



TREASURE VALLEY
CLASSICAL ACADEMY

FAMILY HANDBOOK

2024-2025

List of Changes for AY2024-25

<u>Page</u>	<u>Section</u>	<u>Change</u>
p. 11-12	Leadership Structure	updated and expanded
p. 22	Elementary Retention	updated and expanded
p. 23	Special deliveries	added
p. 24	Eligibility for sports and activities	added and expanded
p. 27-29	Attendance/Absences/Truancy	protocol updated and clarified
p. 31-32	Disciplinary Referral	process and protocol updated
p. 33-4	Uniform Dress Code	updated
p. 35	Bus Safety Rules	updated
p. 36-40	Health and Medicine	updated and expanded
p. 45-46	Carpool/Drop-off/Pick-up	updated and details added to website
p. 46	Parking	updated
p. 68-69	Appendix 8: Parent Carpool Procedure	Removed

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INTRODUCTION AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The mission of Treasure Valley Classical Academy is to train the minds and improve the hearts of students through a classical, content-rich curriculum that emphasizes virtuous living, traditional learning, and civic responsibility.

The vision of Treasure Valley Classical Academy is to form future citizens who uphold the ideals of our country's founding and promote the continuation of our American experiment—through a classical, great-books curriculum designed to engage the student in the highest matters and the deepest questions of truth, justice, virtue, and beauty.

GOVERNANCE

BOARD OF DIRECTORS (BOARD)

Treasure Valley Classical Academy (“TVCA” or “the School”) is governed by its Board of Directors (“the Board” or “Board”). The Board operates in accordance with its bylaws and using the principles of policy governance. The Board has entered into a Charter Agreement with Idaho Public Charter School Commission. The bylaws and Charter Agreement are available on the School’s website, www.tvcacademy.org.

BOARD RESPONSIBILITIES

The Board is the governing body of the School and is responsible for overseeing the effective, faithful execution of the mission.

The Founding Board created Treasure Valley Classical Academy specifically to implement a traditional, classical, liberal-arts education guided by the following mission:

To train the minds and improve the hearts of students through a classical, content-rich curriculum that emphasizes virtuous living, traditional learning, and civic responsibility.

The Board oversees budgeting and spending, community outreach, charter fidelity, compliance with applicable laws and regulations, and development to support the program. More specific responsibilities of the Board include but are not limited to:

ADVOCACY

- Serving as ambassadors for the School by clearly protecting and articulating the School’s mission and goals and by garnering community support.

SCHOOL LEADER SUPPORT

- Providing input and feedback to the Principal on campus-specific issues and concerns (e.g. school culture, discipline policy, student recruitment, etc.).
- Supporting the Principal by ensuring that he/she has the moral and professional support necessary to further the goals of the School.

FISCAL ACCOUNTABILITY

- Participating in the budgeting process each year, providing advice and feedback to the Principal.
- Monitoring the management of financial resources by approving the annual budget and ensuring that proper financial controls are in place.
- Financial reporting of the Treasurer to the Board as required in the bylaws to ensure the Board is “hands-on” as it relates to fiscal controls and responsibility.

COMPLIANCE

- Monitoring and ensuring compliance with the Idaho Department of Education regulatory statutes and other local, state, and federal laws by regularly reviewing school policies, programs, and practices.
- Reviewing school data against charter and charter goals to ensure compliance with the vision, strategies, and objectives identified herein.

OTHER

- Serving as a source for appeals for parent and staff grievances that are unable to be resolved by the Principal.
- Actively recruiting new Board directors and advisory council members.

In summary, the Board is accountable for the academic, financial, legal, and operational performance of the School. The Board places responsibility for implementing its policies with the Principal, but the Board remains accountable.

CORE PRINCIPLES HELD BY THE TREASURE VALLEY CLASSICAL ACADEMY BOARD OF DIRECTORS

SCHOOL CULTURE

- Employees will model and encourage students to uphold the School's core virtues: courage, courtesy, honesty, perseverance, self-government, and service.
- Treasure Valley Classical Academy is an open enrollment school with no enrollment criteria outside of statutory and contractual requirements.
- Treasure Valley Classical Academy's educational philosophy requires a small K-12 atmosphere with a closed campus. This conscious choice ensures that all students are known and educated by caring adults.
- The Principal is accountable for the well-being of every student. Faculty members personally know each of their students as well as others.
- Students wear a school-specific uniform and employees adhere to a dress code.
- Discipline policies are designed to prevent interruption of teaching and learning as well as reinforce the core virtues.
- Classrooms are open for observation at any time by parents or guardians after Labor Day.

ACADEMICS

- Our educational philosophy is expressed in the articles "Our Educational Philosophy" and "A Classical Education for Modern Times" as well as the writings of E. D. Hirsch, Jr., and James Kilpatrick's *Why Johnny Can't Tell Right From Wrong*, among many others who echo similar themes.
- Student services provides support to all students with academic and behavioral needs. Interventions utilized to achieve Treasure Valley Classical Academy's expectations are targeted and specific to each individual student.
- Treasure Valley Classical Academy resists grade inflation and social promotion. Mastery of core subjects always takes priority. Latin is required in the Upper School. Successful completion of a

senior thesis is a requirement for graduation.

- Students will be academically prepared to pursue multiple post-secondary options. Although many graduates will go on to college, students who do not intend to attend college will always be welcome at Treasure Valley Classical Academy.
- Literacy is taught through an explicit phonics program. Mathematics is taught conceptually. Teachers frequently employ the Socratic method of discussion.
- Standardized tests do not drive the curriculum.

LEADERSHIP STRUCTURE

The school's leadership structure is designed to ensure that both the elementary school (K-6) and upper school (7-12) campuses have leadership oversight as well as operational support. Each campus is led by a core leadership team (a **Principal** and a **Dean**). The elementary and upper school **Principals** report to the **Executive Director**, who in turn reports to the **Board of Directors**. In addition, the **Student Services Director** and **Operations Director** support both Principals and report directly to the Executive Director. Please refer to the organizational structure diagram at the bottom of this section.

Executive Director

- The Executive Director oversees and guides strategic plans and policy for TVCA; coordinates with key stakeholders in order to promote that growth; and works to create public and private partnerships for the long-term well-being of TVCA.
- The Executive Director oversees the growth and buildout of the school's facilities for the final K-12 campus layout.
- The Executive Director is responsible for the long-term well-being of the school; the elementary and upper school Principals are responsible for all aspects of day-to-day school operations.

Principals (Elementary and Upper School)

- The Principals implement a traditional, classical, liberal arts and science curriculum in accordance with the Hillsdale K-12 Program Guide.
- The Principals make final decisions on curriculum, subject to the approval of the Executive Director and Board.
- The Principals, while chiefly the academic leaders, are also responsible for the discipline, moral culture, operations, and financial priorities of the School.
- The Principals employ teachers based on their mastery of an academic discipline, their ability to convey knowledge to young people, and their capacity to maintain order and decorum in the classroom. Certification is not an initial condition of employment; the School works with teachers who intend to obtain their certification in the State of Idaho.
- Treasure Valley Classical Academy teachers are considered professionals. Their professional development consists of required training sessions at the end and the beginning of each school year, to be coordinated by the Principals.

Deans (Elementary and Upper School)

- The Deans serve as assistant leaders and support the Principals in all aspects of day-to-day operations of the school.
- In terms of academics, this includes providing assistance in the following major areas (as appropriate): Faculty Chairs, teacher resource room, curriculum and adherence to the Hillsdale College K-12 Program Guide, quarterly and semesterly student academic reports, academic schedules, standardized testing (MAP, IRI, ISAT, CLT, SAT), upper school final exams, faculty certification, high school credit and graduation requirements, and retention and advancement.

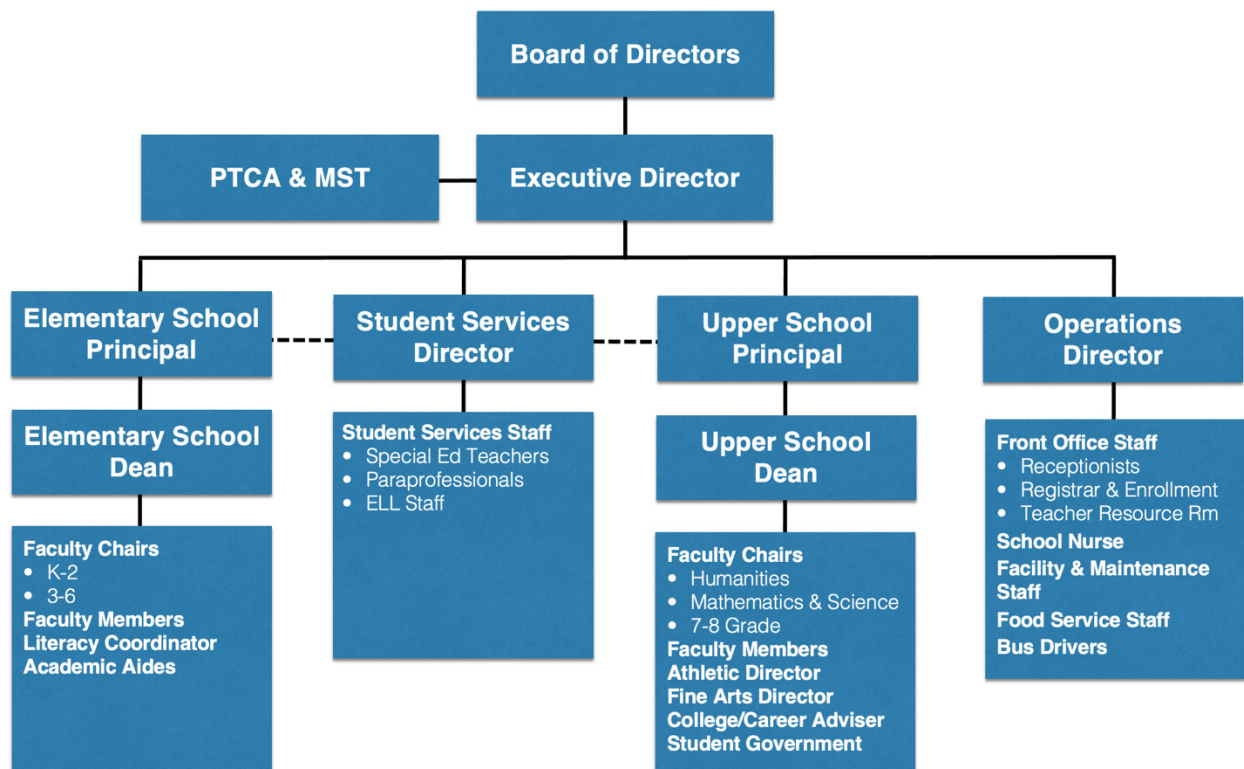
- In terms of school culture and student affairs, this includes providing assistance in the following major areas (as appropriate): student culture and discipline, literacy and numeracy remediation, participation on the Multi-Tiered System of Supports (MTSS) team, Academic Aids, Athletics, Physical Education, and Fine Arts.

Student Services Director

- The Student Services Director oversees all aspects of student support services including the special education program and special education teachers and paraprofessionals and the ELL program.
- The Student Services Director actively supports the general education team in terms of interventions and participation in the MTSS process and implementation.
- The Student Services Director supports both the elementary and upper school Principals and reports directly to the Executive Director.

Operations Director

- The Operations Director is responsible for all day-to-day non-academic school support functions. This includes front office operations at both campuses, the School Nurse, all facility upkeep and maintenance needs, the food service program, and the bus drivers and associated transportation program.
- The Operations Director supports both the elementary and upper school Principals and reports directly to the Executive Director.



