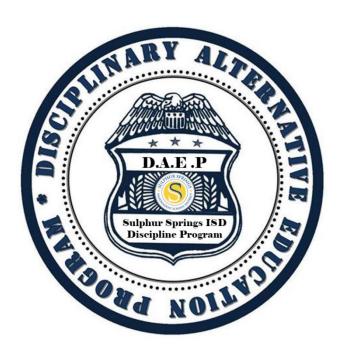
# D.A.E.P.

## Disciplinary Alternative Education Program 2021-2022



### **Student Handbook**

Sulphur Springs ISD's Disciplinary Alternative Education Program serves students in all grade levels due to severe or repeated violations of the Sulphur Springs ISD Code of Conduct or because of reasons defined in Chapter 37 of the Texas Education Code who have been removed from their home campus. While at DAEP, the SSISD Code of Conduct will be strictly enforced. Policies and procedures established by SSISD will be strictly enforced.

#### **OVERVIEW**

#### **MISSION**

The Sulphur Springs ISD Discipline Alternative Education program is an alternative setting for students who have violated the district's student code of conduct and campus disciplinary procedures to such an extent that by law or to maintain a safe and orderly environment it is necessary to place a student temporarily in an alternative educational setting. There the student will be given the opportunity to continue their academic progress and receive the social skills training necessary for success in the regular school environment as well as to prepare them to become responsible and productive community members

#### PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

Students in all grade levels, because of severe or repeated violations of Sulphur Springs ISD Code of Conduct or because of reasons defined in Chapter 37 of the Texas Education Code, have been removed from their home campus are subject to placement in DAEP. A student who is expelled for an offense that otherwise would have resulted in placement in DAEP does not have to serve a placement period in DAEP in addition to the expulsion.

In deciding to place a student, regardless of the action, resulting in a mandatory or discretionary placement, the district/campus will take into consideration the following:

- 1. Use of self-defense.
- 2. Intent or lack of intent at the time the student engaged in the conduct.
- 3. Disciplinary history.
- 4. Disability that impairs the capacity to appreciate the wrongfulness of the conduct.

#### STUDENT PLACEMENT PROCESS

#### **ENROLLMENT/PLACEMENT**

Once an offense has been committed and a student has been removed from the general classroom setting, the home campus administrator shall schedule a DAEP conference within three (3) school days to include the campus administrator, parent, and student. During the conference, the campus administrator will notify and explain to all parties the reasons for the removal. The student will have an opportunity to respond to the reasons and explanation given. Following valid attempts to require attendance of all needed parties, the campus may hold the conference and make a placement decision. Should a Manifestation Determination Review (MDR) be required, campus administration shall notify appropriate parties and comply with established guidelines.

#### **PLACEMENT ORDER**

Should placement in DAEP be determined at the conference, the campus administrator will order the placement and notify all appropriate staff members. A copy of the placement order shall be provided to the student and the parent. A copy of this DAEP handbook should also be made available at this time. Mandatory placements (due to criminal process) will

be delivered to the juvenile court no later than the 2nd business day following the conference.

#### **INTAKE PROCESS**

Students assigned to DAEP are required to attend an intake meeting with the designated DAEP administrator. Intake meetings occur every Tuesday and Thursday at 8:00 am at Austin Academic Center. A parent/guardian is required to be in attendance. The intake meeting will be scheduled by the home campus administration. During the intake meeting the policies, procedures, and expectations will be explained. The handbook will be reviewed with both the student and parent. The student will be made aware of all expectations and the necessary requirements for the student to return to their home campus.

#### **REVIEW & TRANSITON**

Student placement is subject to review prior to returning to their home campus. A review meeting will be called by the home campus principal, and the parent required to attend. A transition plan will be established and sent to the home campus. All necessary materials will be returned to the home campus upon the student's release from DAEP.

#### **GENERAL INFORMATION**

#### **INSTRUCTIONAL DAY**

The instructional day begins at 8:00 a.m. and ends at 3:35 p.m. Students are to report directly to the DAEP building upon arrival. The building is open by 7:30 a.m. each day. All students should be completely off campus by 3:45 p.m.

If a high school student is part of an approved work program, he or she will be dismissed in accordance to the work schedule.

#### **SCHEDULE & CURRICULUM**

Students will receive instruction in their core classes through the Edgenuity online platform. It is the responsibility of the student and parent to monitor grades. Sulphur Springs ISD DAEP and the home campus will work together to ensure that the student receives necessary and required instructional accommodations and materials.

#### **TRANSPORTATION**

DAEP students will <u>not</u> be allowed to use Sulphur Springs ISD transportation. Transportation is <u>only</u> provided by the parent or guardian of the student while the student is assigned to DAEP. Parking will <u>not</u> be available for DAEP students. If the student lives within walking proximity of the DAEP building, the parent may give permission for the student to use this mode.

#### **VISITORS**

Parents/guardians are welcome to visit with AAC staff members, but they need to make an appointment. If the parents/guardians need to deliver something to the student or talk with the

student on campus, they must check in through the office and receive appropriate clearance through the SSISD Raptor system with our campus police officer.

