



Challenge Academy

2018-2019

Elementary Student-Parent Handbook

Waxahachie Independent School District

Discipline Alternative Education Program

Dr. Al Benskin, Director

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Waxahachie, Texas 75165**

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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 21st 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 individual, to each make satisfactory decisions in an ever-changing society.

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CHALLENGE ACADEMY STAFF

Rebecca Buck	Elementary Teacher
Marcus Swift	Instructional Aide
April Garcia	Office
Martha Cunningham	Counselor
Mary Sias	Secretary
TBA	Security
Dr. Al Benskin	Director

Elementary Hours: 7:45 a.m. until 3:15 p.m. Office Hours: 8:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m.
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ACADEMICS

COURSES

The Waxahachie Challenge Academy provides instruction in the following core subjects: language arts, mathematics, science, social studies and character education. Students receive direct instruction in their core subjects. All assignments are given and graded by the elementary teacher who is the teacher of record for all students. Textbooks and assignments are sent from the home campus.

Elementary students encompasses grades 1- 6.

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

State law requires that a student between the ages of six and 18 attend school, as well as any applicable accelerated instruction program, extended year program, or tutorial session unless the student is otherwise excused from attendance or legally exempt.

A student who voluntarily attends or enrolls after his or her 18th birthday is required to attend each school day until the end of the school year and **may be** subject to compulsory attendance laws if the student is under 21 years old. Also, if a student 18 or older has more than five unexcused absences in a semester, the district may revoke the student's enrollment. The student's presence on school property after that would be unauthorized and may be considered trespassing. [See Board Policy FEA.]

Students enrolled in prekindergarten or kindergarten are required to attend school.

State law requires attendance in an accelerated reading instruction program when kindergarten, first grade, or

second-grade students are assigned to such a program. Parents will be notified in writing if their child is assigned to an accelerated reading instruction program as a result of a diagnostic reading instrument.

A student in grades 3–8 will be required to attend assigned accelerated instruction program, which may occur before or after school or during the summer if the student does not meet the passing standards on the state assessment for his or her grade level and applicable subject area.

FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH COMPULSORY ATTENDANCE

School employees must investigate and report violations of the state compulsory attendance law. A student absent without permission from school; from any class; from required special programs, such as additional special instruction, termed “accelerated instruction” by the state; or from required tutorials will be considered in violation of the compulsory attendance law and subject to disciplinary action.

A court of law may also impose penalties against both the student and his or her parents if a school-aged student is deliberately not attending school. A complaint against the parent may be filed in court if the student:

- Is absent from school on ten or more days or parts of days within a six-month period in the same school year, or
- Is absent on three or more days or parts of days within a four-week period.

For a student younger than 12 years of age, the student’s parent could be charged with a criminal offense based on the student’s failure to attend school.

If a student age 12 through age 17 violates the compulsory attendance law, both the parent and student could be charged with a criminal offense.

If a student is age 18 or older, the student may be subject to penalties as a result of the student’s violation of the state compulsory attendance law. [See Board Policy FEA(LLEGAL).]

ABSENCES AND ATTENDANCE

The district must submit attendance of its students to Texas Education Agency (TEA) reflecting attendance at a specific time each day. Official attendance is taken every day at 10:00 AM.

A student absent for any portion of the day, including at the official attendance-taking time, should follow the procedures below.

The actual number of days a student must be in attendance to receive credit depends on whether the class is for a full semester or full year. The 2017-18 instructional calendar has **175 school days; 90% is 157 days.** Therefore, a student must attend 157 days to receive credit. If a student does not attend 157 days, an attendance hearing will be held. At that time, a determination will be made on the most appropriate action for student completion of instruction time. *Note: The state of Texas does not consider absences as “excused” or “unexcused” as a determination for promotion.*

PARENT'S NOTE AFTER AN ABSENCE

When a student must be absent from school, the student—upon returning to school—must bring a note, signed by the parent that describes the reason for the absence. A note signed by the student, even with the parent's permission, will not be accepted unless the student is 18 or older. Notes must be received within three days of the student's return to school. Any child may be excused from school for absences resulting from personal sickness, sickness or death in the family, quarantine, and weather or road conditions. A student should present the note to the Challenge Academy office before class. A copy of the note will be sent to the student's home campus.

APPOINTMENTS

Doctor/Dentist/Court

Every effort should be made to schedule appointments with doctors and dentists at times other than school hours. If a student returns to school the same day or attends part of the day before the doctor's appointment or court appearance and then presents a doctor's note or court documentation verifying the appointment, the absence is excused. Students will be picked up and signed out for early dismissal from the main office. **Students will remain in class until they are checked out.**

UNEXCUSED ABSENCES

Unexcused absences include vacations during scheduled school days, baby-sitting, oversleeping and missing the bus. If an absence is unexcused, the student must still do the work he/she missed, but the grade will be reduced by 10%. Work must be turned in within the same number of days as a student was absent. Truancy will result in a grade of zero for all work missed. For example: If a student is absent on a Monday and returns on Tuesday, his or her work is due on Thursday (One day absent = one day to make-up work; work due the next day).

