



STUDENT/FAMILY HANDBOOK
2019-20



A-G GRID SCHEDULE

A	B	C	D	E	F	G
1st (8:30-9:15)	1st (8:30-9:15)	1st (8:30-9:15)	1st (8:30-9:15)	1st (8:30-9:15)	1st (8:30-9:15)	1st (8:30-9:15)
2nd (9:20-10:05)	2nd (9:20-10:05)	2nd (9:20-10:05)	2nd (9:20-10:05)	2nd (9:20-10:05)	2nd (9:20-10:05)	2nd (9:20-10:05)
Break (10:05-10:20)	Tutorial (10:05-10:20)	Break (10:05-10:20)	PATH (10:10-10:35)	Break (10:05-10:20)	Tutorial (10:05-10:20)	Class Mtg (10:05-10:20)
3rd Extended Class (10:25-11:25)	3rd Extended Class (10:25-11:25)	3rd Extended Class (10:25-11:25)	3rd Extended Class (10:40-11:40)	3rd Extended Class (10:25-11:25)	3rd Extended Class (10:25-11:25)	3rd Extended Class (10:25-11:25)
Lunch (11:25-12:10)	Lunch (11:25-12:10)	Lunch (11:25-12:10)	Lunch (11:40-12:10)	Lunch (11:25-12:10)	Lunch (11:25-12:10)	Lunch (11:25-12:10)
4th (12:10-12:55)	4th (12:10-12:55)	4th (12:10-12:55)	4th (12:10-12:55)	4th (12:10-12:55)	4th (12:10-12:55)	4th (12:10-12:55)
5th (1:00-1:45)	5th (1:00-1:45)	5th (1:00-1:45)	5th (1:00-1:45)	5th (1:00-1:45)	5th (1:00-1:45)	5th (1:00-1:45)
Workjobs (1:45-2:00)	Workjobs (1:45-2:00)	Workjobs (1:45-2:00)	Workjobs (1:45-2:00)	Workjobs (1:45-2:00)	Workjobs (1:45-2:00)	Workjobs (1:45-2:00)
6th (2:00-2:45)	6th (2:00-2:45)	6th (2:00-2:45)	6th (2:00-2:45)	6th (2:00-2:45)	6th (2:00-2:45)	6th (2:00-2:45)
Health & Fitness (2:50-3:30)	Health & Fitness (2:50-3:30)	Health & Fitness (2:50-3:30)	Health & Fitness (2:50-3:30)	Health & Fitness (2:50-3:30)	Health & Fitness (2:50-3:30)	Health & Fitness (2:50-3:30)
Wednesdays: No H&F in Forum, Tutorial, or Early Release Schedule						



Dear York Students and Families,

The Student/Family Handbook serves a more inspirational purpose than merely functioning as a catalog of the school's rules, policies, and procedures. Instead, the Handbook represents our indispensable partnership with you to support our shared values. It is our view that the welfare of our students depends on this mutual agreement.

Every healthy community strives to balance the needs of the individual with the needs of the group. In several places, the Handbook outlines our students' individual obligations. These obligations are listed so students can develop personal habits of success and commitments that will advance the common good.

We all possess individual rights and bear collective responsibilities. At times, tension will emerge between these rights and responsibilities. When this occurs, sustaining our partnership will be pivotal as we seek to honor the individual while upholding the community, especially when we might on occasion disagree about particular decisions.

Finally, the Handbook is a guide to demonstrate to our students and ourselves how durable communities are intended to operate. Like most communities, our school consists of members with various backgrounds and perspectives. For us to benefit from these distinct experiences and viewpoints, we must develop respectful relationships with each other. This year, therefore, we invite you to contact us when you have questions, concerns, suggestions, or accomplishments you would like to share. We embrace the idea that candid and considerate communication is a gift.

It is with excitement that we welcome you to the 2019-20 school year as we work together to inspire and prepare a diverse community of creative, independent thinkers.

Sincerely,

Doug Key
Head of School

**We inspire and prepare
a diverse community of
creative, independent thinkers.**

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CONTACTS AND HOURS

Contact Us

From Monterey	831.372.7338
From Salinas	831.422.4299
Advancement	831.373.4438
Fax	831.372.8055
Website	york.org

School Office Hours

Monday - Friday
8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Library Hours

7:45 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Supervision is not available on campus before 7:45 a.m. or after 4:30 p.m. Students should plan to leave campus by 4:30 p.m. unless they are participating in a supervised school activity.

PURPOSE

This Handbook will help parents/guardians and students make the best of all the opportunities that York School has to offer. Its purpose is to communicate policies, practices, and procedures, and as such can be a useful first stop for answers to many questions. We encourage families to read it with care and to review it together. If you have questions about its content or constructive comments for its improvement, please contact the Dean of Students.

The Handbook is fully revised yearly, and the School reserves the right to make changes at other times. Although students and their families are obligated to abide by the policies, practices, and procedures outlined in this Handbook, it in no way constitutes a contract.

WHOM TO SEE

For questions and information about classes—other than attendance—the first line of communication should be with the teacher involved. Teachers’ email addresses appear on page 9. Further contact then goes to the Class Deans, listed below. When appropriate, contact the Assistant Head of School, the Dean of Students, or the Head of School. Matters of an administrative nature should be addressed to the following:

Accounts Payable	Cindy Schroeder
Admission	Terry Uchida
Advanced Placement Coordinator	Dean Partlow
AFS Student Exchange	Pamela Clemens
Alumni Relations	Bella Hockersmith
Attendance	Andrea Sanico
Athletics	Steve Peters
Auction Gala	Felicia Pflieger
Billing, Fees	Fana Oldfield, Vicki Norman
Class Changes	Sean Raymond
College Counseling	Dean Partlow
Counseling - Academic	Sean Raymond
Counseling - Class Deans	
Grade 8	Tritia Money Penny
Grade 9	Michael Borrowman and Pam Durkee
Grade 10	Kim Kiest
Grade 11	Scot Johnson
Grade 12	Dean Partlow

WHOM TO SEE (CONT'D)

Counseling - Personal Discipline
Donations/Fundraising
Emergencies
Facilities Use
The Falcon eNewsletter
Financial Business
First Aid
Graduation Requirements
Grandparents and Friends of York Day
Guests
Haiku
Handbook
Health & Fitness
Illness
International Student Advisor
Library
Lockers
Lost & Found
Magnus Health Records
Media Inquiries
Music
Notary Public
Off-Campus Privileges
Photocopies
Schedules and Academic Planning
School Calendar
Service Learning
Student Billing
Student Directory
Student Government
Telephone System
Theatre
Transcripts
Tuition Assistance
Website
Work Permits
The York FUNd!

Joyce Sherry
Kim Kiest
Kris Edmunds
Andrea Sanico
Cindy Schroeder
Andrea Sanico
Fana Oldfield
Andrea Sanico
Dean Partlow, Sean Raymond
Felicia Pflieger
Joyce Sherry, Terry Uchida
Kevin Brookhouser
Andrea Sanico, Joyce Sherry
John Daniel
Andrea Sanico
Pamela Clemens
Carla McDowell
Andrea Sanico
Tritia Money Penny
Andrea Sanico
Felicia Pflieger
Spencer Williams
Andrea Sanico
Joyce Sherry
Carla McDowell
Sean Raymond
Andrea Sanico
Tritia Money Penny
Vicki Norman
Andrea Sanico
Kande Williston
Andrea Sanico
Spencer Williams
Chris Wilcox
Vicki Norman
Felicia Pflieger
Andrea Sanico
Bella Hockersmith

► FACULTY AND STAFF

Lei Lei Bates - lbates@york.org
World and Classical Languages | Room 9

Matt Baughman - mbaughman@york.org or x121
Plant Services Supervisor | Maintenance Office, MC-H

Jennifer Berry - jberry@york.org
Humanities | Day Hall Upper Floor, DH-D

Josh Bloom - jbloom@york.org
Humanities | Day Hall Upper Floor, DH-D

Michael Borrowman - mborrowman@york.org
Humanities | Library, LIB-B

Kevin Brookhouser - kevin@york.org
Director of Technology and Innovation | Day Hall Ground Floor, DH-B or Design Shop

Pamela Clemens - pclemens@york.org
International Student Dean, World and Classical Languages | Day Hall Ground Floor, DH-A

Nick Coburn-Palo - nick@york.org
Humanities Department Chair | Day Hall Ground Floor, DH-B

Elijah Colby - ecolby@york.org
Humanities | Day Hall Upper Floor, DH-D

John Daniel - jdaniel@york.org
World and Classical Languages Department Chair, Health & Fitness Coordinator | Room 10

Pam Durkee - pdurkee@york.org
Math/Science | Room 24 or Science Building Prep Area

Kris Edmunds - kris@york.org or x128
Director of Advancement | Advancement Office, MC-F3

Alison Gee - agee@york.org
Math/Science | Science Building Prep Area

Alexis Giachetti - agiachetti@york.org
Humanities | Day Hall Ground Floor, DH-A

Jeff Hanna - jhanna@york.org
Math/Science Department Chair | Room 23 or Science Building Prep Area

Bella Hockersmith - bhockersmith@york.org or x151
Alumni Relations and Annual Giving Manager | Advancement Office, MC-F4

Doug Key - dkey@york.org or x127
Head of School | Head's Office, MC-D

Scot Johnson - sjohnson@york.org
Math/Science | Room 14 or Science Building Prep Area

Kim Kiest - kkiest@york.org
Math/Science, Discipline Committee Chair, Environmental Sustainability Coordinator
Room 26 or Science Building Prep Area

Kelly Lepai - kelly@york.org or x114
Advancement Services Coordinator | Advancement Office, MC-F2

Ian Martin - imartin@york.org
Fine Arts | Day Hall, Upstairs Art Studio

Gerard Martin - gmartin@york.org
Fine Arts | Day Hall, Ground Floor D-B

Carla McDowell - cmcdowell@york.org or x137
Librarian | Library Desk, LIB-B

Eddie Mendenhall - emendenhall@york.org
Fine Arts | By Appointment

Tritia Money Penny - tmoneypenny@york.org
Academic Coach, Service Learning Coordinator | Day Hall Office, DH-G

Vicki Norman - vnorman@york.org or x134
Business Office Associate and Tuition Assistance Coordinator | Business Office, MC-G

Fana Oldfield - fana@york.org or x135
Director of Finance and Operations | Business Office, MC-G

Dean Partlow - dpartlow@york.org or x119
Director of College Counseling | College Counseling Office, MC-A

Steve Peters - speters@york.org
Athletic Director | By Appointment

Felicia Pflieger - felicia@york.org or x145
Communications, Marketing, and Events Manager | Advancement Office, MC-F1

Marcia Pompan - mpompan@york.org
Admission Assistant | By Appointment

Sean Raymond - sean@york.org or x108
Assistant Head of School, Humanities | Chapel, CH-A

Noah Reeves - nreeves@york.org
Fine Arts | By Appointment

Andrea Sanico - asanico@york.org or x100
School Secretary | Main Office, MC-B

Cindy Schroeder - cschroeder@york.org or x136
Accounts Payable and Facilities Use Coordinator | Business Office, MC-G

Joyce Sherry - jsherry@york.org or x138
Dean of Students, Humanities | Library, LIB-A

Gabriel Soto - gsoto@york.org
World and Classical Languages | Room 2 or Faculty Room

Cammy Torgenrud - ctorg@york.org
Math/Science, Technology | Day Hall Ground Floor, DH-B

June Trachsel - jtrachsel@york.org
Math/Science | Room 22 or Science Building Prep Area

Terry Uchida - terry@york.org or x115
Director of Admission | Admission Office, MC-C

Chris Wilcox - cwilcox@york.org or x116
Admission Associate and Registrar | Registrar's Office, MC-D

Spencer Williams - swilliams@york.org
Arts Department Chair | Day Hall Music Office, DH-H

Kande Williston - kwilliston@york.org
Math/Science, Student Council Advisor | Room 22 or Science Building Prep

► BOARD OF TRUSTEES

The Board of Trustees and the Head of School lead York together, each with well-defined responsibilities for advancing the School's mission. York's Board includes alumni, parents of alumni, current parents/guardians, and members of the local community. More information about the Board of Trustees may be found at york.org/board-of-trustees.

Board Members

Tom Adcock '89
Javier Aldape, Treasurer
Brenda Aronowitz **
Peggy Downes Baskin**
Norelle Boyce
Marilyn Calciano
Alfred Diaz-Infante
Dan Fenton '76
David Foster-Bates

Scott Fujita*
Ellen Gaucher,
Chair of the Board
Marianne Gawain '76, Vice Chair
Mary Gray-Reeves*
Debbie Hale
Greg Jamison
Doug Key, Head of School*
Giff Lehman
Benjamin Nurse
Kate Popky '21 (Student Representative)

Gary Ray
Kathleen McInnis Scarr, Secretary
Matt Simis '88
Ana Toledo
Jerry Traynor
Jim Tunney**
Steve Webster**

*Ex-Officio
**Emeritus

THE FOUNDATION OF OUR COMMUNITY

York School is committed to equal opportunity in educational programs, employment, and campus life. The School does not discriminate on the basis of age, ancestry, ethnicity, family makeup, sex, sexual orientation, gender, gender identity and expression, learning and physical disability, color, marital status, national origin, parental status, race, religion, or veteran status in any access to and treatment in School programs and activities.

Equal educational opportunity includes but is not limited to: admission, recruitment, extracurricular programs and activities, facilities, access to course offerings, counseling and testing, financial assistance, physical education, and athletics. Equal employment opportunity includes but is not limited to providing and safeguarding the opportunity for all persons to seek, obtain, and hold employment and qualify for advancement in the School without discrimination.

York School does not discriminate on the basis of immigration status. We prize our position as an independent school; as we do not accept federal or state funds, we are able to make independent choices. The safety and security of our students is always foremost in our minds. The immigration status of students and their families is addressed only during college counseling and college financing discussions.

Honesty, respect, responsibility, and compassion are the principles that guide our actions at all times. Some examples follow, designed to address the spirit of the principles, if not their totality. The School expects that **all** members of the York community will conduct themselves in accordance with these principles at School, at home, and in the larger community.

► HONESTY IN ALL MATTERS

Honesty provides the basis for trust. Personal and academic honesty makes any form of lying, stealing, or cheating unacceptable.

Lying is the intentional misleading of another through implication or direct statement.

Stealing is the taking of another's possessions without the owner's clear permission. This includes, among other actions, the removal of Library materials without following prescribed check-out procedures, failure to return found items to their owners or the lost and found, attending an event without paying, removing items from vending machines or lunch trucks without paying, etc.

Cheating includes using or providing unauthorized notes or other aids, copying from another student's work, allowing another student to copy one's own work, or giving or receiving help in any other unauthorized manner during quizzes, tests, or assessments. Cheating also includes plagiarism in any form.

