



NEW DIMENSIONS

A Challenge Foundation ✦ Academy

Parent/Student Handbook (K-8)

Home of the Warriors!

2018-2019

School Year

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Welcome to New Dimensions 2018 – 2019 School Year

Dear Family and Students,

Welcome back to New Dimensions Charter School! We are proud of our dedicated, experienced staff and enthusiastic learners! We are excited to begin a new school year. During the 2018-2019 school year, we will continue to build upon our foundation of excellence in education. The vision remains the same: *“At this school, every child will learn. Every kid. Every day. No excuses.”*

As demands and complexities of teaching children increase, it becomes more evident that we all need to work together to ensure that our children reach their potential. We believe that all of us – the school and the community – must work together in an extended family environment to ensure success for all our students. We believe it is everyone’s responsibility to empower children with the creative, intellectual, and decision-making skills necessary for them to become academically, socially, physically, and emotionally successful and responsible.

With that in mind, you are encouraged to be an active participant at New Dimensions. Whether you are a classroom volunteer, member of the PTO, or special event participant, please be involved! We value your involvement and support!

It is our desire to keep you informed of all that is taking place at school. Up-to-date and additional information can be found on the school’s website. If you have questions or concerns that arise at any time, please do not hesitate to contact your child’s teacher or myself. I look forward to having a long and rewarding relationship with you and your family.

Again, I welcome you to another school year at New Dimensions. It is a place alive with energy, enthusiasm, and a high standard of learning. Here’s to an exciting new school at New Dimensions, where together we will make our school a great place to learn!

Sincerely,

Jeffrey M. Mayo

School Director

What is a Charter School?

Charter Schools are tuition free, public schools that receive limited funding from the Federal, State and Local governments. They provide parents choices in their children’s education. Charter Schools operate outside the direct control of local school districts (in our case; Burke County), under a publicly issued charter that gives them greater autonomy than regular public schools over curriculum, instruction, and operations. Charter Schools in North Carolina receive no state money for building construction or maintenance. The “Education Lottery” in North Carolina does not share any funds with charter Schools. Over 2 million students were enrolled in approximately 6,002 Public Charter Schools in 40 states and the District of Columbia. More than 51,000 students attend Public Charter Schools in North Carolina. Enrollment is open to anyone who would like to attend. Children who live in one school district may attend a charter school in another school district. In the event classrooms are full, students will be placed on a waiting list and added to our enrollment in order of application. A lottery is in place when applications exceed our allotted numbers. Each charter school is operated by a private, nonprofit board of directors.

Mission Statement

The mission of New Dimensions: A Challenge Foundation Academy is to nurture every student, every day to develop strong character, academic excellence and good citizenship.

Vision Statement

To be a highly regarded school known for academic excellence and for its contributions in actively serving and improving the community in which we operate.

Foundations

Our school is built on four basic beliefs about students’ learning:

- All students have interests and talents that form the foundation for meaningful academic achievement.
- Students are most successful in school when teachers and parents work together to help students learn how to learn.
- Students’ learning is most successful when caring communities contribute to strong school/home/community relationships.
- Core Knowledge is a curriculum that is solid, sequenced, specific and shared. It is a curriculum that provides a solid, coherent foundation of learning.

School Slogan

At this school, every student will learn.

Curriculum

The Core Knowledge Sequence is the guiding curriculum for New Dimensions. The idea behind the Core Knowledge Sequence is simple and powerful: Knowledge builds on knowledge. Core Knowledge provides a core curriculum that is coherent, cumulative, and content-specific in order to help children establish strong foundations of knowledge, grade by grade. For more detailed information regarding our guiding curriculum check out www.coreknowledge.org. At New Dimensions students are taught Eureka Math. The idea behind Eureka Math is that mathematics is best taught as a logical telling of stories. It has a greater focus, more coherent, and very rigorous. Teachers also follow the State Common Core Standards.

Specials/ Elective Classes

On top of students guiding curriculum and core classes New Dimensions also provides specials classes for grade K-5. These classes include: Music, Spanish, Art, Computers, and a structured P.E. time. The students attend these classes once a week. Middle school students (6-8) will have a structured P.E. classes twice a week. They will also have Spanish, Art, and Computer class once a week. Students in grades 5th-8th will have a choice of band or chorus. Please keep in mind the days that your child may have Art and P.E so that they can wear appropriate clothing/shoe attire. New Dimensions is not responsible for clothing that may get paint, grass stains, or any other craft material that may stain clothes. Please be aware that Art classes are involved in many hands-on/messy activities.

Exceptional Children's Program

New Dimensions has a highly qualified EC Department to serve students with learning disabilities and other special needs. We feel that all children can learn. Some just learn differently from others. Our mission is to make sure that every child succeeds no matter what their disability may be. If you have any questions or concerns about your child or the qualifying process contact: The Exceptional Children's Coordinator

Title 1 Program

New Dimensions Title 1 Mission is to provide support for students that need it most academically and to provide appropriate educational experiences by partnering with parents and the community. If you have questions or concerns about the Program contact the Title 1 Teacher.