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 on time.

******A student will receive one additional day at Challenge Academy for every three tardies.**

GENERAL INFORMATION

CHALLENGE ACADEMY HOURS

Elementary: 7:45 a.m. - 3:15 p.m.

For safety reasons, elementary students may not arrive before 7:30 a.m. and must be picked up by

3:20 p.m.

Arrangements for student pick up at dismissal need to be made before the student arriving to school.

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. 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)

Food may not be brought in from outside restaurants. Students may bring their own lunch from home. Students can only bring a sandwich, chips and fresh fruit 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 will decide whether the student will need to re-enter Waxahachie Challenge Academy. Scenarios like this usually depend 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.

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

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 "cyber bullying."

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 on the basis of 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 in 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; Sexual Harassment and Gender-Based Harassment. 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 another 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 the 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 might 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 by 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. 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.

EMERGENCY PROCEDURES

Each school in Waxahachie ISD follows state laws and district guidelines in the case of an 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 situations. **The individual must also be currently listed as a contact/emergency contact for any information to be released.**

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 as needed throughout the year.

MEDICATIONS

A school nurse has the right not to administer medication if he/she feels it is not in the best interest of the student. If this decision is made, the nurse 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 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 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 ten 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 physician must send written reason for limited physical activity.

FEVER

A student with a temperature of 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 is approved by the principal.

TEXTBOOKS

Elementary students must bring all textbooks from their home campus. When elementary students exit from Challenge Academy, he/she will be given their textbooks to return to their 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 extension of stay at Challenge Academy. Trespassing on school premises is strictly prohibited by Section 37.107 of the Texas Education Code.

DISCIPLINE

A firm and fair discipline policy have 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.

BEHAVIOR MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

A referral will be written for an unsuccessful day, and the parent will be notified.

A student will be disciplined by the principal or designee for major discipline infractions such as disrespect of any kind, bullying other students, profanity, failure to follow any school expectations or procedures, etc.

Listed below are some examples of ways to lose a successful day:

No gum or candy is allowed.

Body contact of any kind is strictly prohibited.

No sleeping is allowed. Students will receive an unsuccessful day if they sleep and an office referral if the sleeping continues.

Any graffiti or tagging will result in a week being added to student's days.

Not following hallway or restroom procedures.

Misbehavior during P.E. or personal time.

Profanity.

Disrespectful behavior towards anyone.

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 are as follows:

- Before school
- Morning Break: During PE or class break at 10:10
- During lunch while in the cafeteria
- Afternoon Break: During PE or class break at 1:15

Students are to never be in the restroom with another student. These restroom breaks are closely

monitored by Challenge Academy Staff.

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.

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.

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:

Elementary students will wear solid green shirt.

A maximum of two shirts may be worn. The student's undershirt may either be white or the same color as the outer shirt. The shirts will have no design on them and cannot be worn inside out. 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. Pockets should be empty except money for lunch. (Less than \$5.00).

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 underwear and will not wear any other garments (basketball shorts, etc.) under their jeans.

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

times.

Girls bra straps must not show. Halters are not permitted if they show.

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.

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.** For braided hair, beads must be white or clear. All students will be subjected to a daily metal detector search upon entering the building. They will empty their pockets and remove their shoes and socks. A waist area search will be conducted by the student daily.

HAIR ACCESSORIES

Bows, feathers, headbands, decorative barrettes, etc. are not allowed. For braided hair, beads must be white or clear.

All students will be subjected to a daily metal detector search upon entering the building. They will empty their pockets and pull up the legs of their jeans. Students will be asked to perform a self-waist area search.

No make-up will be worn.

No long fingernails. Fingernails may not extend past the fingertip. **No fingernail polish allowed.**
No false eyelashes of any kind

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 student exits.

SUPPLIES

Students are to bring one pencil. 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 acceptable.

ELECTRONIC DEVICES

No cell phones, radios, headphones, tape players or recorders, or other electronic devices are not allowed on campus or in lockers. Items will be confiscated and only are returned at the student's exit from the Challenge Academy to the home campus.

The Challenge Academy is not responsible for items brought to school. Items confiscated due to violation of the Campus Rules, except money, will not be returned until the end of the student's stay and any fines must be paid when the student exits.

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.**

Since Class IV offenses place students at the Challenge Academy, any of these committed while a student is at the Challenge Academy will be grounds for expulsion.

All major offenses will be communicated to the parent/guardian in writing by sending a referral

home & must be returned by the student signed by the parent the next day.

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

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 _____