► RESPECT FOR ONESELF AND FOR THE RIGHTS OF OTHERS

York School aspires to be a community in which respect for ourselves and for the rights of others governs our interactions. Therefore, any form of rudeness directed at students or adults will be considered a violation of the principle of respect. Personal insults, profanity, disrespectful behavior or gestures, intimidation, harassment, including sexual harassment, verbal or physical abuse, bullying or cyberbullying, social isolation or manipulation are examples of actions that limit the rights and freedom of others. These standards hold true whether in person or in writing, through electronic communication, on campus or off campus.

Respect takes many forms. Some types of respect include the consideration of others' feelings, actions, and opinions, whether in person or through written/electronic communications. Other ways of being respectful include being on time for class and appointments, being quiet so that others may listen, keeping one's commitments, behaving politely at all gatherings including school meetings and forums, respectful computer use, and, in general, being positive and tolerant.

The School celebrates and encourages students' freedom of expression, always keeping in mind the tenet of respect for others and for the School. Expression by word or action, online or in person may not directly interfere with the educational process; threaten the welfare of the School, the community, or any individual within the community; encourage unlawful activity; interfere with another individual's rights; be vulgar, profane, or obscene; or harass another based on age, ancestry, ethnicity, family makeup, sex, sexual orientation, gender, gender identity and expression, learning or physical disability, color, marital status, national origin, parental status, race, religion, or veteran status.

► RESPONSIBILITY

Responsibility to the School, family, and friends includes behaving in accordance with the rules of the community and abiding by School regulations. Students are expected to be responsible for their own behavior inside and outside of the classroom. Among other things, this includes taking care of one's own possessions, and generally being a good steward of the campus environment. Other forms of responsibility include being prepared for class and communicating one's needs and requests politely and in a timely manner. Students are responsible for appropriate behavior on School computer networks just as they are in other School settings—see Information Technology Acceptable Use Policy on page 19.

► COMPASSION

Compassion is a feeling of deep empathy or concern for the suffering, misfortune, or hardship of others. It is a profoundly human quality that acknowledges the challenges inherent in living. York is a community in which all members strive to be intentional in the ways in which we seek to understand and support both ourselves and others. Compassion encourages us to be patient, non-judgmental, and active in working to make a difference in the world around us.

Students and their parents/guardians not in agreement with these principles should seriously consider the appropriateness of York as their school community. Violation of these principles is such a fundamental breach of conduct that serious disciplinary action, including possible separation from the School, is likely.

DAILY LIFE

► ATTENDANCE

Reporting an Absence

When a student is absent for any reason, a parent or adult guardian should call the School Secretary at x100 or email attendance@york.org before 9:00 a.m. Parents/guardians will be called if a student is absent and no call or email from home has been received. An absence will not be excused without verification from a parent or adult guardian, even if a student is 18 years old.

Students absent from classes generally may not participate in or attend field trips, athletic events, rehearsals, performances, or other after-school events on the same day without the express permission of the Dean of Students or Assistant Head of School.

For the safety of the whole community, we ask that parents/guardians keep sick students at home. We understand many students and their parents/guardians are concerned about missed classes, but germs and ailments spread quickly through a school environment, so it is best to err on the side of caution. The most obvious benchmark is if the student has a fever. The Center for Disease Control suggests if the fever is 100 degrees or above, students should stay home from school until they have been fever free for 24 hours. Flu or flu-like symptoms are also a good indicator a student should stay home. These include headache, body ache, cough, sore throat, runny nose, vomiting, or congestion.

Bear in mind that all teachers are more than willing to help a student who has been ill to catch up with missed work and with instruction to the degree possible.

Homework in the Event of an Absence

Students are responsible for obtaining homework assignments and for completing assignments in a timely fashion as agreed upon with instructors. Teachers publish assignments on York's learning management system Haiku LMS (haiku.york.org). Students may also contact classmates for information on the day's classes and assignments. For assistance, please contact the student's teachers directly, the Class Dean, the Dean of Students, and/or the Assistant Head of School.

If a Student Becomes Ill at School

Students falling ill or injured while at School should notify the School Secretary at once so they can receive help. Parents/guardians and, if necessary, emergency health contacts will be called, and students will be placed in their care, if possible. It is very important that all required health records be posted to the Magnus Health site before the first day of school, including the list of contact numbers. **Please be sure to notify the School Secretary should your contact information change during the school year.**

Signing In and Out

It is of the utmost importance for the safety of all that anyone who comes onto campus after the school day has begun or who leaves the school grounds before the end of the day must physically sign in or out with the School Secretary. This is equally true for students, faculty, staff, and visitors. In the event of an emergency, we must have an accurate accounting of everyone on campus.

If you know you have to take your student off campus before the end of the school day, for safety reasons it is helpful for you to notify the School Secretary by email or phone prior to arriving at School to pick up your student. In such cases, parents/guardians must still physically sign out their student in the Main Office.

Students without off-campus privileges (see page 26) may not leave campus prior to 3:30 p.m. except for team sports, approved independent activities, or with written parental/guardian permission, unless accompanied by a parent or adult guardian, even if that student is 18 years old.

Anticipated Absences

When students know they will miss a class (for an athletic commitment, field trip, performance, etc.) it is the student's responsibility to contact the teacher before the absence and arrange for work to be completed in a timely manner. Additionally, the parent or legal guardian must report planned absences to the School Secretary in advance. Families are encouraged to schedule students' medical appointments outside of school hours whenever possible. Early release or late start Wednesdays (e.g., days of faculty meetings) are ideal times for those appointments which can be planned ahead of time. See the York School calendar for a detailed schedule (york.org/calendar).

Families are strongly discouraged from scheduling trips that cause students to miss class. We recognize there are times when extended absences cannot be avoided. When students are aware of the need for an extended absence ahead of time, they should bring a written request for permission to the Class Dean for approval. Once the absence is approved, students should request homework directly from each of their teachers, who will set time limits for the completion of work missed. Students without an acceptable reason for extended absences should not expect any special treatment that places an unnecessary burden on the teachers or creates an unfair situation for other students. Please keep in mind that labs, discussions, and many other activities cannot be duplicated outside the classroom. In addition, it is at the discretion of the teacher whether students will be permitted to make up tests or quizzes. Excessive absences are likely to result in poor grades. These extended absences, like any absence, should still be reported to the School Secretary in advance.

Attendance During Advanced Placement (AP) Exam Weeks

Students taking AP exams are excused from attending morning classes before an afternoon exam or afternoon classes following a morning exam. We recommend, however, students attend AP classes that will be reviewing for subsequent exams.

Students taking afternoon AP exams who opt to miss morning classes must phone the Main Office or email attendance@york.org to report their absence, and they must sign in at the Main Office upon their arrival at school. Students leaving campus following a morning AP exam must sign out in the Main Office prior to departing.

Students who have taken a morning AP exam and plan to participate in an afternoon extracurricular are expected to attend afternoon classes.

► CAMPUS ESSENTIALS

Boundaries

The outer boundaries of the campus are marked by the Science Building, Day Hall, Library, Chapel, Softball Field, and Outdoor Lab. Students are not permitted beyond these markers or to cross York Road unless accompanied by a York School employee.

York School is private property. To protect the privacy of the minors enrolled at the School, it is strictly prohibited to fly a drone over the School at any time, except with the express permission of the Head of School.

Facilities

The **Athletic Complex and Outdoor Lab** across York Road from the main campus offer the School extraordinary opportunities but also require special attention to safety concerns. Two rules are of the utmost importance:

1. Everyone who crosses York Road for any purpose must use the designated crosswalk and activate the flashing warning signal. Crossing York Road at any other point is expressly prohibited. Students are prohibited from crossing York Road during school hours except for authorized academic or athletic use. Students entering the Outdoor Lab must be accompanied by a York School employee.
2. The York Athletic Complex and Outdoor Lab are surrounded by clearly marked fences and warning signs. No one may trespass beyond the boundaries of these fences for any reason.

Because of the safety issues involved, students who violate these rules will be subject to severe disciplinary action, which could include suspension or separation from the School. Disciplinary consequences for student infractions will be in keeping with the severity of the need to observe these restrictions. Discipline will follow the procedures laid out in this Handbook. Because prior safety orientations will be regarded as sufficient warning to students, infractions will be referred immediately to the Disciplinary Committee Chair, the Dean of Students, and/or the Head of School, to determine if the Disciplinary Committee should be convened. In every case, parents will be notified.

Coburn Commons and Breezeway: The use of balls, frisbees, and other flying objects in the Commons or the Breezeway entry to the Commons is prohibited, except for specific use during Health & Fitness. Please use them on the field only. Use of these objects in or around non-athletic facilities may result in their confiscation. *For safety, the entry areas of the Breezeway and all entrances/exits to buildings must be kept completely clear of backpacks and other possessions at all times.*

The **Library** is open for study from 7:45 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. daily except when supervision is not available. The York School Bishop Library provides an atmosphere conducive to learning and is intended for those working quietly on homework, research, projects, and reading. The upstairs of the Library is a dedicated quiet study space. On mezzanine and ground floors students should be respectful and at no time will disruptive talking or noisy activities be permitted. Food and beverages are prohibited in the Library. Students are expected to keep chairs in their appropriate places and to clean up litter in their work areas. Headphones or earbuds may be used only if inaudible to others. Offenders will be asked to leave the Library and may lose library-use privileges. A copy machine and printers are located on the lower floor of the Library for student use at the discretion of the Librarian.

Lockers: All students have assigned lockers. Any student who needs assistance with opening a locker, forgets a combination, or has any other difficulty with an assigned locker can see the School Secretary for assistance. Lockers should be kept neat and free of writing, stickers, and garbage. Three times during the year (winter break, spring break, and the end of the school year) the lockers will be inspected, inside and out.

Students wishing to keep possessions in the locker rooms near the gym during athletic competitions or practice should see the School Secretary. Students are strongly advised to protect valuables during games and practice.

Students should keep their lockers locked. Books and personal belongings should be kept in backpacks or lockers. Do not leave backpacks unattended on campus after the end of the school day.

Student Center: All students are welcome to use the Student Center for studying, talking, and relaxing. Students are reminded that the Student Center is located in a classroom building, so reasonable volume control is imperative. Students may listen to music only with headphones; loud games and other activities are not allowed during class hours. All students are responsible for maintaining the cleanliness and the pleasant atmosphere of the Student Center. Excessive noise or mess will result in restricted use of the area.

Tortoise Habitat: The tortoise habitat is located in the enclosed planters between Day Hall and the Science Building. For student safety and tortoise comfort, students should never interact with the tortoises unless in the presence of a York faculty member, or when given express permission by a member of the science faculty. Students should never feed the tortoises. Anyone coming in contact with the tortoises should be sure to wash their hands thoroughly both before and after handling them.

Guests and Visitors

Normally, only guests sincerely interested in applying to York may visit during the school day. At least one day's advance permission must be granted by the Dean of Students in order to have a friend visit School. All visitors must sign in with the Main Office upon arrival. We consider former students as our alumni and part of the York community. As such they are welcome here on campus. However, if alumni plan to visit friends or siblings, we ask they plan their visit during the lunch period, after-school hours, and at School activities such as games. We also encourage alumni to check in with the Alumni Relations Office. Former students may attend dances only as invited guests. Guests and visitors are expected to abide by all School rules and are asked to remember that academic activities take priority for the community during School hours.

Personal and School Property

Any student who damages, defaces, or destroys School property, or the property of others, through carelessness or by playful or malicious intent will be disciplined and may be assessed up to the full cost of repairs or replacement. School property includes library books, desks, computers, vehicles, vending machines, etc. Students must write their names in all their books, for which they are solely responsible. **The School is not responsible for any damage to or loss of personal property, so valuable items should be insured by a family's insurance policies.**

► COMMUNICATION

The School believes that a strong partnership with parents/guardians is a fundamental aspect of every student's education. As the strongest partnerships are founded on trust, we know all communications between parents/guardians and representatives of the School will be conducted with the School's principles of honesty, respect, responsibility, and compassion in mind. We encourage timely communication from students and parents/guardians, and will make every effort to respond promptly and effectively to phone or email messages, usually within 24 hours.

The School subscribes to the following well-founded practices of effective communication and expects all members of the community will do so as well.

Assume Goodwill

Keep in mind that all parties are working to do their best for the students.

Be Curious and Open to Learning

Listen to and be open to hearing all points of view. Maintain an attitude of exploration and learning. Conversation is as much about listening as it is about talking.

Show Respect and Suspend Judgment

Use respectful tone, gestures, and language. Setting judgment aside will better enable us to learn from others and help them feel respected and appreciated.

Look for Common Ground

Seek to understand all sides. Work towards solutions.

Be Authentic

Speak authentically from personal experience. There is no need to summarize the thoughts of others who are not present.

Our community is strongest when we refrain from engaging in gossip. Gossip is harmful to students, families, faculty and staff, and the entire School community. We appreciate all those who actively model good conduct, and we encourage anyone with a question about School policies, practices, or events to contact the Head of School, Assistant Head of School, or Dean of Students. We are always eager to speak with our parent/guardian- and student-partners to the extent allowed by privacy considerations.

Any member of the community who neglects the principles of honesty, respect, responsibility, and compassion in their communication may put their place at the School in jeopardy.

In Person

The Head of School maintains an open door policy; students and their families are welcome and encouraged to ask questions or offer comments at any time. **We encourage scheduling an appointment to ensure he is available.**

York Parents (YP)

York Parents (YP) Conversation Series gatherings, usually held in the York Library, are open to all parents/guardians. Programs provide speakers on topics pertinent to the parents/guardians of developing adolescents. The Head of School, Dean of Students, or another member of the administrative team is usually present to bring families up-to-date and to answer questions on School life. Please check the calendar at york.org for dates and times. For a list of York Parents Officers, see page 29.

Parents/guardians are welcome to contact the **Assistant Head of School, Dean of Students, Class Deans, and classroom teachers** at any time via email or phone. We are eager to work in partnership for all students' best experience at the School. It is often difficult to catch a teacher, Class Dean, the Assistant Head of School, or Dean of Students before school without an appointment as they are preparing for the day's interactions with students. Appointments for in-person meetings with families can usually be arranged within 24 hours, often sooner.

Students are encouraged to meet with the Assistant Head of School, Dean of Students, Class Deans, and classroom teachers at any time. Both the Assistant Head of School and Dean of Students have an open door policy for students. Class Deans and classroom teachers are usually available before and after School hours, at lunch, or during tutorials. Check the schedules of any of these individuals in the Main Office to determine mutual free periods.

Online

The School maintains an online presence to facilitate communication in several different ways.

