

# South View Middle School

## STUDENT HANDBOOK 2011-12

- AFTER SCHOOL RULES

Students must be in a supervised location after the school day ends. We expect students to be out of the building or in their supervised activities by 3 p.m. A supervised location includes working with an individual teacher, using the media center, at the Cyber Café or being involved in an adult-led club or athletic team. Hanging out in the hallway is not considered a supervised location.

- BACKPACKS

Students may use a backpack to carry books and materials between home and school. At school, however, your backpack is to be stored in a locker and not brought to class.

- BOOK FINES

Books and materials are furnished for each class at no charge. However, school board policy does state students should be responsible for lost or damaged books or materials. Fees for lost books and books damaged beyond repair are assessed to students at the end of the course. Students are encouraged to cover books and to handle them with care.

- CORRIDORS/HALLWAYS

Safety in hall traffic is the responsibility of each student if accidents are to be avoided. Please walk in the hallway, especially to and from lunch. Students should have a pass when in the hallway. No food or drink is allowed in the hall unless students are participating in an activity directed by an adult in the building.

- DRESS CODE

Hats or other headgear are not to be worn at South View except those approved by administration for religious, cultural or health purposes or school-sponsored special activities. Students will be asked to remove any other items that may conceal a student's identity. We assume students will come to school wearing appropriate dress. Students are not to wear items that advertise and/or display tobacco, alcohol or other chemicals. Attire with obscene language or obscene pictures also is not permitted. State law requires that shoes must be worn in public buildings.

- ELECTRONIC DEVICES

**DO NOT** bring such devices to school unless you are instructed to do so for academic purposes. Personal electronic devices are not to be used from bell to bell (7:45 a.m.-2:40 p.m.) unless directed by the teacher during class. Students using these devices during instructional time may have them confiscated and returned only to their parents. Students are discouraged from bringing expensive electronic items to school. We are not responsible for lost or stolen items.

- HEALTH OFFICE SERVICES

The Health Office, open to students on a day-to-day basis, provides first aid, medication distribution and vision, hearing and scoliosis screening. All medication except inhalers must be kept in the Health Office unless special arrangements are made with the licensed school nurse. When students require medication at school, they must bring the medication in the original container with directions, written permission from a parent and a written order from the physician. Students are not allowed to keep medication in their lockers. If students need to go home due to illness, they must check out of school through the Health Office. Requests for homework when students have been absent for three or more days also are handled through this office.

- POSTERS AND SIGNS

All posters, flyers and signs displayed in or on the building must have prior approval of the assistant principal or principal.

- ID CARDS

Each student will be issued an ID card that includes a picture and other information. Please carry this card at all times when you are at school or school activities. A staff member may request your ID card at any time as identification. It also will be required for identification and entry to school-sponsored events like Fall Fest and Winterfest. If you lose your ID card, media center staff can make a replacement for \$2.

- LOCKERS

Students are responsible for securing their property. Students must bring their own combination locks for some lockers and furnish their combinations to their Advisory teacher. *Students should keep their lockers locked at all times, and keep their combinations confidential.* The school reserves the right to inspect locker contents to remove anything contrary to school rules or anything deemed to be detrimental to the school or its occupants. Report problems with your locker to the main office staff. *Always lock your valuables and clothing in your locker. The school does not assume responsibility for your belongings, and students are not encouraged to bring valuable items.*

- TECHNOLOGY USE

All students should be familiar with the district computer-related acceptable use policy. Some examples of computer misuse include the inappropriate accessing of Internet sites, sharing of passwords, storing programs (games), contamination of the system and violation of copyright laws. Suspension of technology privileges and/or school suspension can result from a technology violation.

- STUDENT RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Our rules and expectations are designed to help staff members and students focus on teaching and learning rather than behavior. Common courtesy, good manners and self-discipline guide the rules. Teachers will review this policy manual with students in class during the first few days of school, and it is available to each student. Students and parents can review the entire "Rights, Opportunities, and Responsibilities for Student Management" on the Edina district website at: <http://www.edina.k12.mn.us/parents/rightshandbook.pdf>. Students, parents or families who wish to have a hard copy of the handbook can request one at school.

The district handbook serves as a guideline for grades K-12 for infractions of school policy. Please note that the rules or guidelines align with district policy. Most specifically, note the guidelines for nuisance objects, insubordination, harassment and bullying, and the weapons and chemical/tobacco policy. Students may be assigned consequences for inappropriate behavior—including but not limited to—restitution, school development, out-of-school suspension, detention or after school time with a teacher. (See district handbook on rights and responsibilities).

