



## **Challenge Academy**

**2018-2019**

### **Secondary Student-Parent Handbook**

**Waxahachie Independent School District**

**Discipline Alternative Education Program**

**Dr. Al Benskin, Director**

**1000 Highway 77 North  
Waxahachie, Texas 75165**

**Phone: 972-923-4695**

**Fax: 972-923-4717**

## **PREFACE**

The Student Handbook is a general reference guide only and is designed to be in harmony with board policy and the Student Code of Conduct. Please be aware that it is not a complete statement of all policies, procedures, or rules that may be applicable in a given circumstance.

In case of conflict between board policy (including the Student Code of Conduct) and any provisions of the Student Handbook, the current provisions of board policy and the Student Code of Conduct are to be followed.

Also, please be aware that the handbook is updated yearly, while policy adoption and revision may occur throughout the year. Changes in policy or other rules that affect Student Handbook provisions will be made available to students and parents through newsletters or other communications. The district reserves the right to modify provisions of the Student Handbook at any time, whenever it is deemed necessary. Notice of any revision or modification will be given as is reasonably practical under the circumstances.

Although the Student Handbook may refer to rights established through law or district policy, the Student Handbook does not create any additional rights for students and parents. It does not, nor is it intended to, create contractual or legal rights between any student or parent and the district.

After reading through the entire handbook with your child, keep it as a reference during this school year. If you or your child has questions about any of the material in this handbook, please contact the campus front office at 972-923-4695.

## **MISSION STATEMENT**

The mission of the Disciplinary Alternative Education Program of the Waxahachie Challenge Academy is to provide students in at-risk situations an alternative education program, which will guide them to be responsible citizens who exhibit appropriate social and academic skills.

## **WISD VISION AND MISSION STATEMENTS**

Vision: Waxahachie ISD will support and empower our community of learners for success in the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

Mission: Continuing our tradition of “excellence in education,” the mission of the Waxahachie Independent School District is to develop through a cooperative effort with the home and community, well-educated, responsible citizens who can excel in a complex world.

## **GOAL**

The goal of the Disciplinary Alternative Education Program at Waxahachie Challenge Academy is to return students who have succeeded both academically and socially to their home campus so they may continue their education.

## **PHILOSOPHY**

The Waxahachie Challenge Academy has been established to address the unique needs of students in at-risk situations. We believe the future of our country depends on the education of its youth; education should be the concern of everyone, and that education provides for the optimum development of each, to each make satisfactory decisions in an ever-changing society.

# CHALLENGE ACADEMY STAFF

<b>Zack Hersi</b>	<b>Science</b>
<b>Suzette Heckart</b>	<b>Special Education</b>
<b>Lauren Dellert</b>	<b>Character Ed/Electives</b>
<b>Kimberly Potter</b>	<b>English</b>
<b>John Lewis</b>	<b>Math</b>
<b>Robert Hughes</b>	<b>History</b>
<b>Marcus Swift</b>	<b>Instructional Aide</b>
<b>April Garcia</b>	<b>Attendance Officer</b>
<b>Martha Cunningham</b>	<b>Counselor</b>
<b>Mary Sias</b>	<b>Secretary</b>
<b>TBD</b>	<b>Security</b>
<b>Dr. Al Benskin</b>	<b>Director</b>

<b>Secondary hours: 8:20 a.m. until 3:50 p.m.</b> <b>Office hours: 8:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m.</b>
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## **ACADEMICS**

### **COURSES**

The Waxahachie Challenge Academy provides instruction in the following core subjects: language arts, mathematics, science, social studies, electives, and character education. Students receive direct instruction in their core subjects from Challenge Academy teachers. All core assignments are given and graded by Challenge Academy teachers who are the teachers of record for students.

### **ELECTIVE CLASSES**

Elective teachers on the home campus are required to send textbooks and assignments for their students. Work is returned for grading.

### **GUIDANCE AND COUNSELING**

Guidance and counseling services at the Waxahachie Challenge Academy are available to every student. The goal of the program is to provide individual and group counseling as needed.