Email: Important announcements and newsworthy items are sent to parents/guardians via email. It is vital that parents/guardians and students keep the School Secretary apprised of any email address changes and that they set their spam filters to accept the School's address. York is committed to the practice of sending only pertinent information and will never flood our families with irrelevant email messages.

In the event of parental separation or divorce, the School will send duplicates of all communications to both parents unless we are notified of a court order to the contrary.

York.org is an excellent source of information on current events at School. We recommend that families establish an RSS connection to the York news feed, or check for news on a regular basis. This way, families will receive timely articles and announcements from the Head of School, the Dean of Students, the Assistant Head of School, the Athletic Director, and other School personnel.

"The Falcon" eNewsletter is sent on Friday mornings during the School year. The Falcon contains important, pertinent news and information; families wishing to keep informed about the School should read it weekly. It is vital to inform the School Secretary of any changes to your email address.

Recordings of Break, the school-wide assembly for announcements and the sharing of information, are posted each A, C, and E day on the york.org website. These are a great source for up-to-the-minute insight into campus life.

Social Media Facebook and Instagram are both used to share news, events, and photographs with the extended York community. We invite parents and students to "like" or "follow" the York pages. Faculty and staff are discouraged from friending or following parents/guardians, and prohibited from friending or following students.

Academic Records Portal is used by both parents/guardians and students to access report cards, view schedules, and sign up for courses. The School supplies parents/guardians and students with usernames and passwords to log into Academic Records. If a parent/guardian or student has forgotten a username or password, please contact the School Secretary or the Assistant Head of School for assistance. New families will receive login information near the end of first quarter.

Haiku Learning Management System (LMS) (haiku.york.org) is a website that extends teacher/student communication beyond classroom walls. Here, teachers post assignments, provide links to websites or documents, and host electronic class activities. In addition, Haiku helps students track Service Learning opportunities and reflections, and provides a wealth of resources on summer enrichment. Only students and teachers have individual accounts, though parents/guardians may view courses as guests in many cases. The School supplies each student with a username which should never be changed. It is essential that students maintain current primary (i.e., frequently checked) email addresses in Haiku LMS as teachers frequently communicate via this site. Students who have trouble logging in should contact the Director of Technology.

Magnus Health Records is a highly secure site that provides for the collection of students' registration materials. After the initial input of information, families will need only to update information in the event of a change and provide yearly proof of *annual* physical exams. In the event of an emergency, designated School personnel and first responders will have instant access to vital health information for each student. Timely completion of the materials on the Magnus site is an essential part of York School registration. Failure to supply the required information may delay a student's attendance in classes, athletic participation, field trip eligibility, etc. See <http://magnushealth.com/parents/> for more information.

Naviance is an online resource that facilitates College Counseling. The platform allows students to track the various elements of the college application process (grades, test scores, recommendation letters, deadlines, etc.) and match their academic achievement to post-secondary goals. In addition, Naviance supports exploration of potential career paths. Students' individual accounts are also accessible to their parents/guardians. All Juniors and Seniors have access to Naviance; see the College Counselor if you do not currently have access and would like to utilize it as a college resource.

►COMPUTERS AND OTHER ELECTRONIC DEVICES

Bring Your Own Device (BYOD) Policy

We require all students to come to school with a functional laptop computer, charged for use during the school day. We are committed to having our students use technology in the classroom to help prepare them for college and the work world.

Our BYOD program respects the diversity of opinion at York. While we don't require a particular type of hardware or operating system, we do ask that the device run a desktop operating system such as Chrome OS, Windows, OSX, or Linux. The device should also be in the form of a laptop with a keyboard and trackpad.

RECOMMENDATIONS

As always, we stress a balanced approach of technology use for teenagers. These devices provide student access to a seemingly unlimited amount of academic information and creative tools, greatly enhancing the classroom experience. We also recognize the importance of "screen down" time for face-to-face discussion and interaction. At home, we recommend that technology should not interfere with essential sleep. A good strategy is to have devices plugged in outside of the bedroom during sleep time. This allows both the student and device to be well charged for the school day!

York recommends the Acer Chromebook Spin 11 (\$329 on Amazon--price subject to change). This computer is our top pick for most York students because of its quality, ease of use, durability, battery life, and price. The touchscreen can be easily converted into tablet mode. The frame is sturdy with quality hardware. There are many other good Chromebooks available as well. We have had very good luck with Acer Chromebooks. Almost all of our loaner Chromebook 11s have lasted over five years of hard use and can be purchased for \$200.

Increasingly we have started to discourage parents from purchasing MacOS (Apple) or Windows computers. These computers are expensive to purchase and often expensive to maintain. Because of their high cost, they are also more likely to be stolen or damaged if not protected carefully. In the past, MacOS computers have been very popular, but the technology department at York does not believe they are the best computers for our students. Students may bring MacOS and Windows computers as their BYOD, but the school does not provide repair or maintenance for computers and is not responsible for stolen or damaged laptops. For students who want to use their computers for Adobe Creative Suite or for computer programming, a Windows or MacOS computer may be the right choice.

To facilitate the BYOD process, families may purchase an Acer Chromebook directly from York School at cost (\$365 plus shipping and tax).

Windows - There are many options on the market for Windows users, but we have found that Windows machines require more maintenance than Chromebooks or Macs, and York is unable to provide tech support for these machines. Windows machines made by Microsoft (such as the Surface) are generally easier to maintain and do not come overloaded with unnecessary 3rd party software. One can easily find an affordable Windows computer, but we advise against it. Chromebooks are the best inexpensive computers for York students.

NOT RECOMMENDED

Tablets - Tablets such as iPads or Android tablets are nice to have as secondary devices, but they are not necessary nor suitable as a student's primary digital device. We've found that mobile operating systems like iOS and Android are great, but do not meet the demands of tasks assigned to our students. The Surface 3 is technically a tablet, but it runs a full version of Windows 10, and for York use, should be purchased with a full keyboard and trackpad.

Smartphones - We love our phones, and students are welcome to bring them to school as long as they don't distract from our academic program. In fact, with their cameras and microphones, these devices can be used for many academic assignments. That said, they should NOT be a student's primary digital device. No one should endure writing an entire essay on a smartphone.

Please note that French and Spanish classes require students to interact regularly with an online Flash-based "supersite" - not having Flash on their mobile devices will put students at a distinct disadvantage in these classes.

If you have questions concerning technology, please email Kevin Brookhouser at kevin@york.org.

Technology on Campus

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY/ACCEPTABLE USE POLICY (AUP)

All York students are required to sign and abide by the Acceptable Use Policy (AUP) and manage technology with honesty, respect, responsibility, and compassion. The AUP is included in registration materials sent to families in June each year and on Haiku.

The School expects that when students are off campus, parents/guardians monitor their student's technology use as they deem appropriate. The School does not track students' off campus technology use.

Please note: In general, School employees are not permitted, as individuals, to engage with current students on social networking sites (e.g., to "friend" a student on Facebook). This does not pertain to contact via official School sites, or to school-wide, grade-level, club, or activities sites.

If you have questions concerning technology, please email Kevin Brookhouser at kevin@york.org.

►COUNSELING AND ADVICE

There are several levels of support in our student counseling system. Both students and parents/guardians are welcome to contact these individuals at any time. We all maintain an open-door policy whenever possible. While you are welcome to drop by when you are on campus, it is best to make an appointment to ensure ample time with whomever you wish to consult.

Assistant Head of School, Sean Raymond, has a broad knowledge of teaching and learning and the best practices of pedagogy. He oversees the School's academic program and graduation requirements, and he facilitates the master schedule and course planning. He can guide students and their families in many aspects of School life and in the wider world. Students are encouraged to discuss course requests with the Assistant Head of School, and must receive clearance from him before finalizing course requests in the spring or changing courses. Mr. Raymond can be reached by phone at x108 or by email at sean@york.org.

Dean of Students, Joyce Sherry, has extensive experience with counseling in an academic setting and, while not a licensed counselor, is trained in numerous counseling techniques. Communications with the Dean of Students are completely confidential to the extent allowed by law, and are shared only with the consent of the parents/guardians or student. Parents/guardians and students are encouraged to communicate with the Dean of Students regarding any area of concern, including, but certainly not limited to, social integration at School, significant events at home, emotional difficulties, etc. The Dean of Students maintains a list of psychological consultants to recommend should parents/guardians or students desire more trained or specialized support. Mrs. Sherry can be reached by phone at x138 or by email at jsherry@york.org.

Director of College Counseling, Dean Partlow, provides students and parents/guardians with a complete guidance program that includes college selection, university and college requirements, application procedures including tuition assistance, registration deadlines, and administration dates for current College Board and ACT tests. The Director of College Counseling teaches students to use Naviance, a college and career readiness site with a virtual library of college catalogues, videos, and much more, and arranges for on-campus visits with college admissions officers. Juniors participate in a year-long college preparation class called Pathways I, while seniors participate in Pathways II during the fall semester, as well as meeting with the Director of College Counseling individually. Parents/guardians wishing to consult with the Director of College Counseling are welcome to phone or email Mr. Partlow for an appointment at x119 or by email at dpartlow@york.org.

Class Deans: Most situations can be dealt with effectively by contacting the Class Deans. These faculty members have extensive experience with the needs of students in their particular grade levels and are familiar with a variety of potential solutions for common issues that arise. Class Deans are familiar with each class member. They oversee each student's academic and personal progress, and consult with classroom teachers, the Head of School, the Assistant Head of School, and the Dean of Students as appropriate. The Deans are also in regular contact with each other to provide continuity from year to year. See page 7 for a listing of Class Deans.

PATH provides a small group, multi-grade level advising experience each cycle. Each PATH group has an advisor, or Sherpa, who acts as discussion facilitator. Discussions focus on topics of character, social and emotional intelligence, and other subjects of the wider world. The purpose of the group meetings is to encourage students to think beyond academics and beyond their individual experiences to foster a sense of purpose and greater meaning in their lives.

All counseling at School is designed to help students grow into their own best selves. Students discuss a variety of issues including academic challenges, family and personal relationships, questions of sexual identity or gender orientation or expression, health, concern for friends, and other personal matters. Outside referrals may be made by the Dean of Students for specific questions, such as the diagnosis of learning differences, help with serious emotional problems, or the diagnosis and treatment for potential eating disorders. Parents/guardians are contacted for any outside referral.

Students and their families are encouraged to contact the Dean of Students, the Assistant Head of School, or the Head of School with any concerns regarding the conduct of adults or students on campus. All such reports will be fully investigated, and no retaliation will be tolerated. It is always our first choice to offer compassion and understanding to students and their parents/guardians. As indicated by our disciplinary procedures, York School believes mistakes and missteps can result in profound learning opportunities. Whenever possible, we prefer to offer students a "second chance," always keeping in mind the well-being of the community. Please note that no anonymous complaints or accusations can be taken into consideration.

In compliance with California law, the School is required to report cases of suspected physical abuse or neglect, sexual abuse or exploitation, inadequate supervision, or emotional abuse to the state child protective agency. In accordance with the law, the School does not conduct an independent investigation prior to reporting. Parents/guardians might not be notified before a report is made.

Students are encouraged to seek advice from any teacher or administrator with whom the student feels comfortable. All adults who provide counseling maintain the maximum level of confidentiality possible.

Emotional Support Animals: Students are not permitted to bring either pets or emotional support animals to campus as some students have allergies or phobias to a variety of animals. Under the Americans with Disabilities Act, service animals will be permitted with prior approval of the Dean of Students and/or Head of School. A certified, hypoallergenic therapy dog is present in the Dean of Students' office should students want to stop by for a visit.

► DRESS CODE

Clothing must be appropriate for School, which is a workplace for all. Students are encouraged to check their outfits in the mirror, noting both front view and back view. Clothing that is revealing is not appropriate. Outfits that reveal underwear or with excessive décolletage, short-shorts, or bare midriffs are examples of clothing that are not appropriate for a workplace. Garments should be clean, neat, in good repair, and in good taste. Clothing or accessories with slogans or symbols that are violent, obscene, defamatory, or display drugs that are illegal for minors are not in good taste and should not be worn to School. A student or parent/guardian in doubt about any planned outfit or article of clothing is welcome to check with the Dean of Students. In cases of inappropriate dress, a student may be sent home at the parents'/guardians' expense. In questions of interpretation, the Dean of Students' decision will be binding. State regulations require students to wear shoes at all times during the school day.

► EXTRA-CURRICULARS

Clubs

Joining a club is easy and a great way to meet people and make friends. Check the Student Government and Clubs page on Haiku for information on what clubs are available, and when and where they meet. Then just show up and participate! Clubs are generally open to all grade levels.

To start a new club, students must:

- obtain a faculty/staff sponsor. All club meetings must be supervised by a faculty/staff member
- review the club and its purpose with the Student Council Advisor
- receive permission from the Dean of Students
- demonstrate to the Dean of Students the ways in which the club will benefit the greater York community (this applies to formal clubs only - i.e., those that raise money at Fall Fair or through other fundraising activities)

Club membership is optional, but all students are encouraged to participate in at least one club. Clubs provide the opportunity for students to explore and develop interests outside the classroom, to gain new skills, to serve local communities, and to make friends.

Club officers who organize field trips or other excursions can find a checklist of procedures under "Clubs" on "Dean of Students Office" in Haiku LMS (haiku.york.org).

Dances

All dances are open to every grade level, 8th through 12th. Each dance is hosted by a particular grade level or by the Executive Student Council. Entry fees for each dance are set by the organizers.

Back to School (August) - Student Council
Halloween (October) - Seniors
Second Semester Celebration (January) - Freshmen
Winter Ball (February) - Sophomores
Prom (April) - Juniors
Last Dance (May) - Student Council

Dance Rules:

- Each student may bring only one guest to the dance. **The host student is responsible—and answerable to the School—for the guest's behavior at all times.** Names of guests must be given to the chaperones on arrival. Students are prohibited from hosting a guest they do not know well. Do not accept responsibility for "a friend of a friend." Do not ask a schoolmate to host your friend.
- For safety reasons, students must remain in the lighted area of the campus.
- Students who go off-campus during a dance may not return.
- Students are expected to consider their safety, and that of those around them, at all times. If you see something that concerns you, intervene, or ask a dance organizer or chaperone to intervene.
- Dance styles should be appropriate for school dances. Offensive, violent, or overly sexual "dancing" will be stopped by a chaperone and offending students may be required to leave the dance. Parents/guardians will be notified.

- F. Students who violate rules or requests from chaperones will be removed from the dance. Parents/guardians or, if necessary, health emergency contacts will be called to pick up the student. In the event that no responsible adult is available, the School may send students home by taxi at the parents'/guardians' expense.