Inclement Weather

The New Dimensions School will notify all parents by phone call and/or email in the event of school closings or early dismissal. Local and regional news media will be notified as well. If you have questions concerning severe weather situations; call the school at **437-5753**.

Tobacco and Drug Free Campus and Facility

100% Tobacco Free School Policy. The New Dimensions School wishes to promote a healthy learning and working environment for students and staff. The school believes that the use of tobacco products on school property is detrimental to the health and safety of students, staff, and visitors. The school also recognizes that employees and visitors serve as role models for students. Therefore, and pursuant to G.S. 115C-407 Policy Prohibiting Tobacco Use in School Buildings and the federal Pro-Children's Act, Title X of Public Law 103-227 and the No Child Left Behind Act, all tobacco use is prohibited on school grounds, in school buildings and facilities, on school property, or at school-related field trips, or school-sponsored events.

No student, staff member or school visitor is permitted to use any tobacco products, illegal drugs, or alcohol of any type at any time, including non-school hours, in any building, facility, or vehicle owned, leased, rented or chartered by The New Dimensions School; on any grounds or property, including playgrounds and parking lots, used by the school, or at any school-sponsored or school-related event on or off-campus.

(Ref: Policy-Section 207.15)

Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act(AHERA)

This is official notification that New Dimensions Charter School has been tested and no asbestos or asbestos containing material was found. We maintain a required Asbestos Management Plan on file in the office. This plan is updated every three years.

Lunch/Nutrition Program

New Dimensions no longer offers a catered lunch program. We will offer pizza on Fridays and possibly various other special lunches throughout the school year. Please make sure you pack a healthy nutritious meal for your child. We take donations of fruit cups, crackers, canned food, etc. all year long. We can use these items for students that may have forgotten their lunch. If you have any questions about our lunch program, please contact the school for assistance. During the school day please refrain from providing your child with sodas, energy drinks, coffee, and/or high caffeine containing beverages. (Revised 9/21/16)

Before School Program

New Dimensions currently does not offer a Before School Program.

After School Program

The New Dimensions School operates an after school program. Hours of operation are **3:30 to 6:00 p.m.** for regular school days. The cost of this service is \$8 daily or you can pay \$40 upfront for the week for the first child any additional siblings will cost \$7 daily or \$35 a week. There is no after school on early dismissal days. For more information and an application, please check with the office or the after school care director, or call 437-5753.

Please Note: Any child not registered for After School Care, who is not picked up by 3:30 p.m., will be sent to After School Care and charged a fee administered by the After School Director.

Visitors and Volunteers

At NDS, we feel parents are an integral part of a successful educational experience for students. Parents helping in the school in a variety of ways make our school the best it can be. We promote and encourage parent involvement and volunteer time in the classroom. Please talk with teachers, administration, PTO, and the Athletics Department about opportunities for volunteering. We respectfully ask that you not interrupt your student's class unless prior approval. Parents are only allowed in the classroom if they are volunteering.

Anyone that is visiting or volunteering at the school has to sign in and at the front desk at the computer before entering the building. All volunteers that come into the school to work with the children and classrooms have to have a background check.

You may be contacted by New Dimensions Administrative Staff or PTO Officers when we are in need of volunteers. Volunteer hours are posted monthly in the Newsletters. If you are interested in volunteer opportunities please contact the student's classroom teacher or office. We list volunteer hours monthly in the Newsletters. We need your help!

(Ref: Policy-Section 308.4 and 308.4)

New Dimensions PTO

The New Dimensions PTO's mission is to enhance the educational and cultural opportunities for New Dimensions students by supporting and providing supplemental educational experiences in areas including but not exclusive to physical education, arts and music. All parents, guardians, teachers and school staff are encouraged to be an active part of their Parent Teacher Organization. This organization is a vital part of our school and assists with many of the functions throughout the school year. Meetings are held monthly, please attend and participate as much as possible.

(Ref: Policy-Section 308.2)

Participation in Athletics/Extracurricular Activities

All students are encouraged and have the opportunity to participate in many different extracurricular activities. Such participation, however, is a privilege, not a right. A student's attendance, behavior, and academic standing (if failing 1 or more core class) may determine eligibility to participate in practices, games, and other extracurricular activities. All teachers will communicate grades, attendance, and behavior issues to the Athletic director and the School Director when needed.

(Ref: Policy-Section 304.4)

Clubs

Clubs will be offered throughout the year. Information will come home regarding clubs and times. If you would like to host a club contact the administration.

Staying in Touch

One of the best ways that parents can help their children succeed in school is to be involved with their education. This starts with communicating well with your child's teacher. Good communication involves meeting with the teacher, being a positive partner in your child's learning, and keeping the lines of communication open throughout the school year. Make sure you visit the school's website newdimensions.teamcfa.school on a regular basis for information regarding anything student/school related. Listed below are several ways that parents can keep lines of communication open and be an involved participant in their child's education.

1. **Meet school staff.** Go to the school's Open House. Even though the time may be short, you can show your interest and support by introducing yourself and your child, collecting information the school/teacher provides. This is also a chance to become involved and find out information regarding PTO (Parent Teacher Organization), Athletic Boosters, After School Program, and other volunteer opportunities.