PARENTS OR GUARDIANS AND STUDENTS

- Parents or guardians' support of the School's academic and moral mission is essential. Parents or guardians are encouraged to learn more about the School's philosophy and curriculum in order to help support and guide their students.
- To thrive at Treasure Valley Classical Academy, students must be polite and attentive in class and have a strong work ethic and willingness to learn.

FISCAL RESPONSIBILITY

- Our budgeting philosophy is conservative. We do not expend uncollected funds. When budgeting, first priority is given to instructional materials, then faculty salaries, then other areas of the School deemed important by the Administration and the Board.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST POLICY

Board Members will confirm annually that they have no inappropriate conflicts that would preclude them from faithfully serving Treasure Valley Classical Academy. Board Members shall keep on file and update at least annually the Conflict of Interest disclosure forms as required by the Idaho Department of Education.

ADHERENCE TO LAW

CHARTER AGREEMENT

The Board will adhere to federal, state, and local laws identified explicitly or implicitly in the Charter Agreement. In most instances, when the Board has been granted autonomy through its full flexibility waiver, the Board will develop its own policy.

OPEN MEETINGS ACT

The Board will adhere to the Idaho Open Meetings laws. The Board will:

- Establish a set schedule of meetings;
- Post meeting dates in a conspicuous location (date, time, location);
- Post agendas not more than 1 week in advance but at least 2 days before a meeting;
- Post and place 24-hour notice for emergency called meetings in a local news vehicle (e.g., paper) and must state the reason for the emergency meeting in the notice;
- Provide specific meeting agendas to communicate publicly the matters expected to come before the Board. Matters not anticipated prior to the meeting can be addressed by amending the agenda;
- Keep minutes of all Board Meetings, including members present, description of motions or proposals, record of votes.

COMMUNITY COMMENTS AT PUBLIC MEETINGS

The Board welcomes public comments at each Board meeting. Community Comments are limited to 2 minutes. To ensure the accurate representation of the comments in the Board's meeting minutes and to ensure that the Board can accurately address the issues presented, it is requested that these comments also be submitted in writing.

If a non-Board member would like to make a comment, offer information, or has a question, he/she should raise his/her hand to indicate a desire to speak. Comments must be relevant and not reflect information about a specific student, faculty member, or a personally identifying situation. Such interjections will be recognized at the discretion of the Board Chair.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

The Board Chair shall permit Executive Sessions for *meetings when discussing or deliberating upon the appointment, employment, compensation, hiring, disciplinary action or dismissal, or periodic evaluation or rating of an employee or interviewing applicants for a position of employment. The vote on any matter covered in this paragraph (if required) shall be taken in public.* Adapted from Idaho Code 74-206A.

OFFICIAL POSTING PLACE FOR COMMUNICATIONS

Committee meeting times and agendas are visibly posted in the front office and on the School website. Board of Directors meeting agendas are posted in the same manner.

OPEN RECORDS ACT OF IDAHO

The Board shall be subject to the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA)/Open Records Act of Idaho requirements.

POLICY MAKING

The Board shall operate according to the policy governance model. The Board shall be solely responsible for adopting, repealing, or amending governance policies for Treasure Valley Classical Academy. The Principal shall be solely responsible for reasonably interpreting those policies and executing them. The Principal shall be responsible for maintaining all school-level operating procedures, policies and manuals.

FUNDRAISING

Fundraising activities must not undermine the mission and philosophy of the School. Students of Treasure Valley Classical Academy will not engage in door-to-door sales of any kind. All fundraisers must be approved by school leadership prior to the start of any fundraiser.

PARENT GRIEVANCES

GRIEVANCE RELATED TO THE CLASSROOM

This School firmly believes that adults must be models of good character even in the most difficult situations. Should a parent have a grievance concerning a particular class or the Administration of the School, that grievance should be resolved using the following chain of command. Issues that arise in a particular classroom should always be addressed to the teacher first since the teacher always has more direct knowledge of the student and situation.

- **The Teacher:** Parents or guardians should schedule a meeting with the teacher by emailing the teacher directly. Under no circumstance is it ever acceptable for a parent to confront a teacher about an issue with students present, including his/her own.
- **The Principal:** If the grievance cannot be resolved with the teacher, the parent should discuss the matter with the Principal.

- **The Executive Director:** If the grievance cannot be resolved with the Principal, the parent should discuss the matter with the Executive Director.
- **The Board:** If the grievance cannot be resolved with the Principal, the parent should refer the matter to the Board.

Parental concerns and grievances may also be raised during the community comments portion of the Board of Directors meeting. The concern or grievance must be submitted in writing, and no more than two minutes will be granted. Grievances or discussions involving specific personnel will not be entertained at a public meeting. It is recommended that the concern or grievance be addressed in one of the aforementioned steps before using this option.

GRIEVANCE RELATED TO A SCHOOL LEADER

Grievances regarding a member of School Leadership should be directed to the individual first, then in writing to the Board.

IMPORTANCE OF FOLLOWING THE CHAIN OF COMMAND

The practice of following the chain of command in communications with the School on matters concerning particular students encompasses far more than grievances. It refers to parents or guardians' communication of any kind that seeks or requires an action on the part of the School regarding their students. Treasure Valley Classical Academy understands that parents or guardians will have questions, opinions, and comments that need to be expressed concerning their children's education. Such communication can be very helpful to the running of the School.

Our preference is that such communication be expressed initially to the teacher or teachers of the child. If further communication is warranted, the parent should consult the Principal. If further communication is warranted, then the parent should refer the matter to the Executive Director, then the Board, if needed.

The Board is not the first point of contact and therefore will refer communications that seek response or action to the appropriate members of the Administration.

The reason for this chain of command is that the teacher invariably has the most direct knowledge of the child and can usually do more to remedy or ameliorate a situation than can the Principal or a board member. We understand that some parents or guardians are "conflict averse" and do not want to bring up potentially difficult issues with a teacher. Nonetheless, the teachers are eager to help each child in whatever way possible.

Some situations, admittedly, seem by their very nature to warrant a discussion with the Principal initially. For example, parents or guardians may have questions or concerns about the overall homework load or a particular way of teaching, such as the Socratic method. As a result, it is easier and more expedient to speak to the Principal first. In these cases, however, it is always better for the parent to have as much specific information from the teacher as possible so the Principal can act on that information. General comments such as "Treasure Valley Classical is really hard" may be true but cannot be acted on as effectively as specific comments about the nature of the coursework or the teaching.

ACADEMIC POLICIES

EDUCATIONAL PRIORITIES

The Board desires that all students receive a classical liberal arts and science education. To this end the Board has determined the following educational priorities.

- Basic cognitive skills and academic fundamentals: reading/writing/mathematics;
- Core subjects: English language and literature; history, geography, and government; physical and biological sciences; mathematics;
- Other classical subjects: music; art; Latin;
- Auxiliary subjects: foreign languages, physical education, performing arts, other social sciences; and
- Extracurricular activities as defined by the Principal.

Note: The School receives detailed curricular guidance for the entire K-12 Scope and Sequence from the Barney Charter School Initiative (BCSI). Changes to the curriculum will not be made by the Principal without first thoroughly coordinating those changes with BCSI.

K-8: The K-8 curriculum will follow the Core Knowledge Sequence. Occasionally, the School will diverge from the Core Knowledge Sequence to raise the standards in teaching a particular skill or subject. The Board, Executive and Director, and Principal will determine these instances. The Principal will ensure that all skill areas in the K-8 Core Knowledge Sequence are taught at some point in grades K-8.

9-12: The High School will feature an arts and sciences curriculum. The objective of the high school curriculum is to explore issues and texts intensively rather than to offer a superficial “covering.” The humanities program will be centered on a coordinated Western Civilization sequence. In all humanities courses, priority will be given to original sources and great works as opposed to textbooks. Mathematics and the sciences will offer rigorous training in the fundamentals and theories of these disciplines. Students will receive extensive training in analytical thinking and the scientific method. *In all subjects, textbooks will be used as a resource, not as the basis of the curriculum.*

Teachers must develop their courses under the direction the Dean, who will coordinate with the Principal, who is the chief academic leader and accountable to the Executive Director and Board.

HOMEWORK AND CLASSWORK

Homework is a fundamental part of our general academic program. It prepares students for high school and college and for entry into the working world upon graduation. It also helps develop a strong work ethic and habits of organization. Homework’s immediate educational purpose is:

- to reinforce skills and concepts and knowledge learned in class;
- to develop good skills and habits of study;
- to practice skills and reinforce knowledge in ways that are not readily accomplished in the classroom;
- to work on assignments, such as the writing of papers, and prepare for exams that require a great deal of sustained, individual attention;
- to prepare for the following day’s work so that the most can be made of class time; and

- to inform parents or guardians of what is being taught in the classroom.

In addition to regular classroom assignments, we would like each younger child to read, or be read to, at least three times a week and preferably every day. As cited in *A Nation at Risk*, “the single most important factor for determining whether children will go to college is being read to as a child.” Going to college is not necessarily every person’s goal, but becoming a thoughtful reader should be if one hopes to be knowledgeable, wise, insightful, and competitive throughout one’s lifetime. We believe that becoming a competent reader is critical to being a good student and the first step to exploring the world. Reading to a child encourages the child’s growth and also elevates conversation within the family. In the upper grades, the extra reading time (roughly half an hour) allows for the increasing length of great works of literature.

The expected average weeknight (Monday-Thursday) homework time allotment per grade is as follows:

Kindergarten	10 minutes plus family reading time
Grade 1	10 minutes plus family reading time
Grade 2	20 minutes plus reading time
Grade 3	30 minutes plus reading time
Grade 4	40 minutes plus reading time
Grade 5	50 minutes plus reading time
Grade 6	60 minutes plus reading time
Grade 7	70 minutes plus approximately 30 minutes of reading time
Grade 8	80 minutes plus approximately 30 minutes of reading time
Grades 9 -12	90-120 minutes plus approximately 30 minutes of reading time

The expected average weekend (Friday) homework time per upper-school grade is as follows:

Grade 7	40
Grades 8-10	45
Grades 11-12	50

The designated times serve as guidelines and may vary depending on the work assigned on a given day, the schedule, the student’s organizational skills and study habits, the varying abilities of the students, and the nature of the assignments. Students are expected to learn how to use their time effectively to complete the required work at each grade level. Parents or guardians are expected to support their children in this endeavor. Advanced or honors classes may require additional homework time. It is generally understood that writing papers and studying for exams take more time than regular classroom assignments. For that reason, the end of a term does result in increased homework load. Nonetheless, teachers will make every effort to give assignments well in advance, and students will be encouraged to work on those longer assignments steadily, so that students are able to manage their homework along with other activities and adequate sleep. In the upper school, students will often have the opportunity of taking a study hall, thus reducing the amount of time at home that must be devoted to homework.

Teachers may require students to redo poorly done or incomplete work. Whether such work is given any credit is left to the discretion of the teacher. Students are expected to complete all their homework.

All upper-school students will be allotted a daily studium period during which they may obtain help on homework from teachers or work on homework independently. Voluntary opportunities (e.g. reading to elementary students) may be available for students to pursue during studium. Occasional assemblies may be scheduled for studium time; in these cases, teachers will adjust homework loads accordingly.

GRADING POLICY

Grading is not the be-all and end-all of education. If anything, some students put more emphasis on grades than their teachers do. The grade a student receives in a class is subordinate to the knowledge the student acquires. Still, grades are a useful tool to evaluate the extent to which a student has mastered a particular subject. Therefore, grades will be assigned in all classes and subjects. Treasure Valley

Classical Academy will assign grades in order to accurately reflect the range between true mastery and insufficient knowledge of a subject, as well as completion of assigned work.