For most dances, the hours are 8 - 11:00 p.m. Parents/guardians and students are reminded that Monterey County curfew begins at 11:00 p.m. Students who will be driving themselves after curfew should request a permission slip from the Dean of Students. Students who have had their license for less than one year may transport a minor only when that individual is a family member. As this is a California State Law, no exceptions can be granted.

School dances are chaperoned by York faculty, assisted by parent/guardian volunteers. The role of the parent/guardian volunteers is solely to observe and report potential problems to the faculty chaperones, who will then speak directly to the York students or guests whose behavior is in question. No parent/guardian volunteer should confront or discipline a York student or guest but should report the incident promptly to a faculty chaperone. The decisions of faculty chaperones are final.

Students needing signed permission forms to attend a dance at another school should see the Dean of Students.

Events and Fundraisers (student-organized)

Students wishing to schedule a special event (movie showing, field trip, pizza sale, bake sale, etc.) must request permission from their Class Dean or Club Advisor, the Student Council Advisor, the Dean of Students, and the School Secretary at least two weeks prior to the event. In addition, they need to arrange for faculty supervision for the event. Approved events are then scheduled through the School Secretary.

Fall Fair, held in October, is the primary fundraising event for classes and clubs. From time to time, additional fundraising activities may be approved. Prior to announcing or conducting any such fundraising activity, students must request approval from:

- grade-level fundraising: the Class Dean, the Student Council Advisor, the Dean of Students, and the Director of Advancement
- club fundraising: the Club Advisor, the Dean of Students, and the Director of Advancement
- fundraising as part of Service Learning: the Service Learning Coordinator, the Dean of Students, and the Director of Advancement

Guidelines to keep in mind include:

- fundraising appeals (other than events and projects that benefit York and are organized by the Advancement Office) will not be posted on the York website.
- a shared donation box is available in the Main Office. Students may reserve a period of time for use of the box by speaking with the School Secretary.
- students (not acting as part of a club or class) may not raise funds via Break announcements or sales on campus.
- Information from the Student/Family Handbook and Directory may never be used to contact parents/guardians or trustees for fundraising activities.

Any event announced on campus, whether at Break, in class meetings, or by flier or poster, becomes a School-sponsored event and must follow all of the above regulations.

Posters and Fliers

Anything posted or circulated at School should be for School-sponsored events or activities only. Exceptions may be made only with the express approval of the Dean of Students. Posters and fliers may not contain violent, denigrating, or otherwise offensive images or text. Students should keep in mind the School's tenets of honesty, respect, responsibility, and compassion when designing content for posting. Consider the health of the planet and general sustainability when printing posters or fliers. Please do not tape on any painted surface as adhesives pull off paint, creating expensive repairs. Students are responsible for taking down their posters and fliers after the event.

Field Trips (In-State, Out-of-State, and Out-of-Country)

Participation on School trips is a privilege, not a right. Students must request permission, well ahead of time, from teachers whose classes would be missed for a field trip. Students with excessive absences or incomplete work may be denied permission to participate.

Every participant has an obligation not only to behave within the expectations as outlined by the trip leaders, but to act positively to help maintain the safety of fellow students and the integrity of the trip. Everyone must attempt to help make the trip work!

Rules and guidelines will be backed by clear sanctions and consequences.

The trip leader (a School employee) bears final responsibility for all aspects of the trip and therefore may use personal judgment as needed to redefine rules.

Because of the complexity and greater risks involved with a large group activity, participants must understand that personal choice, individual "rights," and "due process," while still important, are secondary considerations to the trip leader's judgment concerning safety and trip management.

All students must have a permission form signed by a parent/guardian in order to participate in a field trip, including those who are 18 years old or older. Students and their families must bear any costs associated with disciplinary action (such as being sent home). It is the responsibility of parents/guardians to inform chaperones about any prescription medication used by students.

Any student trip announced at School meetings such as Break, in classes, at York Parent meetings, in School materials such as The Falcon, or otherwise broadcast, is a York School trip, with rules and expectations enforced at all times, regardless of where the trip may take place. Such trips require permission forms signed by parents/guardians, and teacher chaperones who are prepared to enforce School rules and maintain close communication with a School administrator. Parents/guardians and students are notified that behavior on the trip will need to be in accordance with School rules and that misbehavior or indiscretion will be treated the same way as if students were on campus.

York School students are free to participate in any travel opportunity on their own outside of School-sponsored trips, including trips organized and chaperoned by other schools. Parents/guardians are advised that there will be no School supervision nor is it possible to enforce School rules during that time.

For the most part, faculty members transport students in School vans for retreats, field trips, and other outings. All faculty drivers have been vetted through the California Department of Motor Vehicles. From time to time, parent/guardian drivers, using personal vehicles, are recruited to supplement faculty drivers. Parents/guardians who volunteer to drive students who are not their own must present a valid California driver's license and complete an Authorization for Release of Driver's Record Information form at the York School Business Office at least two weeks before transporting students on a York School trip. Any adult with unsupervised contact with a student in a school setting is required by law to be fingerprinted and cleared by the U.S. Department of Justice.

We encourage families to keep us informed of any court ordered custody arrangements, since this can affect the School's procedure for obtaining permission for a student to participate in certain activities and events.

Remember that no student may transport another student from School to a School-sponsored activity, nor from the activity back to School, except under extraordinary circumstances and with the express approval of the Dean of Students and the students' parents/guardians.

Student Ambassadors

The mission of the **Peer Helper** program is to strengthen the York community by supporting fellow students through non-judgment, active relational listening, and appropriate confidentiality. Peer helpers are a small, diverse group of students in the sophomore, junior, and senior classes who have been recommended by their faculty and peers. They receive extensive training in active relational listening, support techniques, self-care, assertive communication, and the ethical requirements of peer support. Following the initial training, Peer Helpers consult with the Dean of Students as needed, and meet weekly as a group for continued training and feedback.

The application process begins in September. Candidates complete an extensive online application. As part of the process they ask two campus adults and one student to act as recommenders. Once applications are submitted, the Dean of Students reviews them and consults with each of the recommenders. Existing Peer Helpers provide confidential input on applicants. The Dean of Students meets with all Class Deans for an additional review of applicants and selection of a short list, then reviews the short list with the Head of School and Assistant Head of School for final selection and approval. Interested students are encouraged to apply or to meet with the Dean of Students or current Peer Helpers for more information.

Shield is a student ambassador organization for 10th, 11th, and 12th grade students who are particularly motivated in areas of leadership and citizenship. Shield members assist the Admission and Advancement Offices by volunteering at School events both on and off campus, acting as welcoming ambassadors for York School.

Shield members may also act as hosts for prospective students and school visitors. Selected for membership by committee review in the spring, Shield applicants should be friendly and enthusiastic about the School, enjoy meeting new people, and model the York principles of honesty, respect, responsibility, and compassion. The time commitment for Shield (events, training, working with hosts, etc.) is approximately 15-20 hours per year. This commitment includes two required events and several additional opportunities. Students interested in applying for Shield should see the Director of Admission for more information.

Student Government

The purpose of the student government is to represent the student body in all matters concerning the School and to provide leadership in all student affairs. Executive Student Council officers are elected by the whole student body each year in April. Candidates for executive office must have a GPA of 3.0 or higher. Details of student government are published in the Student Body Constitution (see the Student Body President or Student Council Advisor). Minutes of Student Council meetings will be shared with each class secretary to be read at the subsequent class meeting.

Also in April, students at each grade-level, with the exception of the 8th and 9th grades, elect officers to represent them at Student Council meetings. Grade-level officers may have no grades below a C- and must show good character by actively upholding the School's tenets of honesty, respect, responsibility, and compassion. Student officers are invited to view, comment on, and edit job descriptions and grade-level event descriptions in Google docs. These documents are shared with new officers following elections. For more details, see the Dean of Students.

Student Officers for the 2019 - 2020 school year* Executive Student Council

President: Josefina Camacho

Vice President: Matthew Galloway

Secretary: Kris Huang

Treasurer: Justin Vu

Student Rep to the Board: Kate Popky

Activities Coordinators: Henriette Diouf and Sooyeon Kim

Technology Officers: Jared Griffith and Tom Liu

12th Grade

President: Luke Rosenblum

Vice President: Micheal Scholis

Secretary: Alex Lin

Treasurer: Jonathan Zhao

Activities Coordinators: Francesco Carriglio and Samuel Wisner

Disciplinary Committee: Annushka Veliko-Shapko

11th Grade

President: Lily Tran

Vice President: Kevin Daliri

Secretary: Angela Goulart

Treasurer: Seth Madden

Activities Coordinators: Courtney Hand and Gabrielle Schmidt

Disciplinary Committee: Sun Schuette

10th Grade

President: Zib Lindholm

Vice President: Sydney Choi

Secretary: Sherry Wu

Treasurer: Kurrun Sethi

Activities Coordinators: Celeste McGuire and Esmie Ortiz

Discipline Committee: Heather Galinato

*Elections for 8th and 9th grade officers will be held early in the fall

► LOST AND FOUND

Lost and Found bins are located behind Room 3. Students who find items are expected to return them to their owner, if possible, or place them in the Lost and Found bins; items of value such as phones, glasses, jewelry, computers, etc. should be taken to the School Secretary immediately. The School cannot be responsible for lost or stolen items, and students are encouraged to store their possessions in their lockers. Items left on campus and unattended after 4:30 p.m. may be placed in the Lost and Found bins or taken to the School Secretary. It is a good practice to label all books, notebooks, and other personal items with the student's name. Lost and Found bins are cleaned out at the end of each quarter and unclaimed items are donated to local charities.

Students are solely responsible for lost items and are usually required to purchase replacements for lost books.

► LUNCH

Most students bring lunch to school. As we share our campus with birds, mice, squirrels, and other wild animals, we highly recommend lunch containers that latch or close firmly. An independent catering service visits campus at lunch with sandwiches, salads, and hot meals available for purchase. Vending machines offering snacks and drinks are located outside of the upstairs art studio in Day Hall. Change for the vending machines and funds for the catering service are not available on campus.

Students who have forgotten their lunch may check with the School Secretary for emergency provisions. Students are welcome to eat in the Student Center, Commons, Fenton Terrace, Lower Field, deck of the Science Building, and many other outdoor locations. Classrooms are generally food-free zones; however, in some circumstances, students may request permission of a faculty member to eat in a classroom. There is no food permitted in the Library, Chapel, Theater, or Gym at any time.

Students are responsible for cleaning up their eating areas. Please take this responsibility seriously—leaving a mess for others to clean up during Workjobs is not respectful or responsible, and reflects poorly on the School for anyone visiting campus.

► MEDICATIONS

Parents/guardians are strongly encouraged to inform the Dean of Students if a student is currently taking prescription medication that might affect the student's mood, behavior, or academic performance, including medication that helps the student deal with particular learning disabilities. York faculty and administrative staff are committed to working collaboratively with families to ensure the most positive learning and social environment for each student, and awareness of issues related to the effects of a student's medication is an important part of this process.

► MESSAGES

Families are encouraged not to call or text their students during class time.

Families may call the School Secretary and request that a message be delivered to a student. Classes will not be interrupted to deliver messages except in the case of an emergency. It is each student's responsibility to check their email regularly as messages may be left by members of the campus community as well as by families.

► OFF-CAMPUS PRIVILEGES

Seniors and juniors only

Seniors may apply for off-campus privileges at any time after the first week of School in August. Juniors may apply beginning in January.

To apply, students complete a form available on the Haiku LMS; take a quiz, also on the Haiku LMS under the Dean of Students Office, showing their familiarity with the rules outlined in this Handbook; obtain parental/guardian permission and approval from the Service Learning Coordinator; and interview with the Senior Class Dean. The Dean of Students has final approval of all applications. Seniors who have received privileges as juniors need to reapply.

To earn and maintain off-campus privileges students must:

- Have a proven record of academic and personal responsibility. This includes fulfilling all School responsibilities such as Health & Fitness, Service Learning, and Workjobs, while maintaining exemplary standards of conduct and academic work.
- Use motor vehicles responsibly, whether driving or being driven. Safe driving is mandatory at all times.
- Leave campus only during lunch and free periods. All scheduled events such as Tutorials, Breaks, PATH, Class Meetings, Workjobs, Health & Fitness, Forums, and safety drills are as mandatory as classes.
- Remember that no student may transport another student from School to a School-sponsored activity, nor from the activity back to School.
- Keep in mind that all Student/Family Handbook rules of behavior (in letter and in spirit) remain in force during off-campus times in the School day.
- Sign themselves in and out in the Main Office. Failure to do so will result in immediate loss of privileges.

All state regulations regarding restrictions on newly licensed drivers and their passengers must be observed. Seniors and juniors who have earned off-campus privileges must observe their responsibilities scrupulously. Failure to do so will result in the immediate loss of privileges.

Please note: As leaders of the York Community, seniors and juniors are expected to set an example for younger students. One of their responsibilities is to show stewardship of the campus and the greater environment. Should the cleanliness of the campus not meet standards determined by the Head of School, the Dean of Students, and/or the Assistant Head of School, off-campus privileges may be suspended for all eligible students without warning.

For students turning 18: Congratulations! Welcome to the age of majority. There are lots of things that will change now that you're considered a legal adult. We recommend that you read the California Bar Association's publication, "When You Turn 18," available on Haiku under the "Dean of Students Office" page. It contains some useful and important information.

One thing that won't change is our relationship with you. Everyone at School is still here to support you, care for you, advocate for you. The School's relationship with you is a little different than that of many other organizations you'll encounter. For example, we'll still share all information with your parents/guardians, including your grades, medical information, the rare disciplinary situation, etc. And we'll still need your parents'/guardians' notification if you're ill and staying at home, as well as parental/guardian permission for field trips, driving permissions, and anything else we've required it for when you were a minor.

If you have any questions about any of this (or other aspects of being 18), don't hesitate to speak with the Dean of Students.

► SCHEDULES

Yearly course schedules are available to returning students through the Academic Records for Students portal on our website in mid to late July. New students will receive a copy at the New Families Potluck in August. All student schedules are also printed and available for pick up on the first day of school in the Breezeway. Students are encouraged to take a picture of their schedule for access on their mobile phones or other electronic devices, to shrink and laminate their schedule for carrying in a binder, or to tape a copy to their planner. If you need a duplicate copy, please see the School Secretary.

Classes are held in a six period, rotating cycle of A-G days. As a reminder, cycle days are noted on the online calendar and posted outside the Main Office.