2. **Go to parent-teacher meetings.** Parent-teacher conferences are scheduled during the course of the school year. You can schedule a parent-teacher meeting through the school office if you need to share information about your child, or if you have questions or concerns at any time.

3. **Find the right time to talk to the teacher/school director.** If you are dropping your child off or picking your child up from school, you may run into your child's teacher or the school director and be tempted to discuss your child's progress. This is a good time to arrange an appointment with the teacher or school director. This is not the time for a meeting/discussion.

4. **Use Email/Write in Planners.** If you want a quick response to a question, send a brief written note in your child's planner or e-mail the teacher/director with your question clearly stated. The Director and teachers check their email daily. Phone calls and emails will be returned as promptly as possible. **Use Email.** Please make sure teachers have your correct email(s) as well and that you also respond in an appropriate timeline. Open communication is key. All staff emails begin with the initial of the first name, followed by their last, and then @ndschoo.org.

Ex: jmayo@ndschoo.org

6. **Volunteer in the classroom.** We encourage parent participation and volunteer time throughout the school year. We send home monthly newsletter promoting how many parent volunteer hours we had for the month. Our school would not be complete without the involvement of parents/guardians.

7. **Be involved!** We encourage parents to volunteer and be active participants in their child's education. Join PTO, help with athletics, host a club, or volunteer in the classrooms.

School Policies

We expect children to be contributing members of both our school community and our community at large. Students will be expected to participate in the upkeep of their school by assuming responsibilities such as cleaning their classroom, keeping the outside surroundings of the school in excellent condition, and supporting the school's recycling efforts. Children will be given the opportunity to take part in community service projects such as visiting nursing homes, preparing meals for local food programs/shelters, Toys for Tots Drive, and other various projects throughout the school year. Students are also involved in school programs throughout the school year, such as the Winter Program at the CoMMA and our annual Walk-a-thon. We expect and encourage all students and families to attend these events so they are a huge success.

We believe that learning begins with the family. Parent involvement in the educational process is crucial in helping children learn. Parents will be asked to read to and with their children every day and to supervise homework when it is assigned. Parents are encouraged to maintain contact with their child's teacher, through emails and checking their websites regularly. Most all homework is posted on a daily basis by all the teachers. We invite parents to schedule appointments to talk with their child's teacher when needed. Regular Parent/Teacher conference dates will also be scheduled throughout the school year. Please work with your child to ensure homework, projects, and other school related work/activities are being completed.

Please review school policies listed below and sign the form at the end of the handbook stating you have reviewed and agreed to the policies and procedures at New Dimensions. Contact the school with any questions or concerns.

Administering Medications

- Prescription and Non-Prescription Medications

For the school to administer any medication a form must be completed in the office along with the following procedures:

If school personnel must administer a physician-prescribed medication during the school day, the following conditions must be met:

- A signed note from the physician or parent, including specific directions for administration of the medication, must be submitted to the office.
- A bottle with the pharmacist's label designating the patient's name, name of drug, instructions for administration, and name of ordering physician must be submitted to the office.
- A record will be kept of all children receiving medication. This record will be kept in a locked file at the school.
- A note regarding the medication will be attached to the child's health card.
- All medication forms can be picked up from the front desk.
- If parents come to administer medication, they must stay until the child has taken his/her medication.

(Ref: Policy-Section 307.5 & 307.5.1)

Birthdays

Students may enjoy a classroom birthday party if prior arrangements have been made with the classroom teacher. Also confirm with the teacher any food allergies to be mindful of when bringing in any treats. If your child is having a party outside of school, we respectfully ask that you mail or pass out invitations and make arrangements outside of school as to not interrupt the school learning environment.

Book Bags

Book Bags with wheels are not permitted in the school.

Dress Code Policy/Guidelines

The Board at New Dimensions adopted the following dress code policy.

- **Shirts/Tops**

Uniform tops must be a solid color with a collar (no tank tops). NDS logos are preferred but other logos cannot be larger than a closed fist. No holes or undergarments should be visible.

- **Bottoms**

Uniform bottoms must be a solid color made out of a knit material. No denim material, sweat pants, spandex, leggings, or nylon materials is allowed. Bottoms may consist of pants, capris, shorts, skirts, skorts, scooters, and jumpers. Knee high socks are acceptable to wear with uniform bottoms. Leggings may be worn only under skirts, scooters, and jumpers. Leggings are not an acceptable uniform bottom alone. The length of uniform bottoms must be mid-thigh length.

- **Shoes**

Shoes must be worn at all times and have a closed back for support or a strap for support in the back. No flip flops, jellies, bedroom, wheeled, or high heeled shoes.

- **Accessories**

All clothing needs to fit comfortably without being too tight or too baggy. Pants and shorts must be pulled up to the waist. Midriffs must be covered and no undergarments should be visible. Students may wear solid lightweight jackets in the building. Heavy coats should be removed after entering the building. Students may wear a New Dimensions hooded sweatshirt or a solid color hooded sweatshirt with logos no larger than a closed fist. All hooded sweatshirts must be worn with a uniform shirt underneath. No clothing of any kind can be worn to school that has offensive, racial or vulgar words, weapons, pictures or drawings; or any reference to drugs, tobacco or alcohol. All headwear (hats, caps, visors, bandanas, scarfs, etc.) are to be removed when entering the building.