## POSITIVE SCHOOL CLIMATE

South View Middle School focuses on both an academic and affective curriculum. Our academic programs include an intensive academic course load with multiple electives, exploratory classes and rigorous, collaborative curriculum in the core content areas. We believe students can reach their full potential when provided with opportunities for personal and scholarly growth. To accomplish this goal, South View has retreats, service learning, assemblies, student recognition and student leadership opportunities for all the diverse learners who attend our school. This programming helps develop student character and promote a positive school climate. Each fall, grade level retreats allow students to get to know each other through various team-building activities. Service projects at various grade levels also promote a positive school climate. Also in the fall, school support staff and administration make presentations to each class to promote positive school climate. Students learn about bullying and what it looks like as well as tips on how to handle bullying or harassing situations. We encourage students to talk with teachers, parents or other staff if they experience or see behavior that is disrespectful or of a harassing nature.

Our building uses the practice of restitution. We want each disciplinary incident for a student to result in ownership of the action by the participants. We believe people engaged in inappropriate behavior can learn from their mistakes and return to their peer group and/or the classroom strengthened from the experience. We hold students to high standards of conduct that will help them develop as young people.

Throughout the year our Student Leadership Team (SLT) provides opportunities for students to get to know each other through activities, education, training and mentorship. Our leadership groups include the Clean and Green Team, Dare 2B Real, Spirit Team, Student Ambassadors and Classroom Connection. Student leadership groups represent South View's core areas of focus:

**Student Learning:** Classroom Connection focuses on improving student learning in the classroom and throughout school by promoting academic integrity and respect for all people in the building. Some of their greatest contributions come through peer-tutoring and academic coaching in specified after-school programs as well as an anti-bullying curriculum students help deliver and support.

**Wellness and Environment:** Clean and Green Team promotes green activities and initiatives and actively participates in ways that contribute to a clean and environmentally healthy school. Their initiatives include building-wide recycling efforts, promotion of safe bike paths and environmental awareness.

**Equity and Inclusion:** Dare 2B Real addresses social justice and racial equity issues in our building and community by helping students develop their own cultural and racial identity. Participants also mentor and partner with students through presentations, retreats and intercultural learning initiatives that seek to eliminate racism in all of its forms.

**School Climate and Spirit:** Spirit Team helps plan fun, productive activities, such as mixers, spirit weeks, Fall Fest, Winterfest, "Random Acts of Kindness" and other themed events designed to actively include all students in South View spirit.

**Community Outreach:** Student Ambassadors welcome new students and families by helping plan and participate in Get Connected Day, Fifth Grade Orientation, welcoming new school staff and providing tours to incoming families. Eighth- and ninth-graders also can be involved in community outreach through W.E.B. (Where Everybody Belongs), a program designed to help incoming sixth-graders become fully integrated into our school. W.E.B. trains eighth- and ninth-graders in mentorship and leadership skills, so they can successfully guide sixth-graders through their first year of middle school.

### WHEN YOU NEED HELP

We encourage you to talk to your parents and to seek out resources available at school or in the community. The following is a list of some of these resources.

**TEACHERS:** Students often find that difficulties they are having in class, whether academic or with peers, can be resolved by talking with their teachers. This is your first line of support.

**SUPPORT STAFF:** (Counselors, Social Worker, Nurse, Psychologist) These people will help you with school concerns, dealing with friendship issues and family problems and making healthy decisions when you are experiencing conflict.

Carmine Levoir - 6/7 Grade Counselor

Meg Bennett - School Psychologist

Carrie Klein and Tina Flowers - Social Workers

Paul Andress - 8/9 Grade Counselor

Diane Smith - School Nurse

Greg Banko - Academic Support Coordinator

**COMMUNITY HELPING RESOURCES:** The following organizations will put you in touch with someone who can answer your questions or tell you how to get the help you need.

Teen Age Medical (TAMS)	(612) 813-6125	Crisis Connection	(612) 379-6363
Alateen/Alanon	(952) 920-3961	Acute Psychiatric Services	(612) 873-3161
Edina Police (Admin)	(952) 826-1610	Storefront Group	(612) 861-1675
Edina Police and Fire	(952) 826-1600	Poison Control	1-800-222-1222
The Bridge (runaway youth)	(612) 377-8800	Rape/Sexual Abuse Center	(612) 825-4357
Suicide Prevention Hotline	(612) 347-2222	First Call for Help (United Way)	(651) 291-0211
Bloomington Public Health (health/sexual issues)	(952) 563-8900		

## CAFETERIA INFORMATION

We strive to make the cafeteria a pleasant, healthy and safe environment for all students to eat lunch and socialize. Students are expected to cooperate with cafeteria supervisors. Violation of the following rules can result in clean-up duty at the discretion of the supervisors. Repeated offenses may result in a parent conference, removal from the cafeteria, loss of privileges or assigned seating.