- Music ensembles meet before school from 7:40 - 8:25 a.m.
- First period begins at 8:30 a.m.; however, teachers are available to meet with students beginning at 8:00 a.m. and by appointment.
- Between periods 2 and 3, there is a variety of school-wide events, depending on the cycle day:
 - A, C, and E days: Break, a gathering of faculty, staff, and students in the Chapel for announcements.
 - B and F days: Tutorial, a chance to meet with teachers to ask questions, follow up on a point, or simply to discuss a topic of interest.
 - D days: PATH, see the description of PATH under "Counseling" on page 20.
 - G days: Class Meetings, students gather by grade level for grade-specific messages.
- Class Meeting Locations:
 - Grade 8: Room 3
 - Grade 9: Fenton Terrace
 - Grade 10: Library
 - Grade 11: Theater
 - Grade 12: Chapel
- The class that meets during period 3 does not meet the next cycle day.
- Lunch follows period 3.
- Between periods 5 and 6, students perform their assigned Workjob. For more information, see "Workjobs," on page 29.
- Health & Fitness, team sports, and rehearsals begin at 2:50 p.m., following period 6. For more on these, see "Athletics," or speak with our Athletic Director, Health & Fitness Coordinator, or Theatre Directors.
- At 2:50 p.m. on most Wednesdays, students attend Tutorial.
- X Days: The first day of school and the three days preceding each exam period (December and May) are designated X days. All classes meet for shortened (40 minute) periods. The X day schedule is posted online and outside the Main Office. The X day immediately preceding the first day of exams is also referred to as a "Reading Day" and attendance is optional for grades 10-12, mandatory for 8-9. If students choose to come to campus for all or part of the Reading Day, they are REQUIRED to sign in and sign out in the Main Office so we know who is and is not on campus.
- Late Start Days: Approximately one Wednesday per month, classes begin at 9:30 a.m. to allow for early morning faculty meetings. These dates are available on the York calendar, and reminders are sent via "The Falcon" eNewsletter.

► SCHOOL-WIDE GATHERINGS

Students, faculty, and staff meet regularly (A, C and E days) for **Break**, a period for campus-wide communication. Members of the School community share important information and make announcements of benefit to the entire community. Students wishing to make an announcement at Break should sit in the front row. Any student may make an announcement; however, students are encouraged to keep in mind that announcements must focus on the York community and be of benefit to all.

PATH is an advisory period that meets once per cycle on D days—see page 20 for description.

Class meetings are held once per cycle, on G days, and give each grade level a chance to plan for activities, communicate information, and hear announcements.

Tutorials (B and F days) provide time for teachers to meet with students one-on-one or in small groups. They may also be used by students for study groups, as additional study hall time, or for meetings with Class Deans, PATH leaders/ Sherpas, the Assistant Head of School, or the Dean of Students. About twice per month, tutorials are also scheduled for Wednesday afternoons, 2:50-3:30 p.m. All students are expected to remain on campus during tutorials.

The entire York School community gathers on a regular basis for **Forums and Convocations**. Forums are generally of an educational or entertainment-oriented nature. Convocations focus on the inner life and provide an opportunity for self-reflection. We value the inner life and believe the development of spiritual awareness and sensitivity are important aspects of the York experience.

All students are required to attend Break, PATH, Class Meetings, Tutorials, and Convocations. Students with off-campus privileges who have left campus are expected to return for any of the above.

►TRANSPORTATION & PARKING

Commuting by Car

For the safety of all members of the School community, and to ease traffic congestion, drivers are strongly urged to use the designated **Drop Off Circle** when dropping students off or picking them up from School. At times when a driver is required to wait for a student or to leave the car, please park in a designated parking space and turn off the vehicle. Fumes generated from idling vehicles are unhealthy for everyone. There is a 5 miles-per-hour speed limit on School grounds.

Congregating in any parking area or sitting in cars during the school day is not allowed. Exercise caution around parked cars.

All cars must be parked in designated parking spaces. Seniors, faculty, and guests may park in the upper parking lot located immediately to the right of the School's entrance. The numbered spaces are for faculty or school vans only. Juniors and sophomores may park only in the lot near the softball field, to the right of the School's exit. Parking in the center lot (near the administration offices and classrooms) is reserved for guests, class deans, and administrators only. No parking is allowed in fire lanes, across driveways, or in spaces reserved for handicapped or School vehicles. Violations will result in loss of privileges or other restrictions.

The School will not be responsible for damage or loss of personal property including damage to automobiles.

Commuting by City Bus

Students should be very careful while walking to and from the bus stop, crossing the highway, or waiting for the bus. Remember not all motorists are alert, and some do not even respect traffic signals. Students should wait quietly at the bus stop, staying well away from the highway. Students walking up or down the hill should use the path behind the Science building, avoiding York Road.

Student Use of Vehicles

The destructive potential of motor vehicles should not be underestimated. Failure to use motor vehicles sensibly will cause suspension of privileges or lead to more serious action. Students must be aware of their parents'/guardians' wishes regarding transportation. **No student may ride with a student driver unless legally qualified and expressly authorized by a parent/guardian in writing. It is recommended that sophomores not drive to school. All drivers should exercise extreme caution as Highway 68 is extremely congested.** Any unsafe driving on School grounds, riding on the outside of cars, or any other potentially dangerous action will be disciplined severely. Under certain circumstances, students may be required to relinquish car keys during the school day or be prohibited from bringing a car on campus. **Students should always drive responsibly on or off campus.**

For specific information on California rules and regulations regarding teen driving, visit dmv.ca.gov/teenweb/. Students who will be driving to school are expected to complete a form available on Haiku LMS under the Main Office page, informing the School Secretary of the make, model, color, and license number of their vehicles, and obtain a parking permit, which must be displayed when the vehicle is on campus.

Transportation to Independent Projects

From time to time, class assignments—for example Science Fair or Service Learning—require independent, off-campus work on the part of students and necessitate interactions with individuals or agencies in the larger community. These assignments promote independent learning, creative thinking, real world applications, self-advocacy, and many other beneficial skills. During this independent work, the School is unable to provide transportation or supervision. Students are reminded to conduct themselves as representatives of York School, keeping all behavioral expectations in mind as they would for on-campus activities.

►WORKJOBS

Workjobs are assigned chores which students do to share in the School's upkeep. Fulfilling one's workjob responsibility is as significant and as mandatory as attending class. Consequences for not fulfilling workjob responsibilities may lead to a variety of disciplinary actions, including loss of privileges.

The School strongly believes that care for one's environment is a sign of respect for oneself, one's community, and for the planet. Students are expected to take pride in the appearance and condition of our campus. Everyone shares the responsibility of keeping the School environment clean and neat. Responsible individuals clean up after themselves and properly dispose of litter they see in their environment. Students also assist in clean-up when asked to do so by other students, teachers, and staff. Should the cleanliness of the campus not meet standards determined by the Head of School, the Dean of Students, and/or the Assistant Head of School, student privileges (dances, field trips, etc.) may be suspended for all students without warning.

Students, their families, faculty, and staff are all encouraged to conserve resources, particularly paper, water, and energy, and to support the School's commitment to green practices.

►WORK PERMITS

California law requires minors who find employment to have a work permit. After an employer agrees to hire a minor, the minor obtains from York School the "Statement of Intent to Employ Minor and Request for Work Permit" form. The form can be obtained from the School Secretary and is also available for download from the Main Office page on haiku.york.org.

Once completed and signed by the minor, the employer, and a parent, it is then brought to the York School Main Office where a "Permit to Employ and Work" may be issued. Allow at least two school days turnaround time from receipt of the "Statement of Intent" for issuance of the "Permit to Employ and Work." **Note:** The "Statement of Intent" is NOT the work permit and should not be given to the employer.

The School encourages students to make sure work hours do not detract from time needed for studying or participating in School life.

►YORK PARENTS

Families support students by supporting the School, and the YP officers and class chairs do this primarily through volunteer work at School events. All York parents/guardians are welcome to attend meetings and participate in activities. Being involved also provides a wonderful opportunity for parents/guardians to contribute directly to their child's educational experience, bond with other parents/guardians, and make an important difference in the York community.

The YP Conversation Series provides invaluable information on a variety of topics of interest to parents/guardians of adolescents. Invited presenters and faculty members, experts in their fields, speak, dialogue, and answer questions. Topics have included screenings of *Miss Representation* and *The Mask We Live In* (documentaries about societal pressures on young women and men), hope for the environment, gender and sexuality, communicating with adolescents, social media, and what adolescents wish their parents knew.

At least one member of the School's leadership team attends each YP meeting, affording families the opportunity to voice their questions and concerns and hear what is being both planned and implemented on campus. Please check the online calendar for the Wednesday evening meeting schedule.

YP Officers

President	Priya Sethi	priyansethi@yahoo.com	831.393.9735
Vice President	Hedy Khan	hedykhan@gmail.com	831.883.0200
Secretary	Angie Burks	angiepburks@gmail.com	831.655.1861
Treasurer	Cindy Schroeder	cynschroed@aol.com	831.915.8546

YP Class Chairs

12th	Robin Jepson Beth Deyo Kenley Butler	rjepson.law@gmail.com deyobeth@msn.com kenley.butler@gmail.com	831.648.8968 206.650.0655 831.392.7051
11th	Katya Fleishman Carol & Donald Stoker Cindy Brodsky	ekaterinafleishman@gmail.com carol.stoker@sbcglobal.net cbrodsky@hotmail.com	650.804.1336 831.809.6926 415.948.8086
10th	Alex Cardinale Erin Ferguson	walexcardinale@gmail.com e.i.ferguson@hotmail.com	831.917.5366 831.917.7150
9th	Gina Michaels Yana Polyakova Cindy Schroeder	gcmichae@gmail.com vielace@hotmail.com cynschroed@aol.com	831.233.1902 831.384.6530 831.915.8546
8th	Melanie Stackpole Heather Oliver	stackpole92@gmail.com heatheroliver@me.com	831.970.7967 831.384.6530

Special Events Coordinators

Parents Café Coordinator (The Nest)			
Angie Burks	angiepburks@gmail.com	831.655.1861;831.915.4625	
Cindy Schroeder	cynschroed@aol.com	831.915.8546	

►YORK SCHOOL ADVANCEMENT PROGRAM

The Advancement Office works with parents/guardians, students, trustees, alumni, grandparents, faculty and staff, foundations, corporations, and other community supporters to advance York’s mission. Some of these activities include:

- raising funds for the academic program, athletics, visual and performing arts, tuition assistance, faculty development, endowment, and facilities
- telling the York story in the community, on the website, in York publications, and through the media
- keeping in touch with York alumni and encouraging alumni involvement with students
- producing events that build community, make friends, and raise funds for the School

The School asks parents to support York through annual gifts to The York Fund. You will hear from the Advancement Office during the first semester about supporting York. Parent donations fund teacher professional growth, the arts and their programs that make York outstanding. Parent giving, at whatever level makes sense for each family, is key to the York program. Parent gifts also send a powerful message to corporations and foundations, who view parent participation as a key gauge for awarding grants; York School is more likely to receive funding from outside sources if we can show strong support from our families.

Tuition assistance at York is made possible by generous donors. All students receiving tuition assistance are required to write thank you letters. Students and parents/guardians will receive information about thank you letters at the beginning of the school year. The requirement to write a thank you letter is included in the contract that parents/guardians sign with the School.

Advancement Office:

Kris Edmunds, Director of Advancement
Bella Hockermith, Director of Alumni Relations and Annual Giving
Kelly Lepai, Advancement Services Coordinator
Felicia Pflieger, Communications, Marketing, and Events Manager

►YORK SCHOOL VISUAL IDENTITY

The visual identity of our School is an important piece in how we communicate the York experience with both our internal and external communities. Elements such as the logo, word mark, shield, official mascot, etc. reflect our reputation as a school and should be presented in a professional and consistent manner.

Permission is needed to use of any of York’s visual identity elements. Please visit or contact the Advancement Office, which will be glad to assist you.

ACADEMIC LIFE

►GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

In order to earn a diploma from York School, students must fulfill specific requirements designed for the development of the creative, independent thinker.

These requirements are:

- mastery of specific academic subjects,
- completion of the Service Learning requirement,
- satisfactory participation in an ensemble, and
- satisfactory participation in Athletics through sports or the Health & Fitness program.

Academic Subjects: (grades 9-12)

English	4 years
Mathematics	3 years, completion of Algebra II
History	3 years, including World History I and II, and U.S. History)
Laboratory Science	3 years (including Biology; Chemistry or Physics, and another science)
Modern Language	3 years, completion of level III in one language
Latin	1 year
Computer Science	1 year
Visual/Performing Arts	one credit
Ensemble Participation	arts or athletic
Health and Fitness	
Service Learning	

Five courses are required each year. Each course should be worth 10 units or the equivalent, as determined by the Assistant Head of School and Curriculum Committee. A sophomore, junior, or senior who wishes to take more than five courses must normally, unless the extra course is needed to fulfill School requirements, have at least a “B” average, and must have the permission of the Assistant Head of School and current Class Dean. The complexities of scheduling make it impossible for us to guarantee that every student will be able to take all requested classes.

Any student wishing to enroll in an online course, whether under the auspices of the School on independently, is required to receive permission from the Assistant Head of School prior to registering for the class.

Only students who have spent their senior year at York will be eligible for a York diploma. Only in exceptional circumstances may graduation requirements be waived upon the recommendation of the Assistant Head of School and the Dean of Students.

Service Learning Requirement

York students have the opportunity to bring fun, collaboration, hard work, and intelligence, as well as York’s core values of honesty, respect, responsibility, and compassion, to their varied volunteer roles, helping the community grow closer and stronger. The goal of the service learning program is to have students adopt service as part of their identity, thereby making positive contributions to others, to communities, and to the world, sharing an aspect of who they are as productive citizens. As a graduation requirement, York expects each student to complete 10 hours of service learning each school year (excluding the eighth grade). Service is intentionally not cumulative, meaning one cannot simply meet the graduation requirement by volunteering 40 hours in one academic year. Sustained engagement with the community over time is important in affecting change, both within individuals and larger systems. While 10 hours is required, over 80% of the students do significantly more volunteering.

York defines “service learning” as any voluntary service in which students are asked to do more than provide manpower for a non-profit organization or social cause. Typically, service learning extends curricular goals by encouraging service in the community, mutually benefiting the organization or audience and the student. Students expand their comfort zones by engaging in personally significant and challenging service, whether developing leadership capacity, intrapersonal communication skills, organizational abilities, or other relevant expertise.