Dress Code Policy on “Dress Down Days”

There are several times throughout the school year where the school will have “dress down days”. Students are allowed to wear pants (without holes), shorts/skorts/capris (appropriate length-see regular dress code), appropriate shirts (no spaghetti strap tanks or dresses, midriffs, or sleeveless shirts (ex. Boys athletic shirts with no sleeves, undergarments should not be visible), shoes (see regular dress code). Please make sure that clothes are not excessively tight during dress down days. If you have questions about dress down days school attire please contact the school.

ALL: Dress code violations will result in a parent phone call. Students may be asked to change clothes immediately if we have available extra clothing. If not parents will be responsible for bringing dress code appropriate clothing for their child immediately.

(Ref: Policy -Section 305.2)

Student Arrival and Dismissal Procedures

Parents must complete pickup/drop-off forms for each student. These forms give teachers specific information about who has been given permission by the parent(s) to transport their children. *To ensure the safety of our students, anyone other than a parent who is responsible for transporting a child must show appropriate identification to school staff before the child will be allowed to leave school grounds.*

Arrival: The school day begins at 7:45am. Students may be dropped off in the mornings beginning at 7:15. Do not let students out of vehicles before this time. All K - 4th grades parents use the third gate at the back of the building and circle around for

morning drop off in the front of the school. All 5th-8th grade and siblings parents use the second gate and circle around the building to the back of the cafeteria to drop students off. If a parent has to park for any reason during morning drop off time, you must go through the third gate and park past the loaders in the front of the school. Vehicles are not to use the front gate during the morning drop off (7:15- 7:45), parents/guardians are not allowed to park outside of gates to walk students in or drop off (for safety purposes). Students need to be in their classroom by 7:45. Once the bell rings they will be counted tardy. If you are dropping your child off after the 7:45 bell you will be required to park and sign them in at the front desk.

Dismissal: School will dismiss at 3:10. The back gate will be unlocked at 2:25 for vehicles to start entering the grounds. All K - 4 grades parents use the third gate at the back of the building and circle around for afternoon pick-up in the front of the school. All 5th-8th and siblings parents use the second gate and circle around the building to the back of the cafeteria to pick students up. The front gate is not to be entered during the dismissal process, between the times of 3:05 and 3:30. It may be requested that you park if a student is not out in a timely manner. This will keep the dismissal line running smoothly. All students should be picked up by 3:30. Students not picked up by 3:30 will be sent to after school care and you will be charged a fee. If you are checking your child out early please make sure it is for an excused appropriate reason. We strongly suggest that you not check out your child after 3:05.

(Ref: Policy-Section 303.1)

Early Release Days (1/2 Days)

There are some scheduled half days that are worked into the school calendar. Please keep in mind that in order for a student to be present on half days they must not check in late or leave early. Half days will dismiss at 11:45. Students must be picked up no later than 12:15. There is no after school on early dismissal days.

Absence Policy/Guidelines

In Case of Illness/Sickness

Parents are encouraged to keep sick children at home until all signs and symptoms of illness cease (including fever, nausea, diarrhea, etc.). Parents will be contacted if a child is running a fever of 100 or above. Please make sure the child has been fever free without fever reducing medicine for at least 24 hours before returning to school. Children will be placed in a quiet isolated area until picked up if they are running a fever or sick. If your child is absent, please call the school and notify the front office of your child's absence. When your child returns to school please send in a written note explaining the reason for his/her absence. Notes need to be in no later than 3 days after the absence. If we do not receive notes about absences they will be coded as unexcused. If your child has 10 or more unexcused absences we MUST have a doctor's note to excuse any further absence. Children may not remain in care at school if they have any of the following symptoms:

- Temp. of 100 degrees when taken under arm or 101 when taken orally
- If child gets sudden onset of diarrhea, or has 2 or more episodes of vomiting within a 12 hr. period
- Red or Pink eyes with white or yellow eye discharge/may return 24hrs. after treatment has begun
- Scabies or lice (remain home until clear and treated)
- Chicken pox or a rash suggestive to chicken pox
- Tuberculosis, may return to care after a health professional states the child is not infectious
- Strep Throat may return 24 hrs. after treatment has begun
- Pertussis or whooping cough, may return 5 days after appropriate antibiotic treatment
- Hepatitis A virus infection, may return 1 week after onset of illness or jaundice

- Impetigo may return 24 hrs. after treatment has begun
- Flu Diagnosis, may return after a healthcare professional says it is not infectious

Letters/Phone Calls/Meetings regarding Absences

When a child is absent for any reason you will receive a phone call letting you know your child was absent. Absences are addressed in the following manner:

1. After 3 unexcused absences parents/guardians will receive a letter from the school sent by way of the student.
2. After 6 unexcused absences parents/guardians will be notified by Mrs. Freeman and mailed letter discussing our policy and the Compulsory Attendance Law. The letter goes over our policy and talks about the NC Carolina School Law, Article 26, 115c-378 (Compulsory Attendance Law).
3. After 10 unexcused absence parents/guardians are required to have a face to face meeting with the Director/Designee to discuss further action. A Doctor's note will be required for any further absences.
4. If a parent or guardian does not make a good faith effort to come in for a meeting after 10 unexcused absences; the Director or Designee may file a truancy petition with the clerk of court if unexcused absences continue.
5. Any child with 20 days or more of excused or unexcused absences may be retained in his/her current grade level. **(This is also stated on letters that are sent home from PowerSchool)**

Please understand the importance of attending school. We try to work with parents and families as much as we can in regard to sicknesses and other health issues, but excessive absences can result in violating the NC Compulsory Attendance Law.