Grade inflation will be discouraged. In relation to the student's performance, the following letter grades have these meanings:

A	Mastery
B	Proficiency
C	Competence
D	Sufficiency
F	Failing

In addition to these general parameters, Treasure Valley Classical Academy uses a 4.0 grading scale. The letter and numerical grades for this system are listed below:

A	94-100%	4.0
A-	90-93	3.7
B+	87-89	3.3
B	84-86	3.0
B-	80-83	2.7
C+	77-79	2.3
C	74-76	2.0
C-	70-73	1.7
D+	67-69	1.3
D	64-66	1.0
D-	60-63	0.7
F	0-59	0.0

The grading scale as defined above is utilized for all students except for kindergarten through second grade, where the scale will reflect Beginning (B), Intermediate (I), Proficient (P), Mastery (M) in specific skill sets. Incompletes will only be given under special circumstances and must be approved by the Principal. Parents or guardians and students should be regularly informed of the student's progress and should access the PowerSchool Parent Portal regularly for classwork information and completion.

SEMESTER GRADE COMPOSITION (GRADES 7-12)

For the Upper School (grades 7-12), the semester grade composition is as follows:

Semester Grade Composition	Grades 7-8	Grades 9-12
Final Exam	10%	20%
Major Graded Items	40%	50%
Minor Graded Items	40%	20%
Teacher Discretion	10%	10%

An example of a major graded item is a chapter test. An example of a minor graded item is a weekly quiz.

LATE WORK

Students are expected to turn in their homework and assignments on time. Only work turned in on time will be eligible for full credit. For regular homework, quizzes, and other small assignments, failure to complete them on time will result in zero credit. For major assignments such as end of year projects or major papers, students who fail to meet deadlines will be penalized 30% for turning in their work up to one day late. After that, they will receive zero credit.

EXTRA CREDIT

“Extra credit,” whether to make up for work not turned in on time or to increase a student’s grade, is not permitted at Treasure Valley Classical Academy.

TEACHER CONFERENCES

Parent/teacher conferences are scheduled in the fall and spring semesters. Arrangements for additional conferences may be made with your child’s teacher before or after school hours.

ACADEMIC TEXTBOOKS AND SUPPLIES

Students will receive a variety of books and materials. All books will have a Treasure Valley Classical Academy barcode on the back in the upper right-hand corner. The teacher resource room will use two different barcodes. The first barcode will start with a “TB” followed by 6 digits. TB stands for textbook. These items should be returned to the School at the end of the year. Other books, mainly literature and workbooks, will be labeled with a barcode that begins with “SB” which signifies a student book. Once checked out to the individual student, SBs become the property of the child (meaning that our students will be building their own collection of the classics).

Materials that are loaned or given to students are to be treated appropriately. Students are responsible for these materials. If materials given or loaned to a student are lost or damaged the student must pay for any needed replacement.

In the case that reimbursement has not been made to Treasure Valley Classical Academy for lost or damaged materials, no further materials will be issued to that student until the past due fees are paid.

REPORTING

For students to be successful, both they and their parents or guardians should be informed of their standing in class. In addition to the regular grading of assignments, the following means will be employed to inform parents or guardians of their student’s academic progress:

- If a student is determined to be significantly below grade level, a meeting will be scheduled with a parent, the teacher, and other faculty as deemed appropriate.
- Once a semester (after the first and third quarters), parent-teacher conferences will be scheduled to discuss the students’ academic progress. Parents or guardians will receive report cards at the conference.
- Semester report cards will be mailed home.
- Grades will be posted within 7 business days after the due date unless otherwise scheduled by the teacher.
- Final report cards will be mailed approximately two weeks after the end of the school year.
- PowerSchool Parent Portal provides up to date information regarding assignments, homework, and test scores. Parents or guardians will receive their login information at the School Open House.

SCHEDULE CHANGES

There will be no class schedule changes during the semester unless it is deemed in the student’s best interest by the Principal.

CLASS PLACEMENT PROCESS

Treasure Valley Classical Academy has full confidence in the ability of every teacher we employ to make the school year successful and rewarding for every student, no matter what challenges any particular student may face; we would not employ a teacher in whom we lacked this confidence.

Class placements for grades 1-6 take into consideration academic data and teacher testimony per student. In making class placements the Principal and Leadership Team aim for balanced classes in terms of student academic ability levels and behavioral needs. Class lists are made available to students and parents or guardians on Open House Day in August.

TVCA does not make class placements on the basis of parent requests.

PLAGIARISM

Plagiarism will not be tolerated by any teacher in any subject. The entire system of assessment rests on the assumption that the work a student turns in is his own. Plagiarism compromises this system, is unfair to other students in the class who do their own work and constitutes a form of theft of others' ideas and labor. Plagiarism is defined as *the appropriation of another's ideas or words in order to present them as one's own*. An instance of plagiarism can be as long as a term paper or as short as a sentence. Simply re-phrasing an author's words can also constitute plagiarism. The words of authors can only be used when properly quoted and cited. Teachers will provide the guidelines of acceptable citation. When in doubt, the student has the responsibility to ask how an author should be used in an assignment. Whenever a student has been caught plagiarizing, the following process will be followed.

- The teacher will keep a copy of the student's assignment and, whenever possible, a copy of the plagiarized work.
- The teacher will discuss the matter with the student.
- The teacher will inform the Principal of the plagiarism.
- A disciplinary referral will be issued.
- Either the teacher or the Principal will inform the student's parent of the plagiarism.
- The student will receive zero credit on the assignment if it is the first offense.
- For a second offense, the student will fail the entire course, and further disciplinary action, including suspension or expulsion, may be instituted.
- High school students found guilty of academic dishonesty or similar serious offenses may lose their class rank, and, where applicable, the status of valedictorian or salutatorian.
- Instances of plagiarism may be placed in the student's permanent record.
- Note: the use of artificial intelligence (AI) platforms or applications in student work constitutes plagiarism and will be treated as such.

CHEATING

Like plagiarism, cheating will not be tolerated by any teacher in any subject. *Cheating occurs when a student uses someone else's work or a prohibited source of information in order to gain an unfair advantage on a test or an assignment and to avoid doing his own work*. Cheating comes in many forms. One student copying off another, using a "cheat sheet" to answer questions on a test, and trying to pass off another student's work as his own are examples of cheating. The same process outlined for plagiarism

will be followed for instances of cheating. A student who allows others to copy his work will also be held accountable in the same fashion.

A disciplinary referral will be issued if cheating has occurred. High school students found guilty of academic dishonesty or similar serious offenses may lose their class rank and, when applicable, their status as valedictorian or salutatorian.

PROMOTION AND RETENTION

GENERAL

It is our goal for parents or guardians, teachers, and students to work together during the year to ensure that students are developing responsible work habits and attaining a sufficient level of understanding in their courses.

ATTENDANCE

Treasure Valley Classical Academy may consider a student's unexcused absences when determining course grades and/or promotion or retention for the next school year.

ELEMENTARY SCHOOL PROMOTION CRITERIA

Literacy:

Solid literacy is the foundation of all learning. Without the ability to read well, a student cannot advance in English, history, the sciences, the arts, and even mathematics. Since language is the basis of all human interaction, a person cannot thrive independently in the world when possessed of only a halting literacy. The ability to read, particularly in the early elementary grades, will therefore be a requirement for promotion. The School will follow the criteria of reading competency set forth in the Access Literacy Phonics program.

Kindergarten:

- The student must be recommended for promotion by the classroom teacher and Principal based on satisfactory classroom performance.
- The classroom teacher and additional reading support personnel will make recommendations for placement based on student progress in the Access Literacy Phonics Curriculum.
- The teacher will also make a placement recommendation based on the student's behavior and maturity level as observed in the classroom setting.

Grades 1-2:

- The student must perform at or above grade level in English and Language Arts and mathematics on the student skills map.
- Grade level performance is determined by mastery of academic skills as measured by classroom and standardized assessments.
- The student must be recommended for promotion by the classroom teacher and Principal based on satisfactory classroom performance.
- The classroom teacher and additional reading support personnel will make recommendations for placement based on student progress in the Access Literacy Phonics Curriculum.

Grades 3-5:

- The student must perform at or above grade level in English and Language Arts and mathematics on the student report card.

- The student must be recommended for promotion by the classroom teacher and Principal based on satisfactory classroom performance.
- Grade level performance is determined by mastery of academic skills and are measured by classroom and standardized assessments.

Grade 6:

- The student must perform at or above grade level in reading, language arts and mathematics on the student report card.
- The student must be recommended for promotion by the classroom teacher and Principal based on satisfactory classroom performance.

Retention: When retention is considered, families will be notified in writing to participate in meetings with school leadership, the classroom teacher(s), and other staff or faculty involved in daily instruction and interventions. If a student is recommended for retention two years in a row, this indicates that necessary academic progress is not being made. The student will automatically be retained upon the second referral.

UPPER SCHOOL PROMOTION CRITERIA

Grades 7-8:

- The student must be recommended for promotion by the classroom teacher and Principal based on satisfactory classroom performance.
- If a student fails two or more courses, he or she will be retained.
- A student who fails a mathematics or Latin course will be required to remediate the course before moving on to the next level.

Grades 9-12:

- Freshmen must earn 12 credits to be considered Sophomores.
- Sophomores must earn 24 credits to be considered Juniors.
- Juniors must earn 36 credits to be considered Seniors.
- Seniors must earn 48 credits to graduate.
- Except for semester courses, subjects in the high school are taken as yearlong courses. Each semester of a yearlong course carries 1 credit.
- Grades between A-D will earn 1 credit per semester. *No credit is awarded for an F.* Failing a core course will require the student to retake the class.
- Students are not permitted to take makeup courses through a summer program other than those recommended by Treasure Valley Classical Academy.

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

The following are required to earn a High School diploma:

- 48 credits (per the course distribution matrix)
- Cumulative GPA of 2.0 or higher on a 4.0 scale

Note: A diploma may be awarded to students with disabilities assigned to a special education program who have not met the state assessment requirements referenced in State Board of Education Rule 160-3-1-.07 Testing Programs - Student Assessment, or who have not completed all of the requirements for a high school diploma but who have completed their Individualized Education Program (IEP).

SPECIAL EVENTS AND PARTIES

Special events held during the school day must be directly tied to the curriculum or school culture. Any special event must be approved by the Principal a minimum of 2 weeks prior to its planning. Approval for one year does not carry over to the next.

Treasure Valley Classical Academy recognizes that birthdays are a special day for our students. We must also ensure that parties and celebrations do not disrupt the instructional day or interfere with the health and safety of all of our students. *Parents or guardians, visitors, staff, and students may not bring food into the School to share with students with the exception of two parties per year: a winter break party and an end-of-the-year party.*

To clarify, parents or guardians and visitors may not bring in birthday cupcakes, donuts, or other treats to share with children on their child's birthday. Parents or guardians are encouraged to eat lunch with their child on his/her birthday and to read a book to the child's class in honor of the birthday.

Neither the School nor PTCA will use food or beverages as rewards or incentives for academic performance, good behavior, or goal attainment.

Special deliveries made to the school such as balloons, flowers, or gifts are usually discouraged. Such deliveries will be held in the office until the end of the day. Should the student be a bus rider, the delivery may need to be picked up by a parent or guardian at the end of the day.

SPECIAL EVENTS – GUEST SPEAKERS

Guest speakers presenting during the school day must speak on topics covered in the course or grade or topics that are otherwise mission-aligned. If possible, the students should be studying the given topic at the time of the presentation.

Guest speakers must be approved by the Principal prior to the invitation being extended. Approval must still be obtained for guest speakers used in the previous school year. Approval for one year does not carry over to the next.