EXEMPLARY SERVICE LEARNING

- Learning about innovative approaches to community development while helping people in need in Guanajuato, Mexico on a CIEE Global Navigator Service & Leadership summer experience
- Leading elementary students in their week-long outdoor science experiences with Santa Cruz County Outdoor Science School
- Building a library at a school in rural India, by partnering with a local library to collect books and donations
- After volunteering with horses in one year and with foster students in another, developing and fundraising for a week-long equine experience for foster children at Star Riders
- Utilizing Spanish language skills acquired at York to engage with and read books to elementary students in an afterschool program with City of Seaside Parks and Recreation
- Deepening one’s ocean conservation knowledge, and then adopting and communicating conservation messages to guests and others through the Monterey Bay Aquarium’s Teen Conservation Leaders program
- Building a tiny home, and then donating that home to an organization that is addressing homelessness in Monterey County

EXPECTATIONS

Each student will, for each year in Grades 9 - 12:

- Complete a minimum of 10 hours of service learning
- Verify those hours with a service supervisor (verification is required for all student volunteer hours)
- Submit written reflections upon why this service learning was important to the community / audience and to themselves

For specific, detailed instructions on completing the Service Learning requirement, students should explore the Service Learning “class” in the Haiku LMS.

Ensemble Participation

Because students learn a great deal about themselves through participation in extracurricular activities and benefit greatly from the experience of committing themselves to a group endeavor, we encourage students to take advantage of opportunities to engage in learning outside the classroom through involvement in the performing arts and athletic programs. We believe so strongly in the benefits of such involvement that students are required to do one of the following prior to graduation:

- participate in choir, band, or orchestra for one year
- take a role in a School play
- play a varsity-level sport

Students with significant commitments to performance ensembles or athletic activities not offered by York, or who participate for at least three years in a non-league sport not offered by the School may apply for a waiver of this requirement. In all cases, the decision of the Assistant Head of School and the Arts Department Chair or Athletic Director will be binding.

Athletics

Participation in Athletics, whether through the Health & Fitness program or interscholastic sports, is a requirement for earning a York diploma. It is an integral part of the school day with the goal of improving students’ physical and emotional well-being and promoting lifelong fitness. Please see “Athletics” on page 37 for more information on this requirement.

► GRADES AND COMMENTS

Description of Grades

Grades are based on standards that do not fluctuate from year to year. Grading standards are explained by every teacher at the beginning of the year. A grade of:

- **A** means mastering the material presented during the course and demonstrating exceptional academic abilities.
- **B** means the student’s work has been more than adequate in some or all of these areas: accuracy, thoroughness, analysis, and creativity.
- **C** means the student has fulfilled basic requirements of the course in an adequate manner.
- **D** means the student has barely met the minimum course requirements. Sufficient work has been done only in a few areas. Students will be expected to repeat any course for which they earn a D grade, except with the express permission of the Assistant Head of School. A grade of D may prohibit a student from completing graduation requirements by the end of senior year.
- **F** means the student has not met the minimum course requirements. The student will receive no credit and cannot advance in the subject until sufficient remedial work is done.

Be aware that excessive absences are likely to result in poor grades.

Grades and Comments Schedule

Progress Reports with written comments but without grades are given at the end of the first and third quarters (October and March). Grades are given after the second and fourth quarters (December and June).

Final grades represent the full year’s work and are the only grades entered on the student’s official transcript. Once recorded at year’s end, grades become part of a student’s permanent record. For seniors, first semester grades are also recorded. An “Incomplete” grade will be granted only in exceptional cases, usually for medical reasons.

Accessing Report Cards

Parents/ guardians receive notification on the website when both Progress Reports and Grade Reports are available online through Academic Records. Instructions for logging on to Academic Records, including the website address, username, and password, are emailed to new parents/guardians prior to the end of the first quarter in October. If you have misplaced these instructions, please contact the School Secretary or the Assistant Head of School.

Honor Roll

Honors may be awarded to those students taking five or more unrepeatable courses with no grade lower than a “B.” To qualify for High Honors, a student taking five or more unrepeatable courses may have only one grade below an “A-,” with that grade no lower than a “B.” Honors are granted on the basis of sincere and consistent application to the subjects studied, as reflected both by teachers’ comments and by grades. An incomplete grade, unsatisfactory performance in any class (including Health & Fitness), or poor behavior will also disqualify a student from the Honor Roll.

Academic Warning

Any student receiving a C- average, two D’s, or one F, will be placed on Academic Warning at the end of a semester or at the discretion of the Assistant Head of School and Dean of Students, losing off-campus privileges and eligibility for interscholastic teams or School plays until the end of the following quarter. A student placed on academic warning more than once, or at year’s end, may be required to complete summer study or may not be permitted to return to York. Any student who earns a grade lower than a C- in a single course may be required to repeat that course the following year. In some cases, the course may be taken over the summer for full credit. Parents/guardians and students are urged to consult with the Assistant Head of School. The Assistant Head of School notifies families in writing of Academic Warning.

►ACADEMIC SUPPORT

The first contact for a parent/guardian or for a student needing additional academic support in a class should be the teacher of that class. All members of the faculty are eager and willing to help. Students are strongly encouraged to see teachers at the earliest sign of a problem and must always see the teacher after parents/guardians have been notified of difficulties.

Students or parents/guardians may call or email a teacher to request an appointment (contact info can be found on page 9). Students may also see a teacher before or after a class, during lunch or a tutorial period, or during a free period. If a teacher is not in his or her classroom or office, students are welcome to stop by the Faculty Room. Students are requested to knock on the Faculty Room door to receive permission to enter as confidential discussions may be taking place. After talking with the teacher, parents/guardians or students wanting further help should see their Class Dean, the Assistant Head of School, or the Dean of Students.

Parents/guardians who would like to engage private tutors may consult with the teacher of the class or with the Assistant Head of School for recommendations or advice.

Academic Coaching Program

To support students' academic achievement, the Academic Coach works with students individually to offer strategies for organizing, prioritizing, and calendaring of their academic and extracurricular lives. One-on-one sessions may include visualizing academic goals and benchmarks; boosting note-taking skills; constructing and revising essays; mapping out study sessions before exams; advocating for learning accommodations; utilizing technology to assist reading, writing, and studying; rehearsing presentations; following up on progress; and celebrating successes. Oftentimes, teachers identify students in their classes who may benefit from this individualized attention. The Academic Coach works closely with educators to keep them apprised of each student's status in their coursework. Sessions with students can occur during study periods and before or after school. Coaching is targeted to each individual's strengths and areas for improvement, as well as to their social-emotional needs. All in all, students adopt a growth mindset toward learning by developing executive functioning skills and deepening self-confidence that directly benefits their academic and individual success.

Parents/guardians and students are encouraged to communicate with the Academic Coach regarding a student's learning differences. Existing assessments, IEPs, or 504 plans should be shared as early as possible to help us best support the student's academic progress and success. The Academic Coach maintains a list of psycho-educational consultants to recommend should parents/guardians or students desire specialized assessment. From time to time, the Academic Coach will reach out to families to suggest testing should such action be deemed advisable through consultation with a student's teachers, class Dean, the Assistant Head of School, and the Dean of Students.

Learning Differences

York School is committed to enrolling a diverse student body. While we cannot fundamentally alter our curriculum, we are committed to assisting students with diagnosed learning differences. It is our goal that students will learn to advocate for themselves, to understand and be able to work with their particular learning profile, and to develop the tenacity, resilience, and positive attitude that will best serve them in the future. Therefore, we support the reasonable and fair accommodations recommended by qualified learning specialists such as educational psychologists.

From time to time, the increased demands of high school, the rigor of the York School curriculum, or simply the developing maturity of the student brings to light a previously unnoticed or undiagnosed learning difference. When faculty notice symptoms or behavior that point to a possible learning difference, they notify the Dean of Students and the Academic Coach who discuss these observations with the parents/guardians. Should testing be recommended, the Academic Coach supplies the parents/guardians with follow-up resources.

Parents/Guardians who have reports from qualified learning specialists should provide a copy to the Academic Coach who, in consultation with the Assistant Head of School and Dean of Students, determines what, if any, accommodations will be afforded to the student. While the School pays close attention to the recommendations of qualified examiners, it is the educational institution that ultimately determines whether or not a student is eligible for accommodations. Once accommodations are approved, the Academic Coach provides the pertinent faculty with the student's Dynamic Learning

Profile (DLP). The Academic Coach will coordinate a meeting of the student, the parents/guardians, pertinent faculty, the Class Dean, the Assistant Head of School, the Dean of Students, and the College Counselor to discuss the DLP. Additional meetings are held each semester or year, as needed. At this time, the student and parents/guardians are advised about special accommodations that the College Board and other standardized testing agencies provide for students who qualify.

Parents/Guardians interested in applying for accommodations for their students should provide documentation that meets the following basic requirements (adapted from the guidelines provided by the College Board):

1. Identification of the specific learning difference, as diagnosed. Any diagnosis should be made by a person with the appropriate professional credentials, should be specific, and, when appropriate, should relate the learning difference to the applicable professional standards, for example, the DSM-V.
2. In most cases, reports should be current. The testing, evaluation, and diagnosis should have taken place within five years of the request for accommodations.
3. Indication of relevant educational, developmental, and medical history.
4. Description of the comprehensive testing and techniques used to arrive at the diagnosis, including test results with subtest scores (standard or scaled) for all tests.
5. Description of the functional limitations due to the diagnosed learning difference, for example, the effects on learning or the impacts on the in-class experience.
6. Description of the specific accommodations being requested and explanation of why they are warranted.
7. Statement of the professional credentials of the evaluator, for example, licensure, certification, and/or area of specialization.

►SUMMER COURSES

Students interested in taking summer courses at other educational institutions are encouraged to explore those options, especially for enrichment. **If a student is interested in using one of these courses to fulfill a York graduation requirement, the student should consult the Assistant Head of School before enrolling.** We cannot guarantee that all courses will meet York School standards. Fulfillment of a graduation requirement may require a York placement test upon completion of a summer course. Credits earned at other institutions are not recorded on the official York transcript; students should provide the Registrar with a copy of the summer course transcript, and it will be attached as an addendum to their York transcript for college application purposes.

►REQUESTING LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATION

Students frequently need letters of recommendation from York faculty or staff members, whether for college admissions, summer programs, internships, scholarships, employment, or other reasons. Students should adhere to the following procedures:

1. Decide which teacher or teachers would be most appropriate for the particular recommendation. Meet with the teachers in person, at least two to three weeks in advance of the due date, to ask if they would be willing to write a letter of recommendation. Never list a teacher as a reference without the teacher's prior permission. Remember, when a student requests a letter of recommendation, the student is asking the teacher for a favor, and the teacher has the right to accept or decline the request.
2. If the teacher agrees to write on a student's behalf, the student should provide, in writing:
 - A. the due date for the letter,
 - B. any forms or instructions the teacher needs to complete the recommendation, and
 - C. the method of submitting the letter, whether by email directly to the institution (the student should provide the email address), ground mail (the student should provide an envelope that is pre-addressed and stamped), or student pick up.
3. The student should follow up with a thank you note.

► EXAMS

Mid-Year and Final Exams

All York classes culminate in an exam (class final or AP exam where appropriate) or in a significant final project. The three school days preceding each exam period are designated review days (known as “X” days), with the third day being an optional Reading Day. Students are expected to attend all classes during review days.

Seniors with a cumulative grade of B+ or higher may be excused from an end-of-year final, at the teacher’s discretion. The teacher’s decision is binding.

During exam weeks, students are required to be at school only when they are scheduled for an exam. Students on campus during unscheduled times are expected to maintain quiet. A study room will be available for these students. Exams are scheduled from 9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. and from 1-4:00 p.m. Students are required to stay in the exam room for two hours, even if they have completed the exam early. Students should plan to bring study materials for subsequent exams, books for recreational reading, or other quiet entertainment (as permitted by the teacher) should they finish before the two-hour mark. Note: Lunch options are not guaranteed on Reading Days or Exam Days. Students staying through the lunch period should bring their own food.

Advanced Courses and Exams

Students who opt to take an Advanced Placement (AP) course are required to take the associated AP exam. Students wishing to take an AP exam for a course in which they have not been enrolled should consult with the Assistant Head of School and the Advanced Placement Coordinator. The student is responsible for signing up for the AP exam through the school in the spring and paying the test fee (approx. \$95/exam).

Students wishing to take multiple AP classes during a year must receive permission from the Assistant Head of School. Enrollment in an AP course is contingent on approval of the instructor and the Assistant Head of School.

Students enrolled in a York Advanced Studies (YAS) course will want to recognize that while the YAS course may support success on a College Board AP exam in the same or a similar subject area, YAS courses are not designed in alignment with College Board curriculum; therefore, a student enrolled in a YAS course who wishes to sit an AP exam in equal or similar subject matter should first seek the approval of the YAS instructor and the Assistant Head of School.

► PETITIONING TO CHANGE A COURSE

Any proposed change in a student’s schedule, including both adding or dropping a class, must be reviewed by the Assistant Head of School. Students wishing to add or drop must also receive the express consent of the instructor. Under ordinary circumstances, students may not drop a course from their schedule after the end of the first quarter (or third quarter for second semester courses).

► SPECIAL PROGRAMS AND STUDY ABROAD

The following are recommendations and reminders for students who might go abroad or attend special programs during the school year:

- Students will be held to all graduation requirements.
- The School cannot guarantee that students who opt to spend a semester or year at another school will be on track to graduate with their entering class.
- Students should follow a course of study recommended by the faculty who will give guidelines for the content of individual courses where appropriate.
- Students and parents/guardians are strongly urged to meet with the Director of College Counseling to be aware of any implications for college admission.
- Students and their families should be aware that any courses taken at another school might not be similar enough to York’s for them to receive credit towards completion of York’s requirements. Upon a student’s return, testing for achievement may be required before credit is granted. Students and parents/guardians are urged to consult with the Assistant Head of School.
- The School reserves the right to limit the number of students participating in such programs.

CIEE Global Navigator Summer Study Abroad

We believe helping students develop a global mindset is vital for their success in today’s increasingly interconnected and culturally diverse world. Studying abroad fully immerses students in new cultures, languages, and perspectives. It builds character, develops life skills, and helps students stand out in the college application process. With the school year already packed with academic rigor, York has developed a partnership with a leader in study abroad and intercultural exchange programs that offers summer study abroad opportunities—CIEE: Council on International Educational Exchange.

To make this experience possible, every York student is guaranteed a scholarship, of some level, to participate in one of CIEE’s Global Navigator summer study abroad programs. Every York student can receive a scholarship one time to cover some portion of the expense for a CIEE program in the summer following their 9th, 10th, or 11th grade year. Funding for the program comes from a generous donor.

Students can choose from more than 25 destinations across the world and three types of programs:

- Language and Culture: students build their fluency as they stay with host families and balance interactive instruction time with fun cultural excursions.
- Service and Leadership: developed in partnership with local NGOs, these programs allow students to serve a cause close to their hearts, while also enjoying local adventures and interactions with the local community.
- Global Discovery: students dive into a new world of possibilities with hands-on, global projects that bring learning to life.

So that the Global Navigator experience isn’t left abroad, travelers share their experiences with the York community when they return to school in the fall.