#### **CONTACT INFORMATION**

All teacher contact information can be found on the Austin Academic Center website. Parent/guardian may call the student's home campus front office to connect to the DAEP site teacher. It is the responsibility of the parent/guardian to keep student information up to date at both the home campus and DAEP.

#### **MEDICATION**

The school nurse will administer medication to a student. It is the responsibility of the parent/guardian to provide the appropriate written request for medication to be given. Medication **must** be in its original container and properly labeled for the student.

#### ATTENDANCE/TARDIES

Attendance will be reported daily. Students are required to bring a written note from a parent/guardian for any absence. The note shall include the date, reason, and be signed by the parent/guardian. Should a student need to see a doctor, then a note from the doctor/office is the most appropriate documentation. For court appearances, the judge or his designee shall issue appropriate documentation.

A student is considered tardy after 8:00 a.m. Excessive tardies may result in disciplinary action.

\*A student <u>may</u> be denied credit and placement extended should they be in violation of the state compulsory attendance requirements.

#### SCHOOL PROPERTY/EXTRACURRICULAR EVENTS

Students assigned to DAEP are <u>not allowed</u> on any Sulphur Springs ISD property other than the DAEP building during their placement in the DAEP. This includes all school campuses, parking lots, playgrounds, and playing fields. Students <u>may not attend</u> any SSISD extracurricular activities (in or out of town) while placed in DAEP.

#### **LEAVING CAMPUS**

DAEP students are not allowed to leave campus for any reason without a parent/guardian. The parent/guardian is required to sign the student out before he/she will be allowed to leave. Once they are dismissed from DAEP, the student must leave SSISD property immediately.

#### **COMPUTER USAGE**

Students are expected to follow all SSISD rules and guidelines regarding computer and technology use. Students will be assigned to computers and held liable if found to be responsible for damage. Students found to be using computers in an inappropriate manner may lose computer privileges and are subject to disciplinary action.

#### **MEALS**

All meals are free. Extras are available upon purchase. Meals will be eaten during the designated 30-minute lunch time. DAEP students are <u>not</u> allowed to bring food from home. DAEP students are <u>not</u> allowed to have food brought to them. If a student has a food allergy, proper documentation is to be provided from a doctor. After consuming meal, students are allowed to use any remaining time for non-instructional tasks such as reading. However, they must remain seated and silent until dismissal.

#### **BREAKS**

Students will be given breaks (restroom, water) throughout the day on an as-needed basis by the student. A student with a medical condition that may require more frequent breaks will need to provide appropriate documentation from a doctor.

#### **SUPPLIES**

Students are not allowed to bring backpacks or purses on campus. Following the intake conference, students will be responsible for providing the necessary supplies. The student is responsible for taking all books that were issued for use at home with them to DAEP. Any additional books that are needed will be supplied by the campus.

#### **TESTING**

Students will take all required local and state assessments while attending DAEP. Based on the most appropriate testing area for the student, a DAEP student may be brought back to the home campus and tested in a separate testing room away from other students.

#### SAFETY/SECURITY

All students should be aware that while attending DAEP, they may be subject to searches. Upon entry, all students will go through a daily check-in process with our campus police officer.

#### **PROHIBITED ITEMS**

In addition to items indicated in the Sulphur Springs ISD Code of Conduct, students are not allowed to have/wear the following items while at DAEP:

- Electronic devices of any kind (cell phones will be taken up each morning)
- Backpacks, bags, purses, etc.
- Potential weapons (pocket knives, clippers, scissors, etc.)
- Anything irrelevant or determined to be a distraction of the learning process
- Hoodies or jackets with hoods
- Jewelry

#### **CELL PHONES**

Upon entering the building, all cell phones must be given to the staff member in charge of check-in. Phones will be logged in. When preparing to leave for the day, phones will be returned. A system is in place to ensure that the student receives their phone back. Devices

found on a student during the instructional day (after check-in) will follow the Sulphur Springs ISD cell phone policy.

#### DRESS CODE

While students are in DAEP, they are expected to follow the dress code established in the SSHS student handbook in addition to this supplemental handbook. The following guidelines are additions to the SSHS student handbook:

- Layered clothing is not allowed
- Jackets may be worn to campus, but must be removed at check-in

#### **UNIFORMS**

DAEP students with an extended placement will be required to wear a uniform each day. Uniform laundering is the responsibility of the student and should always be neat and clean. Students are prohibited from changing the appearance of the uniform (i.e. create holes, cut, or write on the fabric). Jumpsuits will be worn with a plain t-shirt and underwear only underneath and shall always be zipped up.

#### **JEWELRY**

Jewelry needs to be removed **BEFORE** check-in or left at home.

#### LOCATION

Austin Academic Center 808 South Davis St. Sulphur Springs, TX 75482

#### **ADMINISTRATION**

Dr. James Payne – Principal Shawn Sinclair – Asst. Principal Sherry Mabe – Secretary, ext. 1210

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## Disciplinary Alternative Education Program 2021-2022



#### Please initial the following statement:

\_\_\_\_\_ I understand that if my address or telephone number changes, I am responsible for notifying Austin Academic Center as soon as possible.

I have received a copy of the Disciplinary Alternative Education Program handbook.