Guest speakers who cover controversial topics must be screened by the Principal. The screening may include an interview of the guest by the Principal or designee. Parents or guardians must be notified prior to guest speaker presentations on controversial issues, including religions covered in the Core Knowledge sequence. Parents or guardians may have students excused from such presentations; in which case the student will be supervised in a silent study hall. Teachers will provide permission slips to parents or guardians as notification of a guest speaker covering controversial issues and indicate an option on the permission slip for a student to be excused.

SPECIAL EVENTS – FIELD TRIPS

Field trips should be directly tied to the curriculum and add to the instructional environment by conveying knowledge or an experience that supports the curriculum. Field trips must be approved by the Principal a minimum of two weeks prior to planned execution. The field trip planner will work with the Administration and staff to ensure that all procedures are followed.

EXTENDED FIELD TRIPS

All extended field trips require Board approval a minimum of 90 days prior to the trip. All students attending the extended field trip must have the approval of the Treasure Valley Classical Academy

Principal. All extended field trips must have liability insurance protecting all the trip attendees and the School. Any liability insurance not covered by the School's policy must be paid for by the fees charged to trip participants. Any increases in the costs of extended field trips (due to inflation, changes in exchange rates, etc.) must be paid for by increases in fees of trip participants. All adults attending the field trip are required to be currently registered volunteers. The field trip planner will work with the Administration and staff to ensure that all procedures are followed.

ELIGIBILITY FOR SPORTS AND EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES (K-12)

Students are ineligible for extracurricular activities if they have two D's or one F in any subject(s). Academic eligibility will be determined with quarter ending grades. Ineligible students will remain ineligible for the remainder of the following quarter. Two disciplinary referrals for major infractions or repeated minor infractions in one quarter or three in one semester will render a student ineligible for any extracurricular activities for the remainder of that quarter. Four disciplinary referrals will render a student ineligible for all extracurricular activities and functions for the remainder of the school year. The Principal may deem a student ineligible for the following season or for off-campus field trips based on repeated or severe misconduct.

The TVCA Athletic handbook states that student athletes whose behavior causes a faculty or staff member to call home twice for the same offense, will lose the privilege of participating in the next two after-school activities, be they practices or games. Student athletes whose behavior results in a referral will lose the privilege of participating in all practices and/or games for a week (five school days). These consequences will be imposed as soon as is reasonably possible by the Dean or Principal. Coaches may impose their own consequences for misbehavior on the team. In such situations, the coach will communicate those consequences to parents.

An academic report will be pulled every Friday for student athletes. Students who have 2 Ds or 1 F in any class, will be put on academic probation for the following two weeks (Monday-Friday the next two weeks), during which time the student will be allowed to participate in practices and/or games while working to improve his/her grades. Students and parents will be notified via email of this probation. If after two weeks the student has failed to bring his/her grades up above the minimum standard, the student will be suspended from participating in practices and/or games for an entire week (Monday-Friday of the following week), regardless of whether or not grades are improved during the week of athletic suspension. If, at the end of the week of suspension, the student has brought his/her grades above the minimum standard, the student will be allowed to fully participate again. If a student has already been on academic probation at any point during the school year, if his/her grades ever drop below the minimum standard (2 Ds or 1 F), he/she will miss an entire week (five school days) of practices/games under the same conditions stated above.

Additionally, the Idaho High School Activities Association (IHSAA) in its *Rules and Regulations* as described under *Rule 8-1*, specifies that a student must "receive passing grades and earned credits in the required number of courses during the previous reporting period." The specifications are as follows:

- 3 class attempted must pass all three*
- 4 class attempted must pass at least three*
- 5 class attempted must pass at least four*
- 6 class attempted must pass at least five*
- 7 class attempted must pass at least five*
- 8 class attempted must pass at least six*

For students enrolled with an IEP, the IHSAA, under *Rule 8-1-6*, specifies “the IEP is the standard of measurement for progress toward graduation, the district shall verify that the student is making satisfactory progress and meeting the standards of the IEP.”

Student athletes are required to be present at school the day of practices or competitions to be eligible for participation. An absence is defined as not being present in school before 11:00am or being checked out of school before 1:00pm. Excused absences do not count in this determination.

TEACHING CONTROVERSIAL ISSUES

Controversial issues are defined as contemporary problems, subjects, or questions of a political or social nature where there are entrenched differences of opinion and passions run high. Controversial issues will be explored only when emanating from some part of the curriculum in grades 9 through 12. When these subjects come up, teachers will present an impartial view of both sides of the issue without proselytizing. Contemporary controversial issues will not be discussed in the elementary school even if part of the Core Knowledge sequence without Principal approval. No part of the curriculum will be used to undermine the nobility of America’s experiment in liberty and self-government under the rule of law.

TEACHING EVOLUTION

Treasure Valley Classical Academy embraces a rigorous program in the natural sciences. In biology, the School will teach the theory of evolution as found in the standard high-school biology textbooks and as also taught at the college level in both secular and religious colleges. The theory of evolution is largely misunderstood today by the general public. Much of what constitutes the teaching of evolution concerns adaptation of species to their environments and change over time. A great many of these phenomena are observable. A very small percentage of evolutionary theory deals with the more controversial issue of the origins of life. This latter aspect of evolution, to the extent it is taught, will be introduced to students briefly with a great deal of circumspection; it is not a central part of the theory. Furthermore, the study of science will be confined to the investigation of the physical world. It is not the place of science to make metaphysical claims nor to confirm or deny the validity of religion or the existence of God. Treasure Valley Classical Academy recognizes a clear distinction between *science* and *scientism*. Science is the continued research into the natural world in order to find the most plausible explanations for natural phenomena. Scientism is the belief—and it is a belief—that science is the *only* means of understanding our world, thus excluding other ways of interpreting the world, such as through literature or religion. Keeping in mind this distinction, the teachers at Treasure Valley Classical Academy will leave matters of faith up to students and their parents or guardians. The role of a teacher in a public school is neither that of preacher nor of skeptic. Rather, teachers of history, when called upon by the curriculum, will teach the history of religion without either advocating or undermining religion in general or any specific faith. Likewise, science teachers will teach science, without comment on religion. Teachers, students, and parents or guardians must realize that a biology class has a particular purpose and is not the proper venue for a philosophical or theological discussion on the existence of God or claims relating to the activity of God or absence thereof in the natural world.

ROLE OF PARENTS OR GUARDIANS AND SCHOOL IN RELATION TO HUMAN SEXUALITY

We believe parents or guardians own the fundamental responsibility for their children’s education, which includes the areas of morality and sexuality. The School’s role, at most, should be viewed as a supportive one. It is apparent that sexuality is more than biology and physiology. It also encompasses morality, spirituality, and the emotions. Because it is a part of the whole human experience, it must be taught with circumspection and sensitivity.

We believe children are naturally modest concerning their bodies and are not ready to learn everything at once. They are naturally curious, however, and need to get answers to their questions in a way appropriate to their stage of development. In teaching this topic, we want to minimize the embarrassment associated with it for both children and parents or guardians.

TEACHING HUMAN SEXUALITY

We will teach the Core Knowledge Sequence in the fifth grade, which includes a discussion on the reproductive organs, reproduction, and the menstrual cycle. The class will be taught in a gender-separated environment. Parents or guardians will have the opportunity to preview the materials the class will be reading, on which the discussion is based. Parents or guardians will also have the opportunity to attend a meeting with the teacher(s) prior to the section on sexuality. Sexual intercourse will only be discussed in the context of a monogamous relationship between two people of opposite sexes. Depending on the general maturity level of the 5th grade boys, Treasure Valley Classical Academy may decide that this curriculum is too much information and less necessary for boys at this stage of development and therefore delay these lessons for a later time.

Parents or guardians will have the choice of having their children opt out of this portion of the class, which will be taught during the regular science time.

In the upper school, themes that deal with sexuality may emerge from the reading of a serious text, such as *Anna Karenina* or *Brave New World* or *The Scarlet Letter*. When these topics do emerge from the curriculum itself, teachers will engage the material in a serious way.

In the higher grades, students may be involved in discussions concerning sexuality and sexual restraint as these issues affect their living a moral and responsible life. Such discussions will always be led by the Administration or a faculty member who has the full confidence of the Principal in these matters. Moreover, parents or guardians will always be notified of these discussions before they take place in case parents or guardians wish their children to opt out.

High school health classes at TVCA will consist of instruction and practice in nutrition and fitness and will not include instruction in family life or sex education.

Character education is an integral part of our program. Sexuality involves serious moral decision-making. It is important to help children build the capacity to make and abide by sound moral choices. We would like our teaching of human reproduction to be a springboard to initiate and facilitate discussions between parents or guardians and children on this sensitive subject.

Employees will not discuss their personal lives on matters pertaining to human sexuality with students.

VIDEO VIEWING POLICY

From time to time videos or other media may be used to support the lesson. To be used in class they must meet a specific curricular objective and will not have profane language or sexually explicit material. Teachers must receive prior approval from the Principal to show a video. Teachers are responsible for previewing videos to ensure that they are appropriate.

SCHOOL LIFE AND ENVIRONMENT

ATTENDANCE

Put simply, the universal educational welfare of all students is best served by regular attendance. As parents, teachers, and members of the learning community, we must make this a collective commitment. Therefore, citizens of a free society must understand this simple truth: school attendance is a privilege, not just a legal obligation. Punctual and regular attendance in school sets in place the habits of dependability needed in adult life, be it business, personal, or social. Valuable skills and information gained in the classroom may or may not show up on tests or be reflected in an academic grade, thereby making school attendance vital to student success.

Every student of compulsory school age must be in attendance unless otherwise exempted as provided in Idaho Code Sections §33-204, §33-205, or as determined by school authorities. Please refer to these codes below:

Students who have accumulated five (5) unexcused absences anytime throughout the school year will be considered chronically absent and will be considered habitually truant pursuant to Idaho Code §33-206.

Students who are chronically absent may be referred to the Board of Directors for discussion of appropriate action that could include denying promotion to the next grade or expulsion for habitual truancy. Any action to expel for habitual truancy will follow the processes outlined in Idaho Code §33-205.

	School Day Start Time:	School Day End Time:
Elementary (K-6):	8:20 a.m.	2:50 p.m.
Upper School (7-12):	8:00 a.m.	3:15 p.m.

**Elementary Students who arrive after 11:00 a.m. will be considered absent for the day. Students who depart before 1:00 p.m. will be considered absent.*

TARDINESS

Students who arrive after the beginning of the school day will be considered tardy. Students must make it not only to school but to class on time to avoid being tardy. Students who are either tardy or returning to school from an appointment must be signed in at the front desk by a parent.

Upper-school students who miss more than 5 minutes of a particular class will be marked absent.

ABSENCES (EXCUSED/UNEXCUSED)

All absences regardless of whether they are excused or unexcused count toward the state requirement of 90% attendance. For an absence to be excused, students are to bring a written excuse to the office, signed by the parent/guardian, which includes the date of the absence unless the absence has been verified on the telephone. It is the responsibility of the parent or guardian to communicate absences with the school. Communication of such an absence must be provided within one day of the absence. Failure to do so may result in the student receiving an unexcused absence. Unexcused absences are considered truancy.

The following will be considered excused absences. Anything not listed below will be considered an unexcused absence. (Note that the Principal may allow for an excused absence upon approval on a case-by-case basis.)