**Community resources are available for parents and students in the counseling office.**

Areas often addressed may include academic guidance, self-esteem, interpersonal relationships, decision making, mediation, and personal concerns.

Parents are welcome to contact or meet with the counselor regarding their child's goals and progress.

### **REPORT CARDS**

Report cards and progress reports are sent out by the home campus. Report cards will be issued at the end of each nine-week report period.

## **ATTENDANCE**

### **COMPULSORY ATTENDANCE**

\*\*Student attendance is the duty of the home campus, not the Challenge Academy. \*\*

## ARRIVALS

It is the responsibility of both the parent/guardian and student that he/she arrives on time and is in attendance every day. Students are expected to be at school and leave on time.

**\*\*A student will receive one additional day at Challenge Academy for every three tardies, AM or PM.\*\***

**\*\*\*A student cannot receive a successful day unless they arrive before 8:45. If they arrive later than 8:45, they must have proper documentation to receive credit for the day.\*\*\***

## GENERAL INFORMATION

### CHALLENGE ACADEMY HOURS

Secondary - 8:25 a.m. – 3:55 p.m.

For safety reasons, secondary students may NOT arrive before 7:50 a.m. and must be picked up by 4:00 p.m.

Arrangements for student pick up at dismissal need to be made before the student arrives at school. Students will not be allowed to make phone calls for transportation.

**STUDENTS ARE NEVER ALLOWED TO LET ANOTHER STUDENT RIDE IN THEIR VEHICLE.**

## BREAKFAST/LUNCH

Students will be provided an opportunity to purchase breakfast for \$1.50. Elementary lunch costs \$2.55 and secondary lunch is \$2.80. Online deposits may be made at [www.mynutrikids.com](http://www.mynutrikids.com). If your child already has an account through their home campus, they may use that money while they are attending Challenge Academy. The office cannot accept orders for lunch over the phone. Regular school breakfasts and lunches are served every day. ([http://www.wisd.org/default.aspx?name=CNUT\\_LunchPrices](http://www.wisd.org/default.aspx?name=CNUT_LunchPrices) )

**Food may not be brought in from outside restaurants. Students may bring their lunch from home. Students can only bring a sandwich, chips, fresh fruit and vegetables to eat, and sealed/unopened water or Gatorade to drink. All items must fit in a clear gallon bag with student's name on it. Any food/drink not consumed during lunch will be discarded.**

*Soft drinks, energy drinks, opened containers of any kind, sweets or gum are not allowed. If brought to*

*school, the item/s will be taken from the student and discarded.*

## **RELEASE OF STUDENTS FROM SCHOOL**

After arriving on campus, should any student need to leave for any reason, the parent/guardian must sign the student out of the main office. The individual checking out the student **must** provide a valid Texas Driver's License or ID card that will be scanned by Raptor V-Soft Visitor Management and Technology System. **The individual must also be currently listed as an emergency contact for the student being released.**

## **WITHDRAWING FROM SCHOOL**

Parent/guardian will be required to return to the home campus to withdraw a student from Waxahachie Independent School District.

## **RE-ENTRY TO WAXAHACHIE ISD**

If a student were to re-enter Waxahachie Independent School District, and the Waxahachie Challenge Academy was the last school the student attended, the home campus principal and the days remaining would decide whether the student will need to re-enter Waxahachie Challenge Academy. This usually depends on what type of program the student participated in while out of the district and what the status was when he/she left Waxahachie Challenge Academy.

## **STUDENT VEHICLES**

**STUDENTS ARE ALLOWED TO DRIVE VEHICLES TO CHALLENGE ACADEMY. (STUDENTS MUST PARK IN THE SOUTH PARKING LOT, LAST ROW.) THIS PRIVILEGE WILL BE TAKEN AWAY IF VEHICLES ARE PARKED IN THE WRONG AREA OR DRIVEN IRRESPONSIBLY.**

## **TOBACCO**

The district and its staff strictly enforce prohibitions against the use of tobacco products by students and others on school property and at school-sponsored and school-related activities. [See the *Student Code of Conduct* and Board Policies at FNCD and GKA.]