- Report to the cafeteria within the normal passing time.
- Stay in the cafeteria unless given permission to eat outdoors or with a teacher.
- Clean up after yourself.
- Wait to be dismissed by a staff person.
- Do not take food or drinks out of the cafeteria unless you're are participating in an adult-sponsored activity or meeting. Students are expected to return their trays to the cafeteria if they eat in another location for an adult-supervised meeting or event.
- Students **are not** to be in the cafeteria when other grade level students are eating.

## DAILY LUNCH TIMES

6<sup>th</sup> Grade: 10:30 to 11 a.m.

7<sup>th</sup> Grade: 11:11 to 11:41 a.m.

8<sup>th</sup> Grade: 11:54 a.m. to 12:24 p.m.

9<sup>th</sup> Grade: 12:42 to 1:12 p.m.

## EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

We hope every student at South View is involved in some form of extra-curricular, athletic or co-curricular activity this year! Please come to the student services area in the main office to get more information regarding these extra-curricular activities.

- **FALL PLAY**

Two fall plays are open to all students. Sixth- and seventh-graders audition for, rehearse and perform in one play, while eight- and ninth-graders put on the second performance. Tryouts are announced in September. Speaking and non-speaking roles are available, as well as supporting roles such as the sound/video/tech crew, set construction or props work.

- **SPRING MUSICAL**

The spring musical has featured such well-known Broadway plays as "Beauty and the Beast," "Newsies" and "Willy Wonka and the Chocolate Factory." The musical, open by audition to all students, involves singing, acting, choreography, costumes, scenery, staging and lighting and sound, under the direction of staff and supported by students and parents. Auditions usually are held in mid-February, followed by rehearsals after school with evening performances in late April. As with the fall play, singing, speaking and non-speaking roles are cast, and students also can support the production in the sound and video technical crew, with set construction or props work.

- **ACADEMIC TRIATHLON**

Academic Triathlon is a creative problem-solving competition that is an excellent way to develop creativity, increase knowledge and build divergent thinking skills. Students who have enthusiasm for writing plays, playing trivia games or thinking on their feet will love this activity. Students can form a five-person team and must have a designated parent coach.

- **NATIONAL HISTORY DAY**

This competition is open to seventh- through ninth-grade students who want to do research on an approved historical topic and work individually or with a group to create a project for the state and national competitions. The competition is held in the spring, and the work begins in the late fall.

- **LITERARY COUNCIL**

Students work with the media specialist to write book reviews. Students may be asked to post their reviews online.

- **GSA - GAY-STRAIGHT ALLIANCE**

A discussion group for students who identify themselves as Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual or Transgender and any students who identify as straight who wish to express their friendship and support.

- **FIRST LEGO LEAGUE (Robotics)**

First Lego League (FLL) is an internationally organized robotics competition for teams of kids in grades four through nine. Adult coaches lead the teams. In Minnesota, teams compete in two divisions, one for students in fourth through sixth grades and the other for students in seventh through ninth grades.

- **KNOWLEDGE MASTER**

Knowledge Master is a national, computer-based academic competition. The multiple-choice timed contest covers 11 academic areas and demands concentration and teamwork. Results are compared with other teams throughout the state and nationally. Gifted education resource teachers coordinate the program, and competitions take place in December and April.

- **MATHCOUNTS**

Students use their problem-solving skills with interesting and challenging problems. They compare their work with students in other Minnesota middle schools.

- **MATH OLYMPIAD**

This is an advanced mathematical opportunity with national competition for highly talented math students in sixth grade who enjoy a problem-solving challenge. Students are scored individually and as a team. A gifted education resource teacher coordinates this program.

- **MOCK TRIAL**

The Minnesota Bar Association sponsors this competition for students in ninth through 12<sup>th</sup> grades. Students prepare to argue both sides of a hypothetical criminal or civil case, working with attorney coaches. Preparation begins in November, and cases are argued before attorney judges in February.

- **SPELLING BEE**

Students in sixth through eighth grades can compete in school spelling contests with the possibility of advancing nationally.

- **MUSIC ACTIVITIES**

The band department offers a jazz band that meets either before or after school and plays several concerts each year. Please see the band directors for more information about jazz band.

- **STUDENT LEADERSHIP TEAM (SLT)**

Student leadership group works with the student body and school staff to create a positive and productive learning environment. Students are encouraged to develop their identity, leadership skills and their school community through involvement in different leadership groups. These groups include, Student Ambassadors, Clean and Green Team, Dare 2B Real, Spirit Team and Classroom Connection. These groups make up the largest extra curricular group in the school, and their leadership has a huge impact on school climate.