- Absences for medical reasons (a doctor's note is required after the third day in a row);
- Absences for religious holidays;
- Absences for mental or emotional disabilities;
- Pre-arranged absences of an educational nature that are approved by the Principal (e.g., visits to colleges for high-school students; scheduled, performance-related activities);
- Attendance at any school-sponsored activity;
- Bereavement (please notify the School if absence will extend beyond three days); and
- Up to five pre-approved family flex days per year (parents or guardians must contact the front office and their teacher(s) **no less than 24 hours in advance** to schedule these days). Any absence not pre-approved at least 24 hours in advance as a flex day will be considered an unexcused absence.

For all excused absences, students will have one day for every day absent after coming back to school to make up the work missed. When appointments (e.g. doctor or dental) during the school day are unavoidable, students are responsible for making up missed schoolwork. It is the responsibility of upper school students to take ownership of their own learning by approaching their teacher(s) to request missing work and materials immediately following an absence. NOTE: Assignments that are not made up in time will receive no credit. It is helpful to both student and teacher to make prior arrangements to meet this requirement.

For attendance tracking purposes, absences and tardies will be classified as follows:

- A: Unexcused absence
- T: Unexcused tard
- R: Excused tardy
- P (Parent-excused absence): The absence is excused by parent notifying the front office of student illness. Per above, medical verification (a doctor's note) is required after the third day in a row; without a doctor's note after the third day in a row, these absences will be reclassified as unexcused.
- M (Medical excused absence): The absence is excused by medical verification of student illness.
- F (Flex Day excused absence): The absence is excused as a pre-approved family flex day, per the requirements above.
- Y (Activity-excused absence): The absence is excused as a school-sponsored or school-approved activity.
- I (In-School Suspension): The student is absent from class but present at school for in-school suspension.
- S: The absence is excused due to student suspension from school. Note that for this kind of absence student work cannot receive credit.
- B (Bereavement)
- O (Other): For absences that don't fit into one of the above categories. This absence code will be used with permission from the Principal

Students **will not** receive credit for academic work missed during unexcused absences. To reiterate, students are truant if their absence is unexcused. Students who have accumulated 5 unexcused absences at any anytime throughout the school year may not be permitted to:

- Participate in school field trips
- Attend school dances
- Receive student-of-the-quarter or honor or high honor roll awards
- Serve on student government
- Participate in extracurricular activities and programs
- Participate in school sports

CHRONIC ABSENTEEISM/TRUANCY

If an upper-school student accrues five (5) unexcused absences in a semester course, he or she may receive a failing grade in that course and have to retake it.

The state of Idaho requires its students to be in attendance at a rate of 90%. In accordance with Idaho law, TVCA students who are chronically absent may be referred to the Board of Directors for discussion of appropriate action that could include denying promotion to the next grade or expulsion for habitual truancy. Any action to expel for habitual truancy will follow the processes outlined in Idaho Code §33-205.

The following numbers and thresholds reflect TVCA's determination that school attendance is critically important and the expectation that students be present at school ninety (90) percent of the time that school is in session. Parents or guardians will be notified in writing if their student(s) exceed the below thresholds:

ELEMENTARY STUDENTS: The school reserves the right to deny credit or grade promotion to students who miss more than 17 total school days in a year due to absences of any kind, excused or unexcused.

UPPER SCHOOL STUDENTS: The school reserves the right to deny credit or grade promotion to students who miss more than 8 total school days in a semester for any course due to absences of any kind, excused or unexcused.

Students who are absent 10 or more consecutive days risk being unenrolled and therefore risk losing their seat at TVCA.

TREASURE VALLEY CLASSICAL ACADEMY'S GUIDELINES FOR STUDENT BEHAVIOR

GENERAL

Student self-government and a sense of purpose develop from application and accomplishment, from consistent expectations in the School climate and culture, and from the habitual practice of the virtues. The aim of Treasure Valley Classical Academy is to teach students. "Student" derives from the Latin word *studēre*, which means "to give attention to," "to take pains with," "to apply oneself to," "to strive after," "to pursue," "to desire." Students, then, should be diligent in, attached to, and zealous for their studies. Simply put, we expect students to live up to their name. The teachers of Treasure Valley Classical Academy work hard to prepare their lessons. These lessons are designed to teach students nothing less than who they are and what the world offers them. Students must in turn take fullest advantage of these lessons and make the best use of this time in life given to preparing their minds for the opportunities and challenges that await them. All policies regarding student conduct and discipline flow from this general principle: students must fully engage themselves in the education Treasure Valley Classical Academy offers them.

Therefore, students will:

- Be polite and attentive both in and outside of class;
- Attend school consistently, be punctual, and take responsibility for making up any work promptly when absent;
- Be prepared for class and follow directions;
- Follow all reasonable requests made by adults on the premises with a positive attitude, and show respect for self, others, and property;
- Cooperate with and demonstrate respect for the faculty and staff, including the principals, deans, teachers, office staff, custodians, and any other people working at the School;

- Communicate in an acceptable tone of voice using an acceptable choice of words;
- Follow lunchroom, playground, field-trip, lab, and individual classroom rules;
- Follow school rules when participating in school-related events;
- Adhere to the uniform policy;
- Not use threats or intimidation against any other person;
- Respect the health and safety of others, safety rules, and not bring tobacco, alcohol, or any illegal substances to school;
- Be dismissed by the teacher, not the bell or the clock;
- Not leave the School premises without signing out in the main office;
- Keep all internet-capable electronic devices (smart phones, smart watches, etc.) turned off and stowed away on School premises;
- Not bring anything to school that could be used to harm another or that is illegal.

Cellular phones and all other personal electronic devices will be turned off and stored in the students' locker or backpack. A cellular phone or personal electronic device used during the school day will be confiscated and held in the office until a parent can retrieve the device during business hours (7:30am-3:30pm).

Cellular phones and personal electronic devices are not to be used at school during the school day or on any daily school bus route.

At school events outside school hours and bus rides to athletic events or upper-school field trips, supervising faculty or staff may grant permission for students to use cellular phones and personal electronic devices for specified purposes and/or specified periods of time.

School employees may conduct searches of property or persons when they have reason to suspect that the health, safety, or welfare of students or staff may be endangered.

Treasure Valley Classical Academy is not responsible for loss, theft, or breakage of items brought to school. Fines will be levied on parents or guardians for vandalism or theft committed by their students. Fines will also be levied for lost or damaged school property. Students may be required to help repair damaged property.

HONOR CODE

Treasure Valley Classical Academy was founded to develop students in both mind and character. The School's virtues are the guiding principles used to cultivate and nurture character: courage, courtesy, honesty, perseverance, self-government, and service. Students are expected to conduct themselves honorably in word and deed, to strive to live by the virtues, and to encourage others to do so as well. The Treasure Valley Classical Academy Honor Code is as follows:

Treasure Valley Classical Academy students strive to be virtuous in conduct, seek to grow in scholarship and learning, and pursue a commitment toward civic responsibility.

Treasure Valley Classical Academy students will not lie, cheat, or steal, and will discourage others from such actions.

Please refer to Appendix 1 for a full explanation of the Honor Code. Parents or guardians are expected to discuss the Honor Code with their student(s) and are required to turn in the Parent Compact and Student Compact signature page at the beginning of each school year. We encourage parents or guardians to escalate the depth of discussion regarding this honor code as their student(s) mature(s).

GENERAL DISCIPLINE PHILOSOPHY

The activity of learning requires students to be attentive and polite. Students are expected to adhere to the School's high expectations for behavior and core virtues lest they compromise their own learning and interfere with the learning of others. Minor infractions or disruptions will largely be handled in the classroom in a way suitable to the age of the student. Whenever a student misbehaves repeatedly or flagrantly, the consequences for the infraction will be immediate, relevant, and effectual and will be addressed by the Dean. Severe violations, which endanger self, others, or the culture of the school, will be addressed by the Principal.

Students' misbehavior will not be used to "teach" the class a lesson.

At no time will a student's disciplinary record be discussed with another student or parent. However, other students or parents or guardians may be consulted regarding an incident to discern the truth.

DISCIPLINARY REFERRAL

All faculty and staff of TVCA are called to guide students in their moral formation in addition to their intellectual formation, and thus, faculty and staff are equipped to coach, guide, and correct students when their behavior is not congruent with the TVCA honor code or stated policies. At any point, a faculty or staff member may call upon school leadership to support this process or refer students whose behavior warrants more significant or targeted intervention.

Treasure Valley Classical Academy categorizes these referrals in two keys ways:

Minor Infraction - Minor infractions are minor misbehaviors. These will be addressed by faculty or staff as need arises. All TVCA employees are empowered to establish and implement consequences for behaviors. School leadership may be involved in and address minor infractions alongside the teacher or staff member.

Major Infraction - Major infractions constitute a formal disciplinary referral. These will be addressed by a classroom teacher or school leadership and may include a range of consequences as determined by the behavior and number of prior violations. Some major infractions may result in suspension or expulsion.

Examples* include:

- Excessive accumulation of minor infractions
- Defiance of authority of TVCA faculty or staff
- Disregard of school rules and regulations as outlined in the **Family or Athletic** handbook
- Verbal abuse of adults or students
- Violent or threatening behavior
- Harassment
- Fighting
- Destruction or theft of school property or personal property
- Persistent tardiness

*Please note this list is not comprehensive, but serves as a guide to share specific examples

DETENTION

At times, and with a view toward promoting orderly school culture and encouraging virtuous behavior, after-school detention may be used to remediate poor student behavior. After-school detentions may be assigned by school leadership or by teachers in accordance with our school discipline policy.

Rules for assigning detention to students at TVCA are as follows:

- Detentions occur after school on any weekday other than Tuesdays (due to regularly scheduled faculty meetings).
- Parents or guardians will be notified every time a detention is assigned. Detention will not be assigned until a parent has responded. If circumstances require a detention to be postponed, arrangements will be made to carry the detention into effect at a later date not to exceed one week in most cases.
- Parents or guardians will be responsible for arranging transportation home for students after detention is complete. Students must be picked up at the school front office.
- Students absent on detention days will serve detention upon their return to school.

Teachers are expected to discuss behavior, expectations, and moral virtues with students to whom they assign detentions.

SUSPENSION AND EXPULSION

The Principal has the authority to suspend students in accordance with the Student Discipline Policy, but this may be adjusted at the Principal's discretion based on each unique circumstance.

All suspensions will require a re-entry conference between the parent(s) and the Principal or the Dean. The conference will occur before the student is re-admitted to class. Suspensions are excused absences and do not count toward truancy violations or attendance-based course failure. However, students may not receive credit for assignments missed during a suspension. The loss of class time due to repeated suspensions may be grounds for retaining a student at the current grade level for the following year.

If expulsion becomes necessary, the Principal will refer the case and all pertinent details to the Executive Director and Board for review and consideration.

The school will follow all pertinent laws and regulations related to student discipline, including but not limited to the suspension and expulsion requirements outlined in Idaho Code 33§2.

UNIFORMS AND GROOMING

At Treasure Valley Classical Academy, students wear uniforms to eliminate distractions, to level the playing field, and to remind ourselves that we are doing important work.

On designated School Spirit Days, students may choose to wear spirit wear (as described below) instead of their regular uniforms.

At school-sponsored events (e.g., dances, basketball games) students in attendance may choose to wear clothes other than their uniforms as well; the non-uniform dress code for school-sponsored events is detailed below.

The spirit of the uniform policy is that students will dress and groom themselves in a manner that it is traditional, not distracting, and not obstructive.

Uniform Dress Code

Students must be in uniform to attend class. Students not in uniform will be sent to the office and must call a parent or guardian. Parents or guardians will either bring acceptable attire, or students will be sent home. These absences are not excused.

The uniform and dress code policy is that students will dress according to the mandatory and optional items listed on the School-approved “uniform boards” for boys and girls, respectively, plus the following series of directives.