Tardy and Early Dismissal Policy/Guidelines

Students that are not in their classrooms by the 7:45 bell will be counted tardy. After 7:45 you are required to park and come in to sign your child in using the computer system.

Any student that is not signed in before 11:30 a.m. or checks out before 11:30 and does not return to school will be counted absent for that school day

Unexcused tardiness and unexcused early dismissals that impact instruction will be addressed in the following manner:

1. After 4 tardies, students will have a letter sent home that goes over the policy.
2. After 8 tardies, parent contact will be made Mrs. Freeman and a letter will be sent home.
3. After 12 tardies, parents/guardians are required to have a face to face meeting with the

Director/Designee to discuss further action.

4. If the problem continues After-School Detention and ISS can be used as a consequence if needed.

Educational Opportunities

We understand that families plan vacations and other trips throughout the school year that may be considered educational opportunities. Parents must fill out the educational opportunity form ***no later than 2 weeks prior to the trip. Failure to meet the deadline will result in unexcused absences.*** Please turn the form into the front office. The Director will determine if the trip is considered educational and give approval. The classroom teacher will prepare assignments and what will be expected of the student during their time out of school. Please understand that work is involved and it is up to each individual teacher on what will be required for their class, while the student was absent.

A student can receive up to 5 excused absences or educational opportunities per school year.

Educational opportunities request form will be posted online and keep at the front desk. If you have any questions regarding this policy please contact the Office.

Field Trips

We consider field trips to be a vital part of a student's educational experience. As you know, the world is so much larger than the classroom, and our teachers embrace opportunities to expand their students' educational experience through field trips whenever possible. Students must have a signed permission slip for each field trip in order to participate. In many cases there is an activity fee to pay for attendance or entrance to an event. We ask that our parents pay in cash or check (made out to New Dimensions School) prior to the field trip. Field trips are an extension of the educational program at New Dimensions and should not be considered a family event therefore younger or older siblings are not permitted to attend field trips with the school. All of the field trips require the student and teachers to ride on the buses. Each classroom teacher will have a specific policy and procedure in place prior to the field trip. If a student has had several office referrals or behavior problems in the classroom, they may not be allowed to participate in a field trip and/or a parent will be required to attend with them. Teachers/administration will address these issues when needed. Make sure you sign your child out with the child's classroom teacher if you plan on taking your child home from the field trip. It is an expectation that you only take your child unless prior approval has been made.

Overnight Field Trips

It is the policy of New Dimensions School for all students in grades 6-8 to be given the opportunity to go on an overnight field trip. It is highly suggested but not required that all students attend these trips as they are designed to enhance the classroom experience. Parents will be notified early in the school year so they will have sufficient time to raise the money for the cost of the trip. It is also possible to set up a monthly payment plan with the school to assist in paying for these trips. Student's that do not attend the overnight field trips for any reason are still expected to be present at school and get assignments completed. Any students that do not attend and are absent from school will be coded as an unexcused absence (unless we have a doctor's note). (Ref: Policy-Section 304.6)

Chaperones for Field Trips

There might be opportunities for parents, guardians and family members (not siblings) to accompany a class on a field trip. You may also be assigned responsibility for one or more children during the field trip. Those of you wishing to serve as a chaperone on a trip are encouraged to let your child's teacher know, and you must also have an authorization/background release form on file with the school prior to the field trip. You can get the Parent/Volunteer/Chaperone background check form from the school's website or request it from the front desk.

Code of Conduct

The New Dimensions School staff is committed to providing school environments where every student can learn and grow successfully. Each person-**child and adult**-must be treated in ways that support his or her efforts to learn. The New Dimensions School supports children and their safety through redirection and collaboration. We believe children should be an integral part of understanding the choices available to them and that they should be empowered to make positive choices about respecting each other and our environment. We also believe that all adults in the lives of children must be good role models. It is the expectation of the New Dimensions School Board and the Director that all adults (i.e. school personnel, volunteers, and our parents/guardians, family members) uphold the same standards that we are asking of our students, which is to be **Respectful, Responsible, Safe, Kind, and Good Learners**.

Our discipline guidelines will be that:

- Students are responsible for their actions. We encourage self-control in speech/action.

- Students must observe the safety rules of the school for their own safety, as well as the safety of others.
- Students are expected to follow rules developed within each classroom and as a whole school.
- In the case of misbehavior, staff will redirect students to appropriate behavior and activities.
- Staff recognizes parents as the best resources to help form strategies toward achieving positive social interaction in their child's classroom.