- **VARIETY SHOW**

The annual Variety Show is open to any student with a special talent or an entertaining act. Two performances are scheduled with acts that include singing, dancing, comedy, magic, acrobatics, juggling, instrumental and novelty numbers. This is a great way to showcase your talents. All students are welcome to try out.

- **YEARBOOK**

Yearbook staff assists with the publication of an annual book that showcases the happenings of each exciting school year. Everyone is encouraged to join.

## **GRADING POLICIES**

Our focus at South View is on student learning. Students are made aware of what is expected of them in each class, and how they can meet and exceed standards for each academic area. Academic progress is reported quarterly with an A to F marking system. Students are expected to make up work when they are absent. All students are expected to meet or exceed standards. Clear expectations on what we want students to know and be able to do and how they will be assessed on that content knowledge, skill and application is directly communicated at the beginning of the year and throughout the course. In a standards-based teaching and learning system, students are not penalized for learning but are encouraged through specific feedback on how to improve the quality of their work, so that the summative assessment is a clear indication of what they have learned.

Therefore, grades are based on students meeting state and/or national standards for each content area. Attendance or behavior is not included in this grade because they don't indicate learning, however, they will be noted in the reporting system through comments. Summative assessments are a minimum 80 percent of a student's grade with formative assessment representing 20 percent of the grade.

Honor Roll Criteria:  
A Honor Roll 10.5 GPA

If a student receives a grade below a C- in any course they are not eligible for the honor roll.

## **BUS TRANSPORTATION**

- ACTIVITY BUSES

Student activity buses are provided for students who remain after school to participate in authorized activities or events. Bus schedules are posted in the front foyer and main office.

- SHUTTLE BUSES

A shuttle bus is provided to students who need to attend after-school activities held at either Valley View Middle School or Edina High School. Buses typically have left from Door 3, by the south parking lot, at 3 p.m. However, information on the shuttle bus schedule is available in the main office.

- BUS RIDING REGULATIONS

Bus riding is a privilege. Appropriate behavior is expected. Bus behavioral guidelines and consequences are outlined in the district handbook, "Rights, Opportunities, and Responsibilities for Student Management." Students will be given additional information through instruction from their bus drivers and/or by taking a bus behavior and procedures test.

## ATHLETICS

All student athletics, other than seventh- and eighth-grade track, are directed by Edina High School. All forms needed for registration can be found on the high school website at [www.edina.k12.mn.us/athletics](http://www.edina.k12.mn.us/athletics). Please direct any questions regarding athletics to John Soma, Edina athletic director, at [johsoma@edina.k12.mn.us](mailto:johsoma@edina.k12.mn.us).

<u>SPORT</u>	<u>GRADE</u>	<u>SEASON</u>
Swimming (Girls)	7-9	Fall
Tennis (Girls)	9	Fall
Cross Country (Boys/Girls)	7-9	Fall
Football	9	Fall
Soccer (Boys/Girls)	9	Fall
Volleyball	9	Fall
Adapted Soccer	7-9	Fall
Hornettes, Performance	9	Fall
Alpine Skiing (Boys/Girls)	9	Winter
Nordic Skiing (Boys/Girls)	7-9	Winter
Competition Dance	9	Winter
Gymnastics (Girls)	7-9	Winter
Basketball (Girls/Boys)	9	Winter
Adapted Floor Hockey	7-9	Winter
Swimming/Diving (Boys)	7-9	Spring
Synchronized Swimming	7-9	Spring
Softball	9	Spring
Track (Boys/Girls)*	7-8*	Spring
Track (Boys/Girls)	9	Spring
Golf (Boys/Girls)	9	Spring
Baseball	9	Spring
Tennis (Boys)	9	Spring
LaCrosse (Boys/Girls)	9	Spring
Adapted Softball	7-9	Spring

\*Boys and girls 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade track is run through community education.

For more information, including forms and start dates, go to [www.edina.k12.mn.us/athletics](http://www.edina.k12.mn.us/athletics) or call the sports hotline at (952) 848-3814.

### ATHLETIC ELIGIBILITY/PARTICIPATION REQUIREMENT

Article I, Section 10 of the Minnesota State High School League states that to maintain scholastic eligibility, a student has to be making satisfactory progress toward graduation. See the Athletics Registration Packet for more details.

**Students must complete and return the following forms to the Edina High School athletic office** before they may participate in athletics during the 2011-12 school year. Forms are available at Edina High School or the athletics website. The following is required for participation in athletics:

1. Completed and signed registration form (back page of the registration packet).
2. A satisfactory physical examination form (MSHSL official form) performed by a physician on file in the health office dated after June 15, 2009 or more recent. This form is available in the official Edina Athletic Registration Packet and at [www.edina.k12.mn.us/athletics](http://www.edina.k12.mn.us/athletics).
3. Participation fee with checks made payable to Edina High School.