## **GANG-FREE ZONES**

Certain criminal offenses, including those involving organized criminal activity such as gang-related crimes, will be enhanced to the next highest category of offense if they are committed in a gang-free zone. For purposes of the district, a gang-free zone includes a school bus and a location in, on, or within 1000 feet of any district-owned or leased property or campus playground.

## **BULLYING**

Bullying occurs when a student or group of students engages in written or verbal expression, expression through electronic methods, or physical conduct against another student on school property, at a school-sponsored or -related activity, or in a district-operated vehicle, and the behavior:

- Results in harm to the student or the student's property,
- Places a student in reasonable fear of physical harm or of damage to the student's property, or
- Is so severe, persistent, and pervasive that it creates an intimidating, threatening, or abusive educational environment.

This conduct is considered bullying if it exploits an imbalance of power between the student perpetrator(s) and the student victim and if it interferes with a student's education or substantially disrupts the operation of the school.

Bullying is prohibited by the district and could include hazing, threats, taunting, teasing, confinement, assault, demands for money, destruction of property, theft of valued possessions, name-calling, rumor-spreading, or ostracism. In some cases, bullying can occur through electronic methods, called "cyberbullying."

If a student believes that he or she has experienced bullying or has witnessed bullying of another student, it is important for the student or parent to notify a teacher, counselor, principal, or another district employee as soon as possible to obtain assistance and intervention. The administration will investigate any allegations of bullying or other related misconduct.

If the results of an investigation indicate that bullying has occurred, the administration will take appropriate disciplinary action. Disciplinary or other action may be taken even if the conduct did not rise to the level of bullying. The district will also contact the parents of the victim and of the student who was found to have engaged in the bullying. Available counseling options will be provided to these individuals, as well as to any students who have been identified as witnesses to the bullying.

Any retaliation against a student who reports an incident of bullying is prohibited.

The principal may, in response to an identified case of bullying, decide to transfer a student found to have



engaged in bullying to another classroom at the campus. In consultation with the student's parent, the student may also be transferred to another campus in the district. The parent of a student who has been determined by the district to be a victim of bullying may request that his or her child be transferred to another classroom or campus within the district.

A copy of the district's policy is available in the principal's office, superintendent's office, and on the district's website.

A student or parent who is dissatisfied with the outcome of an investigation may appeal through Board Policy FNG (LOCAL).

## **DISCRIMINATION, HARASSMENT, AND RETALIATION**

The district believes that all students learn best in an environment free from discrimination, harassment, and retaliation and that their welfare is best served when they are free from this prohibited conduct while attending school. Students are expected to treat other students and district employees with courtesy and respect; to avoid behaviors known to be offensive, and to stop those behaviors when asked or told to stop. District employees are expected to treat students with courtesy and respect.

The Board of Trustees has established policies and procedures to prohibit and promptly respond to inappropriate and offensive behaviors that are based on a person's race, color, religion, gender, national origin, disability, or any other basis prohibited by law. [See Board Policy FFH]

### **DISCRIMINATION**

Discrimination is defined as any conduct directed at a student by race, color, religion, gender, national origin, disability, or any other basis prohibited by law, that it negatively affects the student.

### **HARASSMENT**

Harassment, in general terms, is conduct so severe, persistent, or pervasive that it affects the student's ability to participate in or benefit from an educational program or activity; creates an intimidating, threatening, hostile, or offensive educational environment; or substantially interferes with the student's academic performance. A copy of the district's policy is available in the principal's office and the superintendent's office or on the district's website.

Examples of harassment may include, but are not limited to, offensive or derogatory language directed at a person's religious beliefs or practices, accent, skin color, or need for accommodation; threatening or intimidating conduct; offensive jokes, name-calling, slurs, or rumors; physical aggression or assault; graffiti or printed material promoting racial, ethnic, or other negative stereotypes; or other kinds of aggressive conduct such as theft or damage to property.

Two types of prohibited harassment are described below:

1. Sexual Harassment and Gender-Based Harassment
2. Sexual harassment and gender-based harassment of a student by an employee, volunteer, or another student are prohibited.