For students in grades K-8, required uniform pieces must be worn on Wednesdays. Note: In cold weather, all students in grades K-8 are welcome to wear long-sleeved uniform shirts and girls are welcome to wear tights instead of socks. Leggings are not permitted on Wednesdays.

For high school students (grades 9-12), formal uniforms must be worn on Wednesdays.

- Students may wear their own outerwear (coats, sweaters, vests) to school and on the playground. Non-uniform outerwear and spirit wear are to be removed during class. If students are cold in the classroom, they should wear one of the long-sleeved uniform items, or one of the uniform outerwear items.
- Skirts shall fall no higher than 2 inches above the knee when the student is standing.
- All uniform pieces should be labeled with students first initial and last name.
- Students may use any backpack if it is clean, tasteful, and not distracting.
- Hair must be clean, neat, and styled traditionally. Only natural colors are allowed. No unusual or radical hairstyles are permitted. Hair accessories (scrunchies, clips, bows, hair ties, barrettes, and headbands) must be modest and match uniform colors. Other hair “accessories” are not permitted.
- All girls’ and boys’ polo shirts may have the top button unbuttoned. All other buttons must be buttoned.
- Modest jewelry is allowed, provided that it is in keeping with the spirit of the uniform policy and the culture of the school. An object that has a purpose other than jewelry cannot be worn as jewelry (i.e. chains or collars). Students may wear no more than one necklace at one time. Boys are not permitted to wear earrings. Girls may wear two earrings per ear on the earlobe, and these must not be larger than a quarter. No stretched piercings (gauge) or holes may be visible. Students may not wear jewelry in any piercings other than the earlobe. Students may wear up to two bracelets at a time.
- Students’ visible skin should be free of images. Tattoos must be covered at all times to include temporary tattoos or pen and ink drawings on the skin.
- Makeup must look natural. Nails should be trimmed neatly and be a length that does not impede a student’s ability to write or do daily classroom tasks. Black or distracting nail polish and lipstick are not acceptable. Boys are not permitted to wear makeup or nail polish.
- Hats, visors, bandanas, scarfs or sunglasses are not permitted (religious headgear is authorized).
- Non-marking tennis shoes are required for physical education class and/or sports in the gym (refer to uniform boards for approved footwear). K-4th grade students will not change out for gym classes. 5-8th grade students will dress according to the approved uniform boards posted on the School website.
- Good personal hygiene is required. This includes wearing neat, clean clothing and daily use of deodorant (for grades 5 and up). Strong/offensive body odors or excessive use of perfumes or cologne are inappropriate and distracting.

Spirit Day Dress Code

While students may choose to wear their regular uniforms on Spirit Days, they may also wear spirit wear. Although some Spirit Days may have a special theme and invitation to dress accordingly (e.g., Dress Like a Teacher Day), the standard Spirit Day Dress Code is as follows:

- Only TVCA or Timberwolf-branded clothing tops from an official source (Educational Outfitters, Big Sky Sportswear, BSN Athletics, or other approved source)
- Jeans, khakis, slacks, shorts, or skirts in school colors (blue/gray/black) or in khaki or tan color
- The following are not permitted on Spirit Day:
 - Tank tops, spaghetti straps, crop tops
 - Ripped jeans, sweats, sweat suits, jeggings, leggings
 - Shoes with lights, heels, or wheels
 - PE or other gym shorts
 - Clothing with lettering or commercial messaging (brand logos are acceptable)
- All other uniform wear standards apply per usual (e.g. length of skirts or shorts, etc.)

Note: Spirit wear items and regular uniform items may not be worn together.

Non-Uniform Dress Code for School-Sponsored Events

Students are welcome to wear regular uniforms to most school-sponsored events and encouraged to wear spirit wear.

The Uniform Dress Code rules listed above concerning hair, jewelry and piercings, and tattoos apply at school-sponsored events where uniforms are not required.

The following items are not permitted at school-sponsored events:

- Tank tops, spaghetti straps, crop tops
- Clothing with inappropriate wording or imagery (e.g. reference to drugs or alcohol, violence, etc)
- Skirts or shorts that are shorter than the student's longest fingertip when the arm and hand are fully extended and the arm is held parallel to the torso

UNIFORMS AND FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

The School will not allow financial need to limit access to Treasure Valley Classical Academy, and this includes access to uniforms. At minimum, the School will set up payment options to help fund one complete uniform set for children whose families qualify for financial assistance. Parents or guardians requesting financial assistance for uniforms should contact the Principal.

LOST AND FOUND

Each campus has a designated Lost and Found for misplaced items. Students are responsible for retrieving misplaced items.

Due to limited space, all unclaimed items will automatically be donated to either Goodwill or the School uniform store on the 15th and 30th of each month.

USED UNIFORM STORE

The School will maintain a Used Uniform Store which allows families to purchase "experienced" items at a significant discount. The store will be opened with prior announcement, typically coinciding with school events throughout the year, and accepts donations of gently used items during open times. Store credit vouchers will be issued for each acceptable donated item.

TOILETING

All students of Treasure Valley Classical Academy must be independent in toileting. On occasion students may have “accidents.” When an “accident” occurs, it is the responsibility of the parent or guardian to assist the child and to provide clean clothing.

If there are repeated “accidents”, a meeting with the parents or guardians, the teacher, and the Principal will be held to evaluate the situation. Appropriate action will be taken based on what is in the best interest of all students and the School.

BUS BEHAVIOR POLICY

For students who ride buses to and from school, the school day begins when they set foot on the bus in the morning and ends when they step off the bus in the afternoon. TVCA’s high expectations for student behavior apply on the bus just as they do at school. Of TVCA’s virtues, courtesy and self-government are of special relevance to bus rides. Students are expected to practice these virtues and will be held accountable for failing to do so. Students must show bus drivers the same respect as they are expected to show their teachers.

TVCA has adopted the following procedure for disruptive or defiant bus behavior:

- The bus driver will refer all unacceptable bus behavior to the Dean. Consequences for disruptive or defiant bus behavior may involve the loss of bus riding privileges for varying lengths of time based on the number of violations or referrals, per TVCA’s Student Discipline Policy.

BUS SAFETY RULES

- Parents or guardians and drivers must confer and designate a safe, convenient place where students are to stand as they wait for the bus.
- Students must wait until the bus comes to a complete stop, the doors open, and the driver gives them the go-ahead to approach and step aboard.
- Students must always exercise caution when crossing the street. In particular, students must always cross the street in front of a stopped bus and never behind it.
- Parents or guardians, students, and drivers must take note of any particular dangers or difficulties presented by specific bus stops and proceed accordingly.
- Students are not allowed to eat, drink, or get out of their seats while on the bus.
- Students are not to use cell phones or other personal electronic devices on the bus.
- Parents or guardians are strongly advised to wait with students at the bus stop for the first few days of school.
- Students in grades K-3 must have an adult or older sibling at their bus stop to be dropped off.
- Parents or guardians must review these bus behavior and safety rules with students, affirm the importance of these rules, and exhort students to take responsibility for their own behavior and safety.

STUDENT PUBLICATIONS POLICY

Student publications must uphold Treasure Valley Classical Academy’s mission, philosophy, core virtues, and policies. The purpose of such publications is to inform the Treasure Valley Classical Academy community of school-related events, achievements, and business. In addition, student publications are a way for students to learn and to practice responsible writing and journalism. Student editorials are permitted subject to prior review by the Principal. Employees of the School or parents or guardians may not use student media to proselytize their own views on controversial issues. The Principal acts as the final editor in all cases.

LOCKERS

In the future, Treasure Valley Classical Academy will provide lockers (as available) for students in 7th grade and higher. The lockers and locks will be school property. Students will be issued a lock and a combination. Students who misplace their locks will be required to pay \$5 for replacements. Only locks issued by the School are to be used.

Treasure Valley Classical has the authority to search lockers when deemed necessary, even if it requires removal of the lock.

Treasure Valley Classical Academy is not responsible for lost or stolen items. Valuables such as tablets, iPods, compact discs, pagers, and video games are NOT to be brought to school. Problems with lockers should be reported to the office.

Students must observe the following rules:

- Students are not allowed to decorate the inside of lockers with posters, pictures, or anything else which advertises sex, drugs, suicide, cults, alcohol, or promotes other negative or derogatory messages as determined by the Principal.
- Lockers must be kept neat and orderly at all times. Locker checks will occur each semester.
- Lockers must be kept closed when not in use to maintain the integrity of the fire corridors and avoid careless accidents. Items left outside lockers or on the floor may be removed or disposed of.
- We strongly discourage students from sharing their locker combinations with others, as that may lead to conflicts should items go missing.

HEALTH AND MEDICINE

MEDICAL OPERATIONS

It is the school's responsibility protect the health and safety of all students. The School Nurse will assess and provide care for minor illnesses or injuries that arise during the school day and will notify parents of a change in their child's health condition. The Nurse may not always be present to care for the student, but designated personnel are trained in first aid and CPR and will assist with the student's health care needs or call 911 if necessary. *By enrolling your child in Treasure Valley Classical Academy, parents/guardians hereby consent to the treatment of your minor child by the School Nurse or designated staff while in school or at school sponsored events. In circumstances deemed a medical emergency, parents/guardians' consent to transfer of and treatment of your minor child at any hospital for any illness or injury while on or adjacent to any school grounds of Treasure Valley Classical Academy School or at school events until parent/guardian is present.*

The school will in all cases make every effort to inform parents or guardians when a student reports to the office with a fever or injury. If a parent or guardian cannot be reached, school personnel will determine what action needs to be taken. Any child with a fever will not be allowed to remain in the classroom and must be picked up by a parent or designee. If a head injury is sustained, or any injury requires medical attention, the parent or guardian will be asked to come to school and determine what action should be taken. In case of more serious injuries, or in case the parent cannot be contacted, the School will immediately call 9-1-1 for emergency assistance.

Treasure Valley Classical Academy will:

- Require all faculty and staff to be trained and proficient in medical response operations, including essential first aid, CPR, AED, and medication administration procedures.
- Maintain adequate emergency medical response supplies on hand (including first aid supplies, emergency medications, trauma kits, and AED units) to render initial medical assistance prior to the arrival of emergency medical responders.

The School Nurse may coordinate with students, parents, and their medical providers as deemed necessary to develop health action plans for chronic or acute medical needs to maximize educational instruction while ensuring safety at school.

Treasure Valley Classical Academy encourages students to stay in the classroom during the school day. If a student has frequent visits to the School Nurse or calls home frequently during the school week, the Nurse may contact the parent or guardian to determine if there is a medical or other concern that should be addressed at home or at school.

Note: Please refer to Appendix 3 of this handbook for a helpful medical FAQ.

MEDICINE ADMINISTRATION (INCLUDING SELF-ADMINISTRATION BY STUDENTS)

Treasure Valley Classical Academy recognizes that students may be required to take medication while at school or school sponsored activities.

Generally, medications should be dispensed to students before and/or after school hours under the supervision of the parent/guardian. In order to avoid disruption of the student's education during the school day, medications should be dispensed at school only when medically necessary to meet the health needs of the student.

