatically re-tested by the testing laboratory immediately to assure that no error has occurred. The second test will be a more specific test. If the positive result is verified and confirmed, then the following steps will be taken:

1. The student and the parents will be contacted in a confidential manner.
2. The Headmaster will be advised of the results.
3. The student will be evaluated and assessed at the expense of the parents. This professional may include one of the following: Certified Drug and Alcohol Abuse Counselor, Student Assistance Professional, Licensed Social Worker, Medical Review Officer, or other designated appropriate professional or agency.
4. The student will then be required to attend a drug counseling program as recommended by the health care professional at the expense of the parents.
5. The drug counselor will determine the length and manner of the program best suited for the student. The student must also participate in any after-care recommendations or follow-up.
6. If a parent refuses a complete counseling program for his or her child, the student will be dismissed from school.
7. After a first positive test, the student is subject to take every random test during the year.
8. Participation in school or school activities is not affected at this time.

SECOND INCIDENT OF A POSITIVE RESULT

The specimen showing a positive result will be automatically re-tested by the testing laboratory immediately to assure that no error has occurred. The second test will be a more specific test. If the positive result is verified and confirmed, then the following steps will be taken:

1. The students and the parents will be advised in a confidential manner.
2. The Headmaster will be advised of the results.
3. The student will be suspended from school until such time that he provides proof of successful completion of a pre-approved drug/alcohol rehabilitation program.
4. Reinstatement could occur with proof of a successful drug rehabilitation program and only after negative testing prevails. In order to maintain the reinstated status, the student will continue to participate in re-testing and must follow all after-care recommendations of the health care professional. Written documentation of participation in after-care must be provided to the school on a monthly basis for the remainder of the school year.

Failure to provide this information or complete an approved program will classify a student as a third incident of a positive result.

The third incident of a student testing positive will result in permanent dismissal from North Delta School.

APPENDIX B: NORTH DELTA SCHOOL'S HONOR CODE

Purpose of the Honor Code

The Honor Code is based on the belief that true learning depends on honesty. North Delta School functions on the basis of mutual trust and respect among all members of the community. As a result, students are expected to demonstrate integrity and individual responsibility, both personally and academically, in order to maintain a fair and honest environment. North Delta School strives for its students to embrace the Honor Code so that it becomes part of their lives, even after they graduate. Embracing the Honor Code continually also enriches a campus culture of trust, freedom, security, and academic freedom.

Honor Code Pledge

The following Honor Pledge will be signed by all North Delta School students at the beginning of the school year:

On my honor, I will not cheat, lie, steal, nor tolerate those who do.

This pledge will also be posted in the front entrance of the school.

By signing this statement, the student claims that he or she will not violate any part of the honor code which includes: cheating, attempting to cheat, plagiarizing, lying, stealing, or failing to report an act of dishonesty to the proper authority.

Honor Code Violations

Cheating is defined as submitting for credit as one's own, someone else's work obtained either in or out of school; giving or receiving from another student unauthorized assistance in the preparation of that work for credit; and using any unauthorized materials in the preparation of work for credit.

Attempted cheating is defined as the attempt to accomplish any of the above.

Plagiarism is defined as submission of work copied directly from any source whatsoever that is not properly enclosed in quotations marks and acknowledged by parenthetical documentation and/or in the Works Cited; paraphrasing and/or restating an author's original idea that is not acknowledged by parenthetical documentation and/or Works Cited.

Lying is defined as the willful and knowledgeable telling of an untruth and any other form of deceit, be it oral or written. This includes but is not limited to: lying to administration and faculty members; forging or falsifying any official school document (i.e. progress report, permission slips, etc.)

Stealing is defined as taking or appropriating without permission to do so any property belonging to any member of the North Delta School community or property located on the school grounds.

Toleration is defined as the knowledge and acceptance of any of the above listed violations. A student has an obligation to inform any faculty member or administrative authority within three school days. Failure to do so is considered toleration, which is itself a violation of the Honor Code.

APPENDIX C: NORTH DELTA SCHOOL ASBESTOS INSPECTION NOTICE

ASBESTOS INSPECTION NOTIFICATION

Please be informed by this notice that all of the school buildings of North Delta School have been inspected for asbestos and have been determined to be asbestos free, or that letters of exclusion have been obtained for the contractors or manufactures. Such an inspection was mandated by EPA.

All materials pertaining to the inspection may be found in the headmaster's office. Any interested party should feel free to stop by and see this material.

Randle O. Poss, Ph.D. August 1, 2019
Headmaster's Signature and Date