Some consequences that may be used include:

- **Discipline Plan:** Classroom discipline procedure
- **Parent Contact:** Parent contact made by classroom teacher
- **Reflection Forms:** These reports will be sent home for you to read over with your child, and to discuss proper behavior/actions that should be displayed. These will need to be signed and returned to the classroom teachers the next day.
- **Office Referrals:** If a teacher fills out an office referral on a student that means they have already implemented some form of consequence and the problem/issue is still occurring. This usually is also a result of the student being sent to the office for their behaviors/actions that were unacceptable.
- **ISS (in school suspension)-** is defined as one full day or part day of a school day where the student is separate from their general class and will be under the supervision of a New Dimensions Employee using this time for study and work
- **OSS (out of school suspension)-** suspension will be served off school grounds and will be the responsibility of the parent/guardian
- **Reverse OSS -** suspension will be served on school grounds and the parent/guardian is required to stay with their child throughout the school day.
- **Other interventions** that may be used by teachers and New Dimensions Staff include: referrals and behavior meetings in the office, silent lunch, involvement with other outside agencies when needed, loss of a school activity or privilege, face to face meeting with parents/guardians when needed.

(Ref: Policy –Section 305.1)

Bullying

Bullying is not tolerated at New Dimensions Charter School. Bullying can profoundly affect the lives and school achievements of children. It is important for parents to understand the problem, to recognize signs of bullying and to let staff know if a child is either the victim of bullying or being a bully. Students may be unwilling to go to school, be missing possessions, become withdrawn, or have unexplained bruises or scratches.

Electronic or Wireless Devices— the use of cell phones, tablets, iPod, MP3 players, or any other electronic devices are not allowed on at school during the school day. If a student has a cell phone it is to be turned OFF and put up during the school day. All teachers and staff are expected to enforce this policy. Any laptops or other electronic devices that are provided by the school should only be used for academic purposes. If they are used inappropriately students may lose this privilege along with disciplinary action to be taken.

Consequences

Elementary & Middle
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 1st Offense: Warning and confiscation by teacher and returned at the end of class. ● 2nd Offense: Confiscation by teacher and returned at the end of the day by classroom teacher. ● 3rd Offense: Confiscation and device will be turned into the office. Parent must pick up from administration. ● 4th Offense: Disciplinary action deemed appropriate by administration.

Other Technology Violations- with school computers or laptops

All students are expected to treat and use all school technology in the correct manner. If a problem occurs the teachers will handle it but if they persist then further consequences will be put in place. All students will sign a technology agreement before the use of any school owned device.

Consequences

Elementary & Middle
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 1st Offense: Warning ● 2nd Offense: Parent Contact ● 3rd Offense: Office referral with disciplinary action deemed appropriate by administration that can result in up to 5 days of ISS disciplinary action. OSS will be utilized if necessary.

Inappropriate Language or Behavior

Inappropriate language or behavior is defined as insults, abusive remarks, harassment, Bullying, profane or obscene language, disrespectful words, acts of touching, gestures, signs, verbal threats, or other acts including cyber bullying. All students at New Dimensions shall respect other students, visitors, school employees and other persons by utilizing appropriate language and behaviors at all times. This includes giving students, and all school personnel/visitors respect and personal space. This rule applies to behavior that takes place on school property and at any school related events at any given time.

Consequences

Elementary & Middle
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 1st Offense: Warning ● 2nd Offense: Parent Contact ● 3rd Offense: Office referral with disciplinary action deemed appropriate by administration that can result in ISS disciplinary action and up to 10 days OSS. Repeated violations may result in a recommendation or a long term suspension and possible expulsion. Law enforcement contact possible.

Disruptive Behavior, Noncompliance and Insubordination with Adults

Disruptive behavior is defined as any behavior that results in the inability of the teacher to continue teaching. Examples include refusing to do any classwork/homework, throwing tantrums, being non-responsive when talked to. Students are encouraged to participate in efforts to create a safe, orderly, and inviting school environment. Therefore, students are prohibited from disrupting teaching, the orderly conduct of school activities, or any other lawful function of the school. This rule applies to behavior that takes place on school property and any school related events at any time.

Consequences

Elementary & Middle

- **1st Offense:** Warning
- **2nd Offense:** Parent Contact
- **3rd Offense:** Office referral with disciplinary action deemed appropriate by administration that can result in up to 5 days of ISS disciplinary action. OSS will be utilized if necessary. Repeated or major violations may result in law enforcement being contacted.

Issues of Integrity

Students are expected to demonstrate integrity, civility, responsibility, and self-control. Students shall not lie, cheat, plagiarize, violate copyright laws, or falsify notes or documents. Students shall not provide false information to school officials and/ or parents or guardians with regard to any report card, attendance matter, grades, or progress reports, discipline matters or any other school business. Students shall be truthful in statements made.

Consequences

Elementary & Middle

- **1st Offense:** Warning
- **2nd Offense:** Parent Contact
- **3rd Offense:** Office referral with disciplinary action deemed appropriate by administration that can result in up to 5 days of ISS disciplinary action. OSS will be utilized if necessary.