Examples of sexual harassment may include, but not be limited to, touching private body parts or coercing physical contact that is sexual in nature; sexual advances; jokes or conversations of a sexual nature; and other sexually motivated conduct, communications, or contact.

Sexual harassment of a student by an employee or volunteer does not include necessary or permissible physical contact not reasonably construed as sexual in nature. However, romantic and other inappropriate social relationships, as well as all sexual relationships, between students and district employees, are prohibited, even if consensual.

Gender-based harassment includes harassment based on a student's gender, expression by the student of stereotypical characteristics associated with the student's gender, or the student's failure to conform to stereotypical behavior related to gender. Examples of gender-based harassment directed against a student, regardless of the student's actual or perceived sexual orientation or gender identity, may include, but not be limited to, offensive jokes, name-calling, slurs, or rumors; physical aggression or assault; threatening or intimidating conduct; or other kinds of aggressive conduct such as theft or damage to property.

## **RETALIATION**

Retaliation occurs when a student receives threats from another student or an employee or when an employee imposes an unjustified punishment or unwarranted grade reduction. Retaliation does not include petty slights and annoyances from other students or negative comments from a teacher that are justified by a student's poor academic performance in the classroom.

Retaliation against a person who makes a good faith report of discrimination or harassment, including dating violence, is prohibited. A person who makes a false claim or offers false statements or refuses to cooperate with a district investigation, however, may be subject to appropriate discipline. Retaliation against a person who is participating in an investigation of alleged discrimination or harassment is also prohibited.

## **REPORTING PROCEDURES**

Any student who believes that he or she has experienced dating violence, discrimination, harassment, or retaliation should immediately report the problem to a teacher, counselor, principal, or other district employee.

The report may be made by the student's parent. See Board Policy FFH (LOCAL) for the appropriate districts officials to whom to make a report.

## **INVESTIGATION REPORT**

To the extent possible, the district will respect the privacy of the student; however, limited disclosures may be necessary to conduct a thorough investigation and to comply with law. Allegations of prohibited conduct, which includes dating violence, discrimination, harassment, and retaliation, will be promptly investigated.

The district will promptly notify the parents of any student alleged to have experienced prohibited conduct involving an adult associated with the district. In the event alleged prohibited conduct involves another student, the district will notify the parents of the student alleged to have experienced the prohibited conduct when the allegations, if proven, would constitute a violation as defined by policy.

During the course of an investigation, the district may take interim action to address the alleged prohibited conduct.

When an investigation is initiated for alleged prohibited conduct, the district will determine whether the allegations, if proven, would constitute bullying, as defined by law. If so, an investigation of bullying will also be conducted. [See Board Policy FFI.]

If the district's investigation indicates that prohibited conduct occurred, appropriate disciplinary action, and, in some cases, corrective action, will be taken to address the conduct. The district may take disciplinary and corrective action even if the conduct that is the subject of the complaint was not unlawful.

A student or parent who is dissatisfied with the outcome of the investigation may appeal in accordance with Board Policy FNG (LOCAL).

## **CONFERENCES**

Parents and teachers are encouraged to establish and maintain frequent communication about student progress. A student or parent who wants information or to raise a question or concern should talk first with the appropriate teacher, counselor, or principal. A parent who requests a conference with a teacher may call the **office (972-923-4695)** for an appointment during the teacher's conference period or may request the teacher call the parent during a conference period. Staff members may request a conference with the parent/guardian and student if he/she is not achieving the expected level of performance or if the student is experiencing a behavior problem. **The individual must also be currently listed as a contact/emergency contact for any information to be released.**

## **VISITORS**

For the safety and security of each child, all parents, district staff, and other guests are required to enter the building through the front door and check in with the school office to sign-in and receive a Raptor V-Soft Guest Badge. In order to receive a Raptor V-Soft Guest Badge, all guests must provide a valid Texas Driver's License or ID card to be scanned by the Raptor V-Soft Visitor Management and Technology system. When leaving the building, all guests must return to the school office to sign-out and return the Raptor Guest Badge. **The individual must also be currently listed as a contact/emergency contact for any information to be released. (Other adults will be turned away without contact with the student.)**

## **EMERGENCY PROCEDURES**

Each school in Waxahachie ISD follows state laws and district guidelines in the case of individual or school-wide emergencies. Student safety is very important. Each campus has a trained Crisis Response Team which will coordinate any emergency procedures. In case of an emergency, students should follow school procedures and the directions of their teachers. Telephones will not be available for student use during school emergency.