In accordance with Idaho Code 33-520, if a student must take prescription medication while at school or school sponsored activities, Treasure Valley Classical Academy will implement the following guidelines:

SELF-ADMINISTRATION OF PRESCRIPTIONS

1. For the purposes of this section of the policy, "self-administration" means a student's use of medication pursuant to prescription or written direction from a physician.
2. Any student for whom a physician or other authorized medical professional has prescribed 1) a metered-dose inhaler or dry powder inhaler for treatment of asthma or other potentially life-threatening respiratory illness, 2) an epinephrine auto-injector for severe allergic reaction (anaphylaxis), 3) insulin, or 4) blood glucose monitoring supplies will be permitted to self-administer such medication, as prescribed by a physician during the school day and at school-sponsored activities.
3. A student who is permitted to self-administer medication consistent with this policy is permitted to possess and use a prescribed inhaler, epinephrine auto-injector, insulin, or blood glucose monitoring supplies at all times as prescribed by their physician during the school day and at school-sponsored activities.
4. The student's parent/guardian must annually submit an *Administration of Medication/Medical Procedures* form. For children with emergency medications (such as Epi Pens or rescue inhalers), parents or guardians must also fill out an *Emergency Action Plan*.
5. The parent/guardian may be requested to sign a release to allow school staff to communicate directly with the health care provider.
6. The parent/guardian is responsible for notifying the School of any changes to the student's medical condition that would impact the self-administration of medication.
7. A student who is self-administering medication consistent with this policy may be required to maintain a current duplicate of the prescription medication with the School office personnel.

If a student requires blood glucose testing or insulin injections during the school day or at school-sponsored activities, the following policy applies: Students with diabetes may self-administer blood glucose testing and insulin injections as prescribed by their physician. In practicing self-administration, students are required to practice universal precautions for the disposal of waste.

OTHER PRESCRIPTION MEDICATIONS

1. The student's parent/guardian must annually submit an *Administration of Medication/Medical Procedures* form. For children with emergency medications (such as Epi Pens or rescue inhalers), parents or guardians must also fill out an *Emergency Action Plan*.
2. The medication must be in its original container.
3. The student's name, prescription number, prescribing doctor, and directions for administering the medication must be clearly set forth on the container.

NON-PRESCRIPTION (OVER-THE-COUNTER) MEDICATIONS

1. The parent/guardian is responsible for notifying the school that the student requires medication and for supplying the medication(s) for all non-prescription medications. The medication must be supplied in its original unopened container and clearly labeled. These medications will be tagged with the student's name and kept securely in the Nurse's office. The student's parent/guardian must annually submit an *Administration of Medication/Medical Procedures* form. Specific directions for administering the medication and the parent's/guardian's signature must be received before any medication will be given to the student.
2. The medication must be in the original container and the student's name and directions for administering the medication must be detailed on the *Administration of Medication/Medical Procedures* form.
3. Any student requesting over-the-counter medications for greater than three consecutive days or five days within a 30-day period may be required to submit a physician note for safety.

STORAGE AND TRANSPORTATION

1. The School will provide an appropriate place for storing medication and will supervise the dispensing of the medication for all students.
2. All medications that are not pre-approved to be self-administered will be kept in a secured locked area in the Nurse office unless otherwise indicated.
3. Controlled medications may not be carried or self-administered by a student.
4. It is the parent/guardian's responsibility to transport all medications to and from school, unless a physician has indicated on the prescription that the student may carry and self-administer medication.
5. Medication meeting the requirements of this policy may be transported by an authorized school staff member for school-sponsored activities or for temporary alternative placements as deemed necessary.
6. The parent/guardian is expected to provide an adequate supply of the medication to be administered, and to retrieve any unused medication at the end of the school year or upon withdrawal of the student. Medication that is not retrieved by the parent/guardian by the student's last day of attendance during the school year will be discarded.

ADDITIONAL GUIDELINES

1. Parents or guardians are responsible for notifying the School, in writing, that the student requires medication on a regular or emergency basis and supplying the medications and instructions for dispensing the medications as specified in this policy.
2. Treasure Valley Classical Academy may require that the student's health care provider annually submit a current treatment plan, identifying the medication, dosage, frequency of use, and side

effects. The parent or guardian may be requested to sign a release to allow school staff to communicate with the health care provider.

3. A school staff member may administer auto-injectable epinephrine to students upon the occurrence of an actual or perceived anaphylactic adverse (allergic) reaction by the student, whether or not such student has a prescription for epinephrine. Any school employee who in good faith administers or chooses not to administer auto-injectable epinephrine to a student in such circumstances shall be immune from civil liability, pursuant to Idaho statute.
4. It is the student's responsibility to come to the office at the appropriate time to take his or her medication, unless otherwise indicated. Parents/guardians may coordinate with the School Nurse to discuss administration plans.
5. An employee(s) may be designated by the School Nurse and/or Principal to administer medication. The School Nurse will train all designated employees prior to the administration of any medication.
6. *Administration of Medication/Medical Procedures* forms are valid only for the current school year and must be renewed for each student/medication annually or with the change of any prescription or health condition.
7. Expired medications will not be administered.
8. For the safety of the student, medication prescriptions signed by an out-of-country physician will not be considered valid.

UNIVERSAL PRECAUTIONS

Universal precautions for the disposal of waste will be posted in the School and students and staff are required to comply with the guidelines. Any accidental pricks or punctures must be reported and appropriate medical response accessed.

STUDENT MEDICAL RECORDS

1. Student health records will be maintained in locked or password-protected files in order to maintain confidentiality.
2. All health records will be managed by the School Nurse and any appropriate, designated staff and will only be released to service providers as allowed and dictated by state regulations.
3. Medication must be counted and signed in and out on the medication charting form. Controlled medication will be counted by two witnesses (one of these may be the parent/guardian).
4. The School Nurse or designee shall record each dose of medication administered on the student's individual medication charting form.

MEDICAL RECORDS AND ENROLLMENT

In order to complete the enrollment process, parents or guardians must submit the following:

- Immunization Records (or an appropriate waiver);
- Administration of Medication/Medical Procedures form (if applicable); and
- Emergency Action Plan (if applicable).

Note: Medical forms may be found in Appendix 4 of this hand book.

PARENT/GUARDIAN OBLIGATIONS

Parents or guardians shall, at all times, ensure that the School has updated medical information on file. It is the parent's/guardian's responsibility to keep this information updated.

It is the parent's responsibility to notify the office if a child has been injured at home and may need special considerations at school.

FOOD ALLERGIES

Treasure Valley Classical Academy is not a NUT-free school. The School will, however, establish a NUT-free zone at the end of tables in the cafeteria, and teachers/monitors will ensure that this NUT-free zone is enforced. Meal accommodations will be made only when a doctor's note documenting the particular food allergy is on file with the School. Anecdotal information or child preference will not dictate menu changes.

SICK STUDENTS

Sick children should not be in school. Any child who has a fever or is contagious (e.g., with pink eye, strep, the flu, or other typical viral symptoms) must be kept home. Feverish/contagious students who arrive at school will be immediately sent home.

STUDENT FEES

From time to time the School may charge fees to its families to fund expenses related to athletics, extracurricular clubs, field trips, etc. All charges and fees must be authorized by the Principal.

OFF-SITE EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

The logistics of all of Treasure Valley Classical Academy's off-site extracurricular activities must be approved by the Principal. All adults helping with these activities must be cleared Treasure Valley Classical Academy volunteers.

CHAPERONE POLICY

Treasure Valley Classical Academy will conduct field trips and off-site events and in so doing will welcome and enlist the aid of parent or guardian chaperones. The number of chaperones for a field trip or off-site extracurricular event will be established prior to the occurrence of the event. This number will be strictly adhered to. No siblings or individuals other than assigned chaperones may attend the event. Fees for the event must also be paid by the chaperone and are due at the same time as the student's fee for the event. If fees are not submitted by the date due another chaperone will be chosen to fill the vacancy. Chaperones must attend to assigned duties and must model the Treasure Valley Classical Academy core virtues. Violators of this policy will not be allowed to chaperone any future events.

PARENTS/GUARDIANS AND COMMUNITY

PARENT TEACHER COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION (PTCA)

Treasure Valley Classical Academy establishes the PTCA to support the School's mission. PTCA teams and activities will be designed to help the School flourish in and beyond the classroom. Largely, the PTCA consists in a series of task-oriented teams whose purpose is to marshal parent volunteerism in achieving defined goals that improve the School.

All parents or guardians, adult family members, teachers, staff, and community members are encouraged to volunteer on a team and attend regular PTCA meetings.

The PTCA may conduct fundraising on behalf of the School, but it will not be a stand-alone, tax exempt, non-profit organization, since Treasure Valley Classical Academy is itself a non-profit organization with 501(c)3 status.

The Executive Director reserves the right to create, remove, or dissolve PTCA teams and leadership in accordance with immediate priorities and the long-term flourishing of the School.

GUARDIAN AUTHORIZATION FORM

If the parent or legal guardian cannot, by nature of work schedule or other situation, participate in school meetings, conferences, or volunteer activities, that parent or legal guardian may authorize another adult to serve or communicate in these capacities with the School. The Authorized Guardian will be communicated with as directed by the Parent/Legal Guardian. They will also be subject to background checks and training prior to volunteer assignments, as are all volunteers. The applicable form is available in Appendix 7.

REQUIREMENTS FOR VOLUNTEERS

The Administration will maintain accurate records to confirm that the following requirements are met.

BACKGROUND CHECKS

Volunteers who work with students will submit to background checks in the same way that our employees are required to do so.

TRAINING

The Principal may require volunteers to complete training before serving in the classroom.

GENERAL RULES FOR VOLUNTEERS

Volunteers often inadvertently have access to sensitive information. Any information about students, grades, faculty, etc. is to remain confidential. Volunteers may observe situations of a sensitive nature. These are also to remain confidential.

If a volunteer has a concern involving something that is witnessed, observed, or overheard, he or she should address the concern with a faculty or staff member, the Principal, or a member of the board—in that order. If a volunteer disregards this policy, the privilege of volunteering may be revoked.

Any grievance or concern a volunteer has with a classroom or a teacher will be handled by the procedures defined in the applicable section of this handbook. Under no circumstance is it ever acceptable for a volunteer to confront a teacher about an issue when students are present.

PARENT COMMUNICATIONS WITH THE ADMINISTRATION, FACULTY AND STAFF

Treasure Valley Classical Academy values the conversation that takes place between parents or guardians and teachers about the education of children. Nonetheless, this conversation must follow certain guidelines in order to be fruitful and to allow teachers to devote themselves to their classes during the day. Parents or guardians may use any of the following ways to contact or communicate with the Executive Director, Principal, Dean, Director of Operations, faculty, and staff of Treasure Valley Classical Academy:

- Scheduled face-to-face meeting
- Scheduled phone call
- Message (with the front office)
- Voice Mail
- Email (provided in weekly classroom newsletters)

Treasure Valley Classical Academy employees will not use social media to communicate with parents or guardians or students about student specific issues.

During the school day and both immediately before and after school, teachers have their minds on teaching or impending meetings and extracurricular activities. Parents or guardians should schedule in advance a phone call or meeting with a teacher rather than try to communicate through an impromptu “five-minute” chat. Parents or guardians who are in the building for another reason should not use their access to faculty to circumvent the normal means of contacting a teacher unless that teacher clearly invites such a conversation. This policy applies to parents or guardians who are themselves teachers or other employees at the School.

Treasure Valley Classical Academy teachers and staff will respond to parents or guardians as quickly possible. In general, parents or guardians should expect to hear from a teacher or from the administration within twenty-four hours of contacting the School, barring weekends and holidays. While a teacher’s schedule may not permit an actual meeting within that time, the teacher will attempt to make contact in some way.

EXPECTATIONS FOR PARENTS AND GUARDIANS

We believe parents or guardians own the fundamental responsibility for their children’s education and that the School’s role should be viewed as a supportive one. The School expects parents or guardians to:

- Model good character and insist that their children cultivate good habits and virtues;
- Help their children develop effective study skills;
- Read to their children, especially those in the early grades;
- Oversee regular reading and writing and mathematics skill development;
- Stimulate discussion and exploration of ideas and events with students;
- Support the School goals through familiarity with this handbook and parts of the website devoted to the mission and philosophy of the School, homework review, getting children to school on time, and holding high expectations and aspirations that contribute positively to the student’s success.