Fighting and Horseplay

Students shall not fight or attempt to cause bodily harm to another student. If a student is attempting to involve another student in a fight, the other student should walk away and report it to a teacher or administrator. Students who instigate fights will be subject to the same consequences as those who are actually involved in fighting.

Consequences

Elementary & Middle

- **1st Offense:** Warning
- **2nd Offense:** Parent Contact
- **3rd Offense:** Office referral with disciplinary action deemed appropriate by administration that can result in up to 3 days of ISS disciplinary action to 10 days of OSS when needed.

Theft or Vandalism

Students shall not steal, attempt to steal, possess stolen property, or intentionally damage or attempt to damage any school or private property while under school jurisdiction.

Consequences

Elementary & Middle

- **1st Offense:** Warning
- **2nd Offense:** Parent Contact
- **3rd Offense:** Office referral with disciplinary action deemed appropriate by administration that can result in ISS disciplinary action and up to 10 days OSS. Law enforcement may be contacted. Restitution may be required.

(Ref: Policy-Section 305.3)

Student Evaluations and Report Cards

Evaluations and report cards will go home each grading period (every 9 weeks) to parents to inform them of their child's academic progress. Teacher and Parent conferences will be requested at certain times during the school year as well. It is expected that parents attend these when requested.

(Ref: Policy-Section 304.5)

Retentions

Students in grades K-8 may be retained at the discretion of a team of the administration staff, teachers and parents. The team will look at the overall academic progress throughout the school year, social/emotional development, MAP assessment scores, and attendance. The team will decide as a whole if retention takes place. If a child is moving the next school year, letters will go to schools stating the placement of where New Dimensions School is recommending the child should be.

(Ref: Policy-Section 304.8.1)

All students and parents/guardians must sign the attached page stating you have read, reviewed, and agreed to adhere with the guidelines that are set in place for the upcoming school year.

**Parent/Student Handbook Acknowledgement
2018-2019**

Student Pledge

I, _____, have read, reviewed, and agreed to adhere with the guidelines that are set in place within the Student Handbook for the upcoming 2018-2019 school year.

Student Name/Signature: _____

Grade Level/Teacher Name: _____

Parent/Guardian Pledge

I, _____, have read, reviewed, and agreed to adhere with the guidelines that are set in place within the Parent Handbook for the upcoming 2018-2019 school year.

Parent/Guardian Name: _____

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____

Date: _____

The New Dimensions School 2018-19 Calendar

August				
M	T	W	T	F
		1	2	3
6	7	8	9	10
13	14	15	16	17
20	21	22	23	24
N	N	N	O	W
27	28	29	30	31
W	W	W	W	O

September				
M	T	W	T	F
3	4	5	6	7
H	1	2	3	4
10	11	12	13	14
5	6	7	8	9
17	18	19	20	21
10	11	12	13	14
24	25	26	27	28
15	16	17	18	19

October				
M	T	W	T	F
1	2	3	4	5
20	21	22	23	24
8	9	10	11	12
25	26	27	28	W
15	16	17	18	19
29	30	31	32	33
22	23	24	25	26
34	35	36	37	38
29	30	31		
39	40	PTC		

November				
M	T	W	T	F
			1	2
			W	O
5	6	7	8	9
41	42	43	44	45
12	13	14	15	16
H	46	47	48	49
19	20	21	22	23
50	51	V	H	V
26	27	28	29	30
52	53	54	55	56

December				
M	T	W	T	F
3	4	5	6	7
57	58	59	60	61
10	11	12	13	14
62	63	64	65	66
17	18	19	20	21
67	68	69	V	V
24	25	26	27	28
H	H	V	V	V
31				
V				

January				
M	T	W	T	F
	1	2	3	4
	H	70	71	72
7	8	9	10	11
73	74	75	76	77
14	15	16	17	18
78	79	80	81	PTC
21	22	23	24	25
W	O	82	83	84
28	29	30	31	
85	86	87	88	

February				
M	T	W	T	F
				1
				89
4	5	6	7	8
90	91	92	93	94
11	12	13	14	15
95	96	97	98	W
18	19	20	21	22
99	100	101	102	103
25	26	27	28	
104	105	106	107	

March				
M	T	W	T	F
				1
				108
4	5	6	7	8
O	109	110	111	112
11	12	13	14	15
113	114	115	116	117
18	19	20	21	22
118	119	120	121	PTC
25	26	27	28	29
W	122	123	124	125

April				
M	T	W	T	F
1	2	3	4	5
126	127	128	129	130
8	9	10	11	12
131	132	133	134	135
15	16	17	18	19
136	137	138	139	H
22	23	24	25	26
H	V	V	V	V
29	30			
140	141			

May				
M	T	W	T	F
		1	2	3
		142	143	144
6	7	8	9	10
145	146	147	148	149
13	14	15	16	17
150	151	152	153	154
20	21	22	23	24
155	156	157	158	159
27	28	29	30	31
H	160	161	162	163

June				
M	T	W	T	F
3	4	5	6	7
W	W	W	W	W
10	11	12	13	14
17	18	19	20	21
24	25	26	27	28

PTC	Parent Teacher Conf
W	Workday -
O	Optional Workday
N	New Teacher Orien.
H	Holiday -
V	Vacation
F	First Day for Students
L	Last Day for Students
	End of Grading Period
	Half Day-Students only
	Progress Reports
AC	Student Academic Camp

04-19-18 Board Approved

Student School Day: 7:45-3:10
Student Half Day: 7:45-11:45

Drop off: 7:15-7:45
Pick-up: 3:10-3:30
Afterschool 3:30-6:00 p.m.