## **FIRE/TORNADO/LOCKDOWN DRILLS**

Fire drills will be held monthly. Order, rather than speed, shall be stressed in fire drills. Defined instructions for vacating each room will be posted in each room, and each student should familiarize himself/herself with these instructions. Fire drills will be held without warning when the signal is given. Tornado and lockdown drills will be conducted periodically and/or as needed throughout the year.

## **MEDICATIONS**

A school nurse or designee has the right not to administer a medication if he/she feels it is not in the best interest of the student. If this decision is made, the nurse or designee should contact the parents or legal guardian and explain the rationale for the decision. The parents must contact the physician and confirm the medication and obtain a written statement for the student including medication, dosage, possible side effects, and criteria to monitor in order to prevent toxicity. If parents cannot be contacted, the nurse should contact the doctor directly.

Parents may arrange to come to the school and give medication to the child or arrange to have it taken on an alternate schedule where it is not administered at school.

If a student must take medication during school hours, he/she needs to follow the school rules:

- Only medication that cannot be scheduled for other than school hours may be given.
- All medicines must be taken to the office/clinic where they will be kept in a locked area.
- All medication must be contained in a properly labeled bottle.
- A note signed by parent/guardian must accompany the medication requesting that a particular dosage

be administered at a particular time –short term medications.

- A note signed by the physician must accompany the medication requesting that particular dosage be administered at a particular time –long term medications
- The student is responsible for reporting to the clinic to take the medication. The parent is responsible for picking up the medicine to take home at dismissal or at the end of the year.
- Non-prescription medicines can be dispensed by the nurse if they are sent in the bottle or container with the child's name attached and are accompanied by a note from parent/guardian giving times and dosage.
- Any medication given on a daily basis over 10 days must have an authorization signed by both the physician and parent/guardian.
- All prescription medications must be in the appropriate prescription bottle with a prescription label bearing the student's name, the name of the medication, and instructions for giving the medication.
- In compliance with House Bill 1688, a student can possess and self-administer asthma medicine while on school property if the school nurse receives a written authorization statement from both the student's parent and the student's doctor. Parents may arrange to come to the school and give medication to the child or arrange to have it taken on an alternate schedule where it is not administered at school.
- Parents and/or physician must send written reason for limited physical activity.

## **FEVER**

A student with a temperature 100° F will be excluded from school. The temperature must be below 100° F for a full 24 hours before returning to school without the use of Tylenol, Advil, Motrin or other medications designed to reduce fever.

## **PINK EYE**

A student with red painful/itchy eyes particularly with drainage/discharge/crusting will be excluded from school. When the student has been cleared by a medical doctor (no signs of redness or drainage), the student may return to school.

## **HEAD LICE**

A student with live head lice must be excluded from school. The campus nurse will provide instructions regarding how to treat and comb out the hair.

A student with nits will be sent home at the end of the school day with instructions on how to comb out and remove the nits.

When returning to school after being sent home with live lice or nits, the student must check-in with the campus nurse before returning to the classroom.

These rules are necessary for the student's safety and the safety of others. It is the student's responsibility to tell his/her teacher or come to the clinic to report an illness.

## **TELEPHONES**

The office phone will be made available to students only for emergency calls. We will not interrupt classes to deliver phone messages unless the message is from a parent/guardian and pertains to an emergency and/or is approved by the principal.

## **TEXTBOOKS**

All textbooks are provided for secondary students (7<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> graders) if the campus does not supply them. Students do not bring them from the home campus. **All students are responsible for any damage done to a textbook.**

## **TRESPASSING**

Challenge Academy students **may not be on any other WISD property or attend any school related functions for any reason.** Violation may result in citation, and an extended stay at Challenge Academy. Trespassing on school premises is strictly prohibited in accordance with Section 37.107 of the Texas Education Code.