Distinguished Scholar Recognition

York School is committed to preparing students for a positive, productive future. The 21st century calls for a generation who can adapt and thrive in an ever-changing and increasingly interconnected world; therefore, students need preparation in becoming leaders and problem-solvers, ready to approach challenges from multiple perspectives with cross-cultural fluency and interdisciplinary thinking. York’s Distinguished Scholars programs recognize students who have achieved excellence in developing the knowledge, skills, empathy, and leadership to understand and act on complex issues.

York Distinguished Global Scholars will need to demonstrate success in specific coursework and internationally-related extra-curricular activities, the completion of an approved study abroad trip, and the fulfillment and presentation of a project that serves the common good locally, nationally, and/or internationally.

York Distinguished STEAM Scholars will need to demonstrate success in specific coursework and STEAM-related extra-curricular activities, the completion of an approved study abroad trip or summer internship, and the fulfillment and presentation of a project that serves the common good locally, nationally, and/or internationally.

Distinguished Scholars meet all the criteria required for each certificate, are recognized at the Awards and Commencement ceremonies, and receive a special diploma. Read more at york.org or speak with Sean Raymond, Assistant Head of School and Assistant Head of School.

ATHLETICS

Students fulfill their Athletics graduation requirement through taking part in interscholastic sports, participating in Health & Fitness activities, or both. York agrees with numerous studies and current brain research that indicate play is a vital part of life and learning. Physical activity improves students’ physical and emotional well-being by promoting fitness, decreasing stress, oxygenating the blood, fostering social connection, providing time in nature, improving the mind-body connection, and many other meaningful ways. The Athletics/Health & Fitness period is an integral part of the school day. **Attendance in these activities is mandatory and is as important as attendance in academic classes.** Health & Fitness classes meet from 2:50 - 3:30 p.m. Team sports meet from 2:50 p.m. to approximately 4:30 p.m. (later on game days).

Members of sports teams are expected to attend practices every school day. Team practice is mandatory and student athletes must personally check in with the coach at each practice. Student athletes wishing to meet with a teacher during Wednesday tutorial must first check in with the coach and are expected to return to practice at 3:30 p.m. when the tutorial session ends. Student athletes may request a day off from practice for a medical, academic, or personal reason by personally speaking with the coach. Athletes unable to attend practice must either go home at 2:50 p.m. or work in the Library until 3:30 p.m. Team members are not permitted to join a Health & Fitness activity in lieu of going to team practice. York School students pride themselves on their history of ethical, generous, and inclusive behavior in athletics. Both individuals and whole teams regularly win league awards recognizing their sporting conduct. Parents/guardians are expected to abide by this standard. Disruptive behavior, whether publicly on the sidelines or through electronic or in-person communication, has a negative effect on team growth and is contrary to the York ethos. Such behavior may result in a parent/guardian being banned from attending York sporting events, or the removal of a student athlete from a team.

Please note: The School policy on alcohol and chemical substances—see page 40—also applies to the use of androgenic/anabolic steroids and other performance-enhancing substances.

Interscholastic Teams

York School is part of the Pacific Coast Athletic League. Team sports are open to any student in grades 9 through 12 interested in participating, whether new to the sport or experienced practitioners; York School does not cut athletes from its teams. Interscholastic team sports meet Monday through Friday afternoons.

Fall Interscholastic Sports

Boys: Water Polo (Co-ed)
Girls: Field Hockey, Tennis, Volleyball
Co-ed: Cross Country

Winter Interscholastic Sports

Boys: Basketball, Soccer
Girls: Basketball, Soccer

Spring Interscholastic Sports

Boys: Lacrosse, Tennis, Volleyball
Girls: Lacrosse, Softball
Co-ed: Track & Field, Swimming, Golf

Health & Fitness activities vary, and students are encouraged to try different activities. Students who opt for a less physical activity to promote well-being (for example, Mathcounts or tutoring) are expected to select a more fitness-oriented activity on alternate days. Health & Fitness activities meet Monday/Friday and Tuesday/Thursday.

Students are required to sign up either for Health & Fitness or an Interscholastic Sports experience. Students show honesty, respect, responsibility, and compassion during these activities as they would in any class. Attendance, punctuality, and a positive attitude are three ways to show appropriate engagement. Excessive tardiness or absence may result in suspension from an interscholastic team, or the loss of off-campus and other privileges for those in Health & Fitness.

Sample Health & Fitness Activities

Badminton
Mathcounts
Mindfulness
Outdoor Basketball
Play Rehearsals
Soccer
Tutoring
Ultimate Frisbee
Volleyball
Walking
Weight Training
Yoga

►HOW TO SIGN UP OR TRANSFER

All students sign up for Interscholastic teams or Health & Fitness activities. An orientation session at the beginning of the school year is given to sign-ups for the first season of Interscholastic sports or the first semester of Health & Fitness. Students may transfer from one activity to another only with permission from both activity teachers and at the discretion of the Health & Fitness Coordinator. Sign-up and transfer forms can be found in the Main Office section of Haiku LMS.

►EARLY ENDING AND LATE START TEAM PRACTICES

Sometimes, an athletic team's practice and game schedule ends before the official end of the Interscholastic sports season. In this case, team members may sign up for a new Interscholastic team or join a Health & Fitness activity of their choice until the end of the school day at 3:30 p.m.

In the event that a team's practice begins later than 2:50 p.m. (e.g., water polo or basketball), team members should sign in to the Library for study hall until 3:30 p.m., unless excused by the Librarian.

►TRANSPORTATION FOR ATHLETIC EVENTS

For the most part, faculty members drive students in School vans when practices or games require that students be transported to another venue. All faculty drivers have been vetted through the California Department of Motor Vehicles. From time to time, parent/guardian drivers, using School vans or personal vehicles, are recruited to supplement faculty drivers. Parents/guardians who volunteer to drive students who are not their own must present a valid California driver's license and complete an Authorization for Release of Driver's Record Information form at the York School Business Office at least two weeks before transporting students for any York School athletic event. Any adult with unsupervised contact with a student in a school setting is required by law to be fingerprinted and cleared by the U.S. Department of Justice.

Remember that no student may transport another student from School to a School-sponsored activity, nor from the activity back to School, except under extraordinary circumstances and with the permission of the Dean of Students and the students' parents/guardians.

►INDEPENDENT HEALTH & FITNESS

Students may participate in an organized independent activity or team sport not offered at York (e.g., martial arts, equestrian, ballet classes, club sports, etc.) in lieu of participating in Health & Fitness activities at School. By the end of the first full week of each semester, the Independent Activity Permission form, available in the Main Office section of the Haiku LMS, needs to be on file with the School Secretary. This form requires the signature of both a parent/guardian and the Health & Fitness Coordinator. Students participating in independent Health & Fitness should arrange to leave campus at 2:50 p.m., signing out with the School Secretary. If they cannot leave at this time, they are required to sign in and study in the Library until they are able to leave.

►ELIGIBILITY FOR INTERSCHOLASTIC SPORTS

In order to maintain eligibility for Interscholastic sports, students must remain in good academic standing. Any student whose grade in a course slips below a C- will be suspended from eligibility until his or her grade improves. Students who begin the second semester on academic warning may earn eligibility for athletic teams if their third quarter grades and comments reflect significant improvement.

It is a league rule that 8th graders may not participate in Interscholastic sports competitions, nor may they practice with York School teams.

Students transferring to York after the beginning of their 9th grade year will need to file the appropriate Sports Eligibility Transfer paperwork. These forms require the signature of the Athletic Director and coach(es) from a student's prior school, along with that of the York School Athletic Director. Please contact York's Athletic Director or Registrar for more information.

► UNIFORMS

Uniforms are issued to students on Interscholastic teams, with the exception of swimmers, and must be returned at the end of the season. Students will be charged for unreturned items.

► YORK SCHOOL DISCIPLINARY/SPORTSMANSHIP PROCEDURE

Steps of Implementation:

1. CIF/CCS Sportsmanship Policy and York School Sportsmanship Pledge is included in the registration material and is read to all students, parents/guardians, faculty, and coaches affiliated with York School prior to each season.
2. Offense of any of the principles stated in the CIF/CCS Sportsmanship Policy and York Sportsmanship Pledge could result in the following:
 - a. The loss of practice and game privileges for one to two games.
 - b. The loss of playing privileges for the respective sport season.
 - c. The loss of playing privileges for the entire school year.

All these sanctions will also have internal School discipline coupled with the loss of playing privileges

SAFETY

The safety of all members of our community, especially our students, is of paramount importance to the School. The following practices are important for promoting that safety. Emergency drills are conducted throughout the school year. In the event of a real emergency, parents/guardians will be notified via the School's off-site provider of emergency contact technology, Blackboard Connect. **It is vital that families ensure the School has up-to-date emergency contact information. When parents/guardians will be out of town, please notify the School Secretary and the Dean of Students, and provide emergency contact phone numbers.**

For a more complete description of safety and emergency procedures, please see the Family Safety Guide, available online or from the School Secretary. **It is essential that families familiarize themselves with the procedures outlined in the Family Safety Guide.**

► SAFETY COMMITTEE

Chaired by a faculty member with extensive experience in safety procedures and best practices, the Safety Committee is comprised of the Director of Finance and Operations, Facilities Use Coordinator, Assistant Head of School, Dean of Students, Athletic Director, Communications, Marketing & Events Manager, Director of Technology, Plant Services Supervisor, School Secretary, and two student representatives. The committee meets monthly and systematically reviews and updates the Safety Plan and Crisis Management Plan.

► FIRST AID AND OTHER SUPPLIES

First aid supplies for minor injuries are available from the Main Office. In addition, all York personnel who have regular contact with students are trained in CPR and standard First Aid. AED kits are located in Room 4, Day Hall, the Science Building, the Gym, and the Athletic Fields across York Road. In the event of an extended "shelter in place" requirement, the School has basic emergency food supplies for all students, staff, and faculty.

► FALSE ALARMS

The law forbids abuse of any alarm system including the 911 emergency number. Any willful act, such as calling a false alarm which disrupts the normal operation of the School community or threatens everyone's safety, is forbidden by law.

► DRUGS, TOBACCO, AND VAPING

York School opposes the use of alcohol, drugs, or nicotine in any form by its students. The term "drugs" includes any chemical substance, the use or possession of which is prohibited by law. Even when medically prescribed, students are prohibited from using or possessing marijuana at School or at any School-sponsored event.

Sharing or sale of prescription drugs with an individual for whom that drug has not been prescribed is extremely dangerous and is strictly prohibited.

The FDA and the American Academy of Pediatricians actively discourage the use of electronic cigarettes, including Juuls, and vaping for teens. The health effects and safety of the drug nicotine are still being studied; however, "JUUL is highly addictive. The concentration of nicotine in JUUL is more than double the concentration found in other e-cigarettes. This high concentration is a serious concern for youth, who are already uniquely susceptible to nicotine addiction. The addictive potential is so high that the US Surgeon General has declared that youth use of nicotine in any form is unsafe" (AAP Factsheet). For these reasons, York School prohibits the use of electronic cigarettes and vaping on campus.

In an effort to encourage students to seek help, both for themselves and their friends, with substance-related issues, the School prefers to engage in education and rehabilitation of the individual. Nonetheless, a student who engages in the following acts will face disciplinary consequences, which may include separation from the School, depending on the extent of danger to the community:

1. Sale, possession, use, or being under the influence of alcohol or drugs on campus or at any School-sponsored activities such as retreats, trips, dances, events at other schools, or community service/service learning activities. The term "under the influence" of alcohol or drugs includes situations in which students consume alcohol or drugs before attending School or participating in any of the School-sponsored activities described above.
2. Possession or use of tobacco products, including e-cigarettes, on campus or at any School-sponsored activities such as retreats, trips, dances, events at other schools, or community service/service learning activities, or when otherwise representing the School.

The School reserves the right to require drug testing, at parent/guardian expense, upon discovering or with reasonable suspicion that a student has been using a prohibited substance.

Sanctuary

Students who seek help for themselves by counseling with the Dean of Students, and those who are honest about their use of illegal substances show an awareness of the effect of their actions on the School community, as well as a willingness to change, and are likely to be afforded a second chance to take a positive role in the School community.

Any student who is concerned for another is encouraged to seek counsel with the Dean of Students. A student who seeks help for a friend shows respect, responsibility, and compassion. In such a circumstance, all possible action will be taken to support and protect both the reporting student and the student of concern.

► PARENT/GUARDIAN OVERSIGHT

For both safety reasons and legal requirements, all York students, regardless of age or national origin, are required to maintain a residence with a parent or adult legal guardian throughout the school year – Parents/guardians who need to be away from the home must provide an appropriate adult to act in loco parentis.

► LOCKER, BACKPACK, VEHICLE INSPECTION POLICY

To protect the safety of all students, School administration reserves the right to inspect lockers, backpacks, and vehicles if there is reasonable suspicion of a threat to safety.

► THINGS TO LEAVE AT HOME

Anything that disrupts the learning environment may not be brought to School. Any item that can cause serious injury or that resembles a weapon is prohibited by law. **"Any person who brings or possesses a weapon of any kind on School grounds will be subject to arrest." (Penal Code 626.9/626.10)** Possession or use of any kind of weapon constitutes a serious offense. Any item resembling a weapon is forbidden.

Wheeled items such as skateboards, scooters, etc. may not be used on campus during the school day or at School-sponsored events for reasons of safety. Please check such items into the Main Office if they must be brought to School. Bicycles may be used ONLY for transportation and should be kept locked during the day.

Students wishing to bring objects for class presentations must receive prior clearance from the Dean of Students.

► VALUABLES

The York community values the trust that comes when all members of the community respect each other's personal property. However, York is an open campus; it is used and visited by many people. We strongly suggest students not bring valuable items or significant amounts of cash to School. When valuables have to be brought, they should be locked in the locker assigned to that student or placed with the Business Office or the Dean of Students for safe keeping during the day. The School is not responsible for students' money or other valuables.

► STUDENT / FACULTY INTERACTIONS

In accordance with California state law, we provide the following section of the Faculty/Staff Handbook for your information.