New Dimensions Charter School
Educational Opportunity Request Form

Classroom Teacher: _____

Date(s) of Trip: _____

Where are you going? _____

Description of what you will be doing and learning on the trip:

Teacher Assigned Work or project during the student's trip:
(To be filled out by the classroom teacher)

Due Dates for completed work or projects: _____
(Teacher will determine this)

Parent Signature and Date

Teacher Signature and Date

Student Signature and Date

Director Signature and Date

New Dimensions Staff and Contacts
 Telephone: 828-437-5753 Fax: 828-437-2980
 550 Lenoir Road Morganton, North Carolina 28655
 School website: <http://newdimensions.teamcfa.school/>

Title	Name	email
Director	Jeffrey Mayo	jmayo@nds.school.org
Administrator	Danielle Hatfield	dhatfield@nds.school.org
Administrator	Misty Dillingham	mdillingham@nds.school.org
Administrative Assistant	Lisa Swartz	lswartz@nds.school.org
Public Relations Specialist	Dawn Grindstaff	dgrindstaff@nds.school.org
Facilities Director	Amanda Bowman	abowman@nds.school.org
Custodian	Donna Bowman	dbowman@nds.school.org
Receptionist	Sasha Freeman	sfreeman@nds.school.org
Technology Director/Testing Coordinator/Media Center	Jennifer Auton	jauton@nds.school.org
Exceptional Children's Director	Jessica Crain	jcrain@nds.school.org
Title 1 Teacher	Courtney Hardin	chardin@nds.school.org
Kindergarten		
KA	Teresa Higdon	thigdon@nds.school.org
KB	Shelby Bishop	sbishop@nds.school.org
KC	Lauren Chapman	lchapman@nds.school.org
KD	Erica Simmons	esimmons@nds.school.org
1st Grade		
1A	Julia Norman	jnorman@nds.school.org
1B	Kaitlin Parson	kparson@nds.school.org
1C	Taylor Sigmon	tsigmon@nds.school.org
2nd Grade		
2A	Dana Ishuin	dishuin@nds.school.org
2B	Aaron Mirtsching	amirtsching@nds.school.org
3rd Grade		
3A	Peggy Wellmon	pwellmon@nds.school.org
3B	Rebecca Vines	rvines@nds.school.org
4th Grade		

4A	Sharon Strong	sstrong@ndschoo.org
4B	Kacee Stroupe	kstroupe@ndschoo.org
5th Grade		
5A	Marcy Rockwell	mrockwell@ndschoo.org
5B	Chelsea Carlock	ccarlock@ndschoo.org
Middle School		
Language Arts (6,7,8)	Zac Philyaw	zphilyaw@ndschoo.org
Math (6,7,8)	Jenny Fleming	jfleming@ndschoo.org
Science (6,7,8)	Dale Branch	dbranch@ndschoo.org
Social Studies (6,7, 8)	Erica Baston-Strickland	estrickland@ndschoo.org
Special Teachers		
Art	Hannah Thrower	hthrower@ndschoo.org
Music/Chorus	Alice Burnette	aburnette@ndschoo.org
Computers	Kelly Lookadoo	klookadoo@ndschoo.org
Spanish	Yami Batz	ybatz@ndschoo.org
Physical Education/ Athletic Director	Michael Brooks	mbrooks@ndschoo.org
Band/After School Director	Amanda Darden	adarden@ndschoo.org
Intervention Teacher/Assistants		
EC	Rebecca Bolick	rbolick@ndschoo.org
Kindergarten	Melissa Greer	mgreer@ndschoo.org
Kindergarten	Nicole Kirschner	nkirschner@ndschoo.org
1 st Grade	Anna Fite	afite@ndschoo.org
1st Grade	Monica Mooney	mmooney@ndschoo.org
2nd/Counselor	Courtney Johnson	cjohnson@ndschoo.org
Computer Skills Teacher	Kelly Lookadoo	klookadoo@ndschoo.org
Board of Directors		
Brandi Behlke, Chair bbehlke@ndschoo.org	Regina Rhodes, Vice Chair rrhodes@ndschoo.org	David Martin, Treasurer dmartin@ndschoo.org
Dorie Evans devans@ndschoo.org	Pamela Harrelson pharrelson@ndschoo.org	Shanna Wall swall@ndschoo.org
Keith Bowman kbowman@ndschoo.org	Tracy Jones tjones@ndschoo.org	Kristen Rodriguez, krodriguez@ndschoo.org
Jason Lefler, TeamCFA Representative jlefler@ndschoo.org	Dawn Grindstaff, Secretary dgrindstaff@ndschoo.org	