## **DISCIPLINE**

A firm and fair discipline policy has been formulated on the campus. This policy is fostered by good communication and positive influences created by parents, students, and school personnel working together. The Board of Trustees recognizes that a variety of discipline measures must be used with students who exhibit inappropriate behavior, and these techniques are outlined in the Student Code of Conduct.

**Listed below are some examples of ways to lose a successful day: Each offense can add days to the student's stay at Challenge Academy.**

1. No gum or candy is allowed.
2. Body contact of any kind is strictly prohibited.
3. Sleeping. Students will receive an unsuccessful day if they sleep which will result in day/s added.
4. Any graffiti or tagging will result in a week being added to student's stay at CA.

5. Not following hallway or restroom procedures.
6. Misbehavior during personal time.
7. Profanity.
8. Disrespectful behavior towards anyone, as defined by the adult.
9. Etcetera from the WISD Discipline Code.

## **HALLWAY BEHAVIOR**

**Students will walk in a single file with their hands behind their backs when walking in the hall keeping a two floor tile distance between each student. Talking in the hall is not allowed.**

## **CAFETERIA BEHAVIOR**

Students will be allowed to leave their seat, with permission, to get a drink or take a restroom break. Trash will be thrown away at the end of lunch once their teacher has arrived, and they are instructed to line up.

## **RESTROOM BEHAVIOR**

Students have four opportunities for restroom breaks. These restroom breaks will be administered by the teachers and are as follows:

- Before school while in the cafeteria
- During 3<sup>rd</sup> period with the entire class
- During lunch while in the cafeteria
- During 5<sup>th</sup> period with the entire class

**Students are to never be in the restroom with another student. These restroom breaks are closely monitored by Challenge Academy Staff. Upon entering a bathroom, the student must verify its cleanliness. If there is student caused damage, it must be immediately upon entering.**

## **MENTORING**

Upon exiting Challenge Academy, students are asked which teacher on their home campus they respect and have built a relationship with. The teacher and principal of Challenge Academy correspond through email as to how the student is transitioning from Challenge Academy to their home campus. The goal of the mentoring program is student success in making good choices and not returning to the Challenge Academy.

## **DRESS CODE**

There is a close relationship between high standards of dignity, pride and proper grooming which all contribute to an appropriate learning environment. Modesty will be the dominant feature in all clothes. Attire will be clean, inoffensive and not distracting. The student and parent share in the responsibility for proper grooming; however, the campus principal has the final authority concerning propriety of clothes and hairstyle. **No article of clothing will be of any color associated with a gang.**

## **SHIRTS**

All students will wear solid collared *or* round neck short or long-sleeved shirts that are long enough **to be fully tucked in.** No scoop neck shirts will be permitted. Designated colors are:

**7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> Grade students will wear solid BLACK shirts.**

**High School students will wear solid GREY shirts.**

A maximum of two shirts may be worn. The student's undershirt may either be white, black, or the same color as the outer shirt. The shirts will have no design on them and cannot be worn inside out. For extra warmth, only long sleeved shirts the same color as the outer shirt may be worn under designated grade appropriate colored shirts. Undergarments should not be visible.

## **JEANS**

**Clean, plain, BLUE denim jeans must be worn that fit at the waist. Pants must not sag.** Shorts, low-riders, hip huggers, **form fitting skinny tight jeans**, overalls, Capri style pants, skorts, dresses and skirts are not permitted.

**Jeans may not be bleached.** The jeans may not be **cut, torn or frayed** and have no more than four (4) pockets and the watch pocket. No carpenter loops or side pockets on the jeans will be permitted. Jeans should not have built-in belts or laces. **The hem must be sewn and may not be tucked or rolled up. The jeans may not drag on the floor.**



Jeans must have belt loops and a **plain black or brown belt** must be worn. The buckle should be plain and must be 2 inches or smaller.

**Student will wear no more than 1 pair of undergarments and will not wear any other garments (basketball shorts, etc.) under their jeans. All undergarments should NOT be visible.**

Students will wear **WHITE OR BLACK sneakers/tennis shoes** at all times. Laces must be the same color as shoes, made of shoe lace material and be tied at all times. **WHITE or BLACK** socks must be worn at all times.