ENROLLMENT POLICY

GENERAL

With regard to enrollment and the lottery procedures, the School will abide by the requirements of IDAPA 08.02.04 Section 203 (Admissions Procedures).

In accordance with the Charter Agreement, Treasure Valley Classical Academy will enroll up to 54 students per grade. The School's primary attendance area is Payette County, Idaho.

Treasure Valley Classical Academy will not discriminate on the basis of race, color, ethnic background, national origin, gender, disability, or age.

Treasure Valley Classical Academy grants enrollment preferences in accordance with Section 33-5206, Idaho Code.

ADMISSIONS DURING THE CURRENT SCHOOL YEAR

The School will maintain a public wait list for each grade, as required. If the Principal chooses to fill a vacant seat, he/she will draw from the first name on the waitlist, moving down the wait list until the position is filled. If there is no wait list, vacant seats will be filled on a first-come, first-served basis. On the date of the lottery, the wait list for the current school year will terminate.

ENROLLMENT FOR FUTURE SCHOOL YEARS

The School will host informational sessions in November, December, January, and February. Open enrollment for upcoming school years will typically begin in January. Interested families must complete an online or hard-copy "Intent to Enroll" form for students in all grades, including incoming kindergarteners. The enrollment process will a) fill a new grade of Kindergarten students, and b) position students to take seats that may come available in first grade and above.

To the extent that demand exceeds the number of available seats for any given grade, the School will conduct a public, system-generated, grade-level lottery. The public lottery will take place in the Spring. The result of the lottery for rising Kindergarten students will be a list of 50 "seated" students, plus a numerical wait list. The Enrollment Coordinator will establish procedures for completing the enrollment process that will include a series of administrative deadlines. The School will not fill all 54 seats immediately to make room for students who are retained and/or the students of to-be-hired full-time employees.

The result of the lottery for first grade students and above will be a numerical wait list.

The School will use the wait list to offer available seats to students on a grade-by-grade basis as they become available. It is likely that the School will not be able to offer seats to new students until June 15 or later, because the School will not be able to confirm the number of available seats until a) students declare officially that they will not be returning, b) the Principal determines which students, if any, will be retained, and c) the School places the students of full-time employees that will be hired in the spring. By early April, existing students will be required to express their intent to return for the following school year by providing proof of residency.

ENROLLMENT OF EXPELLED STUDENTS

Students expelled from another school will be admitted to Treasure Valley Classical Academy at the discretion of the Principal. The Principal will admit students who are being processed for expulsion and/or suspension on a case-by-case basis. In general, students facing suspension and/or expulsion for discipline problems related to drugs, alcohol, or violent behavior will not be admitted.

GRADE LEVEL PLACEMENT OF NEWLY ENROLLED STUDENTS

For students to thrive in school, they must master the fundamentals. The grade level placement policy is designed to promote educational excellence and fairness by placing students at the most appropriate level for instruction. If students new to the School are found to be reading more than one grade level behind their existing peer group, they may be required to enroll in the grade level deemed appropriate by the teacher and Principal. If the parent insists that the student be placed at a grade level higher than the one recommended, a signed document of this choice will become part of the student's permanent file.

READMITTANCE

Students who have left the School due to retention in a grade and later choose to re-enroll will be readmitted (assuming the student is otherwise in line for the next available seat) based on the retention, not on the record from another school.

OPERATIONS

EMERGENCY OPERATIONS PLAN

The School maintains a stand-alone Emergency Operations Plan.

SECURITY CHECKS

The School may exercise its right to inspect all backpacks, packages, parcels, and closed containers entering and leaving the premises. School lockers are school property and may be subjected to searches at any time, with or without cause.

USE OF THE PRODUCTION COLOR PRINTER/COPIER

School resources, the resource room, and the equipment therein are to be used solely in support of school operations.

CARPOOL / DROP-OFF / PICK-UP

Procedures for drop-off and pick-up (carpool) give priority to the safety and security of all students. Parents or guardians are expected to cooperate fully to ensure that the process is safe and orderly. The School will release students only to parents or guardians, legal guardians, or adult designees.

Adults driving through the carpool line are expected to serve as role models by always exhibiting courteous behavior. Please share these policies and procedures with anyone who will be picking up your student as everyone in the car line is expected to know and follow the procedures.

Early pickup of students ends at 2:15 P.M. to allow sufficient time to prepare for afternoon dismissal. In the event your child needs to leave school before the regular dismissal time, please check them out in the Front Office before 2:20 P.M. (elementary) or 2:45 P.M. (upper school).

To ensure an efficient car line, students must be picked during the following windows based on grade level:

- 2:50 – 3:05 P.M. - Elementary School (grades K-6) pick-up.
- 3:15 – 3:30 P.M. - Upper School pick-up

Please refer to TVCA website for details on [carpool](#) for each campus.

For everyone's safety, please make sure to:

- Never exit your vehicle while the engine is running.
- Under no circumstances should a child be left in a vehicle unattended.
- Please refrain from using electronic devices while moving in the carpool line.
- Third-party pick-ups are not permitted (individuals who are unknown to the School and not pre-authorized).
- If you are picking up your students to walk them home, please come to the Bell Tower to have your student called to the pick-up area.
- Once students are loaded into your vehicle, do not let them exit the vehicle. If your student needs to return to the School building, please exit that car line, park and escort your student back into the building.

Please help us be courteous to neighbors by adhering to the following good neighbor policies:

- Do not block driveways or entrance ways.
- Do not use neighborhood streets and/or driveways to turn around.
- Do not attempt U-turns in the roadway.
- Do not park on nearby streets in order to avoid wait times.

PARKING – DESIGNATED SPACES

ELEMENTARY CAMPUS

Parking on SW Third Street is permitted only:

- for short visits (of 30 minutes or less)
- between 8:30am and 2:00pm.

For longer daytime visits and special event parking during school hours, guests should park in the public parking lot at the corner of SW Second Street and Nebraska Ave.

Do not park in the Post Office parking lot; cars parked there are subject to towing.

For after-school events, parking is permitted on public streets, public parking lots, and the TVCA employee parking lot (as available).

UPPER SCHOOL CAMPUS

Please refer to the TVCA website for most current parking details.

COMMUNICATING WITH PARENTS OR GUARDIANS WITH JOINT CUSTODY

The School will recognize and communicate with parents or guardians with joint custody upon review of a court order identifying them to do so. In the case of password protected School forms, the School encourages one of the parents or guardians to complete the forms so that the School does not receive conflicting information.

ONLINE ORIENTATION FORMS

The School will maintain secure electronic information for the purpose of running the day-to-day operations of the School. Parents or guardians are expected to complete these online forms as a condition of enrollment. The School will make hard copy forms available to parents or guardians/guardians without internet access.

MASS COMMUNICATION POLICY

The Principal must approve all letters and bulletins, including e-mail (excluding class assignments or bulletins by teachers to their classes) from teachers or parents or guardians or other parties to the entire School community.

UTILIZATION OF FACILITY

The Principal will be the approving authority for all outside uses of the School building, fields, and facilities. All users will be required to complete a facilities use agreement, carry insurance and appoint a

representative acceptable to the building Principal who is capable of executing the School's emergency and security procedures.

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY AND SECURITY

The School takes precautions to protect your information. When you submit sensitive information via the website, your information is protected both online and offline.

When we collect sensitive information (such as birth dates, addresses, credit card data), the information is encrypted and transmitted to us in a secure way. You can verify this by looking for a closed lock icon at the bottom of your web browser, or looking for "https" at the beginning of the address of the web page. While we use encryption to protect sensitive information transmitted online, we also protect your information offline. Only employees who need the information to perform a specific job are granted access to personally identifiable information. Computers that store personally identifiable information are kept in a secure environment.

PRIVACY

FAMILY EDUCATIONAL RIGHTS PRIVACY ACT (FERPA)

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) affords parents or guardians and students over 18 years of age certain rights with respect to the student's education records. These rights are:

- The right to inspect and review the student's education records within 45 days from the day the School receives the access records request. Parents or guardians or eligible students should submit to the School principal or appropriate school official a written request that identifies the record(s) they wish to inspect. The School official will make arrangements for access and notify the parent or eligible student of the time and place where the records may be inspected. Please refer to the Treasure Valley Classical Academy Request to Examine/Copy Public Records form in Appendix 2 of this policy manual.
- The right to request the amendment of the student's education records that the parent or eligible student believes are inaccurate or misleading. Parents or guardians or eligible students may ask the School to amend a school record that they believe is inaccurate or misleading. They should write the School principal or appropriate official, clearly identify the part of the record they want changed, and specify why it is inaccurate or misleading. If the School decides not to amend the record as requested, the School will notify the parent or eligible student of the decision and advise them of their right to a hearing regarding their request. Additional information regarding the hearing procedures will be provided to the parent or eligible student when notified of the right to a hearing.
- The right to consent to disclosures of personally identifiable information contained in the student's education records, except to the extent that FERPA authorizes disclosure without consent. One exception, which permits disclosure without consent, is disclosure to school officials with legitimate educational interests. A school official is a person employed by the School as an administrator, supervisor, instructor, or support staff member (including health or medical staff and law enforcement unit personnel); a person serving on the School Board; a person or company with whom the School has contracted to perform a special task (such as an attorney, auditor, medical consultant, or therapist); or a parent or student serving on an official committee, such as a disciplinary or grievance committee, or assisting another school official in performing his or her tasks. A school official has a legitimate educational interest if the official needs to review an education record in order to fulfill his or her professional responsibility. Upon request, the School discloses education records without consent to officials of another school district in which a student seeks or intends to enroll.
- The right to file a complaint with the U.S. Department of Education concerning alleged failures by the School to comply with the requirements of FERPA. The name and address of the Office that administers FERPA are:

Family Policy Compliance Office
U.S. Department of Education
400 Maryland Avenue, SW
Washington, DC 20202-4605

PERSONALLY IDENTIFIABLE INFORMATION (PII) POLICY

PII is defined as a person's name in association with any information that can be used to distinguish or trace an individual's identity, such as Social Security number, date of birth, place of birth, mother's maiden name, driver's license number, passport number, or any biometric, medical, educational, financial, or employment records. It is the policy of Treasure Valley Classical Academy that PII shall not be sent in a

plain text email or other unencrypted means. In general, PII should not be disseminated electronically. If electronic transmittal is unavoidable, then PII must be encrypted. Acceptable means of encryption include password protected files from versions of Excel, WinZip, and Adobe Acrobat (2010 or newer). The Office Manager will determine whether an encryption method is suitable or not. Physical PII (e.g. paper copies of records) must be kept in secure locations (locked file drawers in lockable rooms), and access to these records must be limited to authorized individuals only in connection with official, school-related duties.

STUDENT INFORMATION RELEASE

School Directory information, including the student's full name, address, and telephone number, will not be released without parental consent. Authorization for inclusion in the directory is on the enrollment form. Students' names, participation in officially recognized activities and sports, weight and height of members of athletic teams, dates of attendance, awards received, and other similar information may be released without parental consent unless the parent notifies the School. In addition, classroom activities and events sponsored by schools occasionally are photographed or video-recorded by representatives of the news media for publication in newspapers or broadcast on television. If for any reason you DO NOT wish to have your student(s) photographed or video-taped for these purposes, you must notify the office in writing.

Student names will not be listed with their pictures on the School website or in Treasure Valley Classical Academy advertising publications. The newspaper may list your student's name with a photo only with parent signed consent.

No identifying information regarding a student will be given via any avenue of communication without parent permission, unless required by law.