York School employees and faculty members must maintain professional relationships with students both on and off the campus. Professional relationships between School employees and students are beneficial, and York School encourages employees and faculty members to strive to make a real difference in the lives of their students by cultivating such relationships. As a matter of sound judgment and professional ethics, however, School employees and faculty members have a responsibility to avoid any apparent or actual conflict between their professional responsibilities and personal relationships with students. In light of this responsibility, the following rules have been developed regarding interactions between faculty and students and the educational process:

- Employees and faculty are not permitted to initiate or accept personal social network relationship requests with current students or former students/alumni under the age of 18 and must use professional discretion when social networking with alumni 18 and over. See York School's Social Networking Policy.
- Employees and faculty may not contribute to or be present with students in any situation where civil law and/or school rules are violated.
- Students must be viewed as the "restricted individuals" they are, that is, they are not independent and they are not adults. Wherever students are and whatever they do should be with the explicit knowledge of the parents or guardian. Students are not adults and are not permitted independent decisions. All involvements/interactions with students should be approached from this premise.
- Caution and professional demeanor, language, and conduct are to be observed in all interactions with students.
- Students are never allowed to go to an employee or faculty member's home unless it is a school-sponsored or school-related event and unless approved in advance by the Head of School.
- Transporting students in privately owned vehicles to school-sponsored or school-related events is strictly prohibited unless approved in advance by the Head of School. See York School's Policy On Risk Management.
- Student trips must have a sufficient number of adult chaperones to preclude the appearance of inappropriate personal involvement with students.
- Games or sports activities with students should be engaged in only in the presence of others, or in a place openly accessible/visible to others.
- An employee or faculty member may not date a student or engage in any personal or romantic relationship. A breach of this rule will result in immediate dismissal.
- Employees and faculty members must avoid assuming the role of a "father or mother figure," which tends to create an excessive emotional attachment for all parties.
- Employees and faculty members must never misuse or exploit their authority in their dealings with students.
- While in a room with a student or when a student is present, the door should remain open, or there should be clear visibility through door windows.
- Discussions of a sexual nature must always take place in an appropriate educational context. Sexual jokes, slang or innuendo must be avoided when interacting with students. See York School's Harassment, Discrimination and Retaliation Prevention Policy.
- Topics or vocabulary, which could not comfortably be used in the presence of parents or the Head of School shall not be used with students.
- Alcohol shall not be consumed in the presence of students, unless the administration has authorized its use at a School-sponsored event, nor should alcohol be used irresponsibly prior to attending School events. See York School's Drug Free Workplace Policy.
- Employees and faculty members must respect the physical boundaries of their students. Students must never be touched punitively, nor should they be touched in any way that could be construed as inappropriately affectionate. See York School's Corporal Punishment Policy and Harassment, Discrimination and Retaliation Prevention Policy.

All employees must adhere to the rules stated in this policy. Any violation of this policy may result in disciplinary action, up to and including termination of employment.

DISCIPLINARY PROCEDURES

It is expected at all times York School students will be guided by the principles of honesty, respect, responsibility, and compassion. Nonetheless, we recognize it is part of the human condition to make mistakes. Adolescents especially, for many reasons, can make poor choices. One aspect of the School's mission is to prepare creative, independent thinkers for the wider world. Part of this preparation is to learn how to take responsibility for one's actions and to rectify one's mistakes. Another part is to recognize the ways in which one's choices and actions affect one's community. In all disciplinary matters, the School is guided by these considerations: First, what is best for the community as a whole? Then, what is best for the individual student? Finally, what can we learn from this event? The goals of the disciplinary process are:

- to ensure a fair, consistent, and reasonable application of School rules and regulations
- to protect the welfare of the School community, and
- to work with students when mistakes are made and to try to turn such situations into useful learning opportunities.

York School reserves the right to dismiss, at any time, students whose conduct, influence, spirit, activities, or academic standing the School regards as undesirable, unsatisfactory, or detrimental to the School community. Students are reminded that violation of city, county, state, or federal laws—on or off the School campus—may provide grounds for disciplinary action.

► PROCESS

Faculty members accept the responsibility of guiding student conduct in and out of the classroom. When necessary, the Dean of Students and the Disciplinary Committee Chair are in charge of the administration of School discipline. Disciplinary matters are usually handled by the Disciplinary Committee, composed of one elected student per class and three appointed teachers, which recommends actions to the Head of School. Discipline cases such as those involving the major School rules, the use of controlled substances, violence or threats of violence, harassment, bullying or cyber-bullying, may go directly to the Head of School.

In the event of an accusation, the Dean of Students and/or the Disciplinary Committee Head conduct an investigation to determine whether the alleged improper conduct occurred, to gather all possible facts about the circumstance, and to determine if the accusation warrants further action by the Disciplinary Committee or the Head of School. All individuals associated with any disciplinary action make every reasonable effort to maintain confidentiality and to protect the privacy of the parties involved during and after the investigation. Any attempt to interfere with or influence an investigation is strictly prohibited. The Dean of Students and/or the Disciplinary Committee Chair report to the Head of School, providing a synopsis of the allegations, the results of the investigation, and a recommended course of action.

Students in violation of major School rules may be placed on leave pending recommendation of the Disciplinary Committee and/or the Head of School.

The final decision in all disciplinary matters always rests with the Head of School.

While the School remains committed to protecting the privacy of every student, as part of our goal of turning disciplinary situations into useful learning opportunities and promoting discussions of issues of personal safety and accountability, the School reserves the right to explain disciplinary actions to the student body at Break or other community gatherings.

► HARASSMENT AND BULLYING

York School is committed to providing a safe environment for its students, in which they are free from harassment of any type, including cyberbullying, sexual harassment, and threats or intimidation based upon political affiliation, religious creed, race, country of origin, sex, gender orientation/identification, physical or mental disability, or medical condition. If any student believes that he or she has been the victim of such bullying or harassment, the student should promptly report the incident to the Dean of Students, or to any other faculty or staff member to whom the student

feels comfortable making such a report. Students witnessing harassing or bullying behavior, whether or not it is directed at them, are expected to report the incident to the Dean of Students or to any other faculty or staff member to whom the student feels comfortable making such a report. Every complaint of harassment or bullying, whether in person or through cyberbullying, will be promptly and fully investigated. Any student who is found guilty of harassment or bullying, or of retaliating against someone who has reported harassment or bullying, will be subject to the School's disciplinary procedures. The policy applies, whether in person or through written/digital communications, to students on School grounds, during off-campus School-sponsored activities, and while traveling to and from School or a School-sponsored activity.

Sexting is a violation of the School's foundational tenets of respect and responsibility. The passing on of a shared image to another viewer or viewers is a form of sexual harassment and bullying, as well as a violation of the School's tenets. Law enforcement officials are increasingly involved in cases of sexting, and both the originator of an image and its recipient(s) may be charged with sexual offenses. The School will investigate any allegation of sexting, and may report its findings to local law enforcement.

While the School cannot possibly monitor all online or digital communications, any behavior, whether on campus or off campus, that has a negative effect on the safe environment of the School will be subject to investigation and disciplinary action as warranted.

► PLAGIARISM

Plagiarism is the act of presenting work of another as one's own. This includes presenting another's ideas or words in writing, whether verbatim or paraphrased, without proper acknowledgement of the source. Plagiarism is particularly odious in a setting such as York School that values itself as a community of learners. At the start of each year, teachers will explain plagiarism to students. Thereafter, any student found plagiarizing will face one or more of the following consequences, as determined by the teacher in consultation with the Assistant Head of School, the Dean of Students, the Class Dean and the Disciplinary Committee Chair:

- a grade of F on the assignment
- resubmission of the assignment, without credit, to the teacher's standard
- loss of privileges, including sports, clubs, plays, concerts, dances, etc. until the work is completed
- notification of parents/guardians
- disciplinary probation

In the event of a second offense, the student may also face suspension, which becomes part of a student's record and will be reported to colleges requesting such information. In the unlikely event of a third offense, a student may face separation from the School.

► DISCIPLINARY ACTIONS

Be aware that any disciplinary action becomes part of a student's file. Should probation or suspension occur, colleges requesting such information must be informed. During the college application process, many colleges and universities, including those subscribing to the Common Application, ask students whether they have been the subject of a disciplinary action that resulted in probation, suspension, or separation from the School. We encourage students to answer this question honestly and openly. In those instances in which the question is answered in the affirmative, the College Counselor will assist the student in developing a personal statement that will help put the situation in context. Upon direct request from a college or university, the College Counselor will honestly and fully disclose information pertaining to a student's discipline record. Should a student's disciplinary status change after the filing of college applications, the student has the opportunity and obligation to inform all schools to which an application has been submitted or an enrollment deposit made. The College Counselor may also inform these colleges. The student should work closely with the College Counselor in any of these circumstances.

Records of most disciplinary actions are destroyed following a student's graduation. Corporal punishment is antithetical to York School values and will not be used under any circumstances.

Warning

Given by teachers or staff to any student whose conduct impedes orderly classroom procedures or interferes with the orderly operation of the School, a warning reminds the student of his or her responsibilities.

Loss of Privileges

Given by a Class Dean, the Dean of Students, or the Chair of the Disciplinary Committee, upon recommendation of teachers or staff, to any student whose conduct violates School Regulations, or to a student who receives repeated warnings. Parents/guardians may be notified.

Disciplinary Probation

At the discretion of the Head of School, the Dean of Students, or the Disciplinary Committee Chair, a student may be placed on disciplinary probation, which provides a serious admonition, and may include other restrictions. Probation provides a step short of suspension or separation from the School, indicating that the student's position at the School is insecure. Probation also gives the student a specified period of time in which to prove that he or she can meet the standards of the School and should be allowed to remain. Parents/guardians are notified. The Head of School may take into account the student's past record in cases involving suspension and separation from the School.

Suspension

Suspension is a very serious penalty that bans a student from campus for a specified time. While on suspension, the student remains responsible for all academic work. Before returning to the classroom, an interview with the Head of School is required. Following suspension, the student remains on probation. Parents/guardians are notified. In cases involving suspension, the Head of School makes the final decision.

Separation from the School

Upon thorough investigation by the Head of School, the Dean of Students, and the Disciplinary Committee Chair, a student may be asked to leave the School. In all such cases, the Head of School makes the final decision.

BUSINESS OFFICE

The team in our Business Office handles all financial matters for the School, and is available to help families with:

- enrollment agreements and student billing
- tuition assistance
- YP and student organization reimbursements

► ENROLLMENT AGREEMENTS AND STUDENT BILLING

For specific payment details, families should consult their contracts, also called the York School Enrollment Agreement.

Non-Payment Policy

As outlined in your Enrollment Agreement and in accordance with the policies of the Board of Trustees, a student account must be paid in full and current at all times. Failure to comply with this policy will result in the following consequences:

- Students will not be permitted to begin any semester unless all scheduled payments of tuition and fees have been paid in full for the current and any previous semester.
- Students will not be permitted to take final examinations unless all scheduled payments of tuition and fees have been paid in full.
- Failure to take final examinations may affect a student's ability to graduate or to receive academic credit for the semester. An incomplete transcript, especially in the senior year, may affect college acceptance and enrollment.

Fees and Other Costs: Fees for out-of-town sports competitions, selected field trips, and other miscellaneous expenses will be billed monthly. We realize that processing payments for small amounts can be inconvenient. However, it is our accounting policy to issue monthly statements for each family with account balances and to add a finance charge to any statements that are more than 30 days past due. To alleviate this inconvenience, we suggest maintaining a small credit balance in the range of \$25 to \$50 in your student's account, from which such charges may be deducted. We will deduct the charges for any small expenses each month and continue to send monthly statements.

Students will be charged replacement costs for library books, rented theatrical materials, and sports uniforms that are not returned.

Graduation Fee: A graduation fee of \$250 is billed on the senior year enrollment agreement. The fee covers the following expenses:

- caps and gowns
- 30 graduation announcements—families can order additional announcements directly from the vendor at their own expense
- graduation program printing
- organizing, processing, and mailing transcripts
- rental fee and materials for graduation
- maintenance staff overtime wages for set up
- purchasing and engraving awards and plaques

Weekly Lesson Plan Books: Lesson plan books are available for purchase in the Business Office for \$5.

Testing Fees: Fees for tests such as the APs and PSATs will be billed to families according to the fee schedules provided by the College Board. All testing fees must be paid before the AP or the PSAT tests are administered. If students fail to take the tests because of non-payment of fees, families may still be required to pay test return fees. Test fees may vary according to the type of the test for which the student is registered.

Student Accident Insurance

York School has purchased insurance with Fairmont Specialty for the purpose of administering a group accident plan for our students injured during a school-sponsored event.

Families are reimbursed for eligible expenses that are not payable by any other valid and collectible insurance in the possession of the insured. If a student is not covered by any other valid and collectible insurance, then York School Accident Insurance becomes the student's primary insurance coverage. When a student has other coverage (e.g., coverage through a parent's/guardian's employer-employee plan) then the accident plan may reimburse the family for some expenses not payable by the primary plan. Examples of out-of-pocket expenses excluded by the primary plan include deductibles, co-pays, and co-insurance. These out-of-pocket expenses may be covered by York School Accident Insurance.

York School Accident Insurance is considered as primary when a claimant is covered by Medicaid, including Child Health Plus, and plans designed expressly for individuals in the Armed Forces, and is subject to exclusions and limitations which are outlined in the master policy held by the School.

All claims must be filed with the School Secretary within 30 days of the date of occurrence.

► TUITION ASSISTANCE

York's commitment to tuition assistance is not only a critical part of its mission but also a big part of what makes it an exceptional school, with a student body that is diverse in its ethnic, racial, religious, and socio-economic backgrounds. All families who are interested in tuition assistance are encouraged to apply.

2019-2020 Tuition Assistance Deadlines

February 1, 2020 Submit Online Parent Financial Statement—York School Code is 8386

February 21, 2020 Submit Federal Tax Returns (Form 1040 or 1040A, W-2(s), and all schedules)

- 2019 Federal Return for returning TA families
- 2018 & 2019 Federal returns for new TA families

Annual Review

Tuition assistance grant requests are reviewed annually for all families. All tuition assistance decisions are based on information about income and assets from the most recent year. Students currently receiving tuition assistance can expect an award in succeeding years, as long as documented need continues. The needs of returning students are met first, but in fairness to incoming students, parents must file for tuition assistance on a timely basis. Please consult *You Can Afford York* on the website, updated annually, for more information.

Thank You Letters

All students receiving tuition assistance are required to write thank you letters. Students and parents/guardians will receive information about thank you letters at the beginning of the school year from the Advancement Office. The requirement to write a thank you letter is included in the enrollment agreement.

For more information on our tuition assistance program and how to apply, please contact Vicki Norman at vnorman@york.org / x134 or visit york.org/tuition-assistance.

► YP REIMBURSEMENTS AND STUDENT ORGANIZATION

Check requests are used to process disbursements not paid through the Business Office's usual purchasing procedures. These disbursements include personal reimbursement, subscriptions, professional fees, petty cash reimbursement, and those purchases for which the School's purchase order is not used. All check requests, including those for personal reimbursement, require the approval of the Department Chair or the York Parents Treasurer and original supporting documentation such as a receipt. A copy of a canceled check, unless accompanied by a bill from a payee, is not considered a sufficient supporting document by itself. Check requests that do not have the proper supporting documentation and approval will be returned for additional documentation.