**Pockets should be empty except money for lunch. (Less than \$5.00).** No change is allowed.

## **COATS/JACKETS**

Students may wear coats/jackets to school. All outerwear will be searched and placed in a locker upon arrival. Students may not wear coats or jackets during the school day. It is the responsibility of the student to pick up their coats/jackets during daily dismissal. We are not responsible for any items left overnight.

**Hoods may not be worn indoors.**

**No head coverings of any kind, i.e. caps, toboggans, scarves. If worn, items will be taken and returned when student exits.**

## **ATHLETIC WEAR**

Athletic clothing, such as warm-up suits, sweat suits, sweat pants, athletic shorts, biker shorts, spandex, overalls, coveralls, soccer or boxer style shorts, and cotton pants with drawstrings or elastic waistbands are prohibited.

Tattoos with reference to alcohol, drugs, tobacco, vulgar language, violence, gang-related affiliation, or other symbols that detract from the learning environment are not permitted and must be covered.

## **GROOMING**

Hair must be natural in color for both male and female students. Hair for both male and female students that is long enough to be contained in a ponytail must be pulled back away from the face and out of the eyes with a hair tie or bobby pins before arriving to school. **We do not provide bobby pins and hair ties.**

**No make-up will be worn.**

**No false eyelashes**

**No long fingernails** – male or female. Fingernails may not extend past the fingertip.

**No fingernail polish allowed.**

## **JEWELRY**

**Students may not wear or bring jewelry of any kind. Students may not wear any non-jewelry material in a body piercing.** If a student brings any of these items to school, they will be confiscated and returned when the student exits.

## **SEARCH**

All students will be subjected to a daily metal detector search upon entering the building. They will empty their pockets, remove their shoes and socks, and pull up their jeans to the knee. A waist area search will be conducted by the student daily with the belt removed.

## **SUPPLIES**

Students are to bring wooden #2 pencils. Challenge Academy does not supply paper and pencils.

**No pens or markers are allowed on campus.**

**No personal items allowed on campus (purses, backpacks, wallets, etc.)**

**ID Badges are not allowed to be worn while at Challenge Academy.**

\*Any items that administrators deem disruptive to the learning environment will not be allowed.

## **ELECTRONIC DEVICES**

**\*No cell phones, radios, headphones, recorders, or other electronic devices are allowed on campus. Items will be confiscated and will not be returned to the student until the time of the student's exit and disciplinary action might take place.**

**\*The Challenge Academy is not responsible for items brought to school.**

## **EXITING**

On the last day of assignment to Challenge Academy, the student will receive an exit form signed by the student and principal. The student will need to report to the home campus office with the signed form the following

school day.

**GOOD CONDUCT IS REQUIRED.** All expectations of the Waxahachie ISD Student Code of Conduct apply. Students may be removed by law enforcement personnel for violation of school policies as permitted by the WISD Code of Conduct. **The WISD code of conduct consequences will be followed for all Class I, II, & III offenses. Day/s can and will be added for non-successful days.**

**Since Class IV offenses place students at the Challenge Academy, any of these types of offenses committed while a student is at the Challenge Academy may be grounds for expulsion. The District Expulsion Hearing Committee will have the final authority for recommendations for expulsion.**

All major offenses will be communicated to the parent/guardian in writing by sending a referral home **with the student** and must be returned signed the next day by the parent. In cases of serious offenses (Class IV), the administrator will also make contact with the parent/guardian.

**Our goal is to send students back to their campus as soon as possible.**

**\*\*See Mrs. Cunningham, the counselor, for schedules.\*\***

**Date** \_\_\_\_\_

- ❖ **We understand the rules and responsibilities of placement in Waxahachie Challenge Academy.**
- ❖ **We have received a copy of this agreement.**
- ❖ **We understand that any questions or concerns we have should be directed to the Director Alternative Learning Services at 972-923-4695.**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Parent/Guardian's Signature**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Student's Signature**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Director Alternative Learning Services**

**# of days assigned** \_\_\_\_\_

**Start date** \_\_\_\_\_