Dear Parents and Students:

Welcome! It is with great honor that I serve God as the Secondary Principal at Stillwater Christian School.

I believe that your decision regarding who will partner with you, as parents, in the education of your children is one of the most important you make on their behalf. I am excited to work alongside each of you. There is great reward in working with young people and an even greater responsibility to magnify and solidify the inseparable relationship that exists between our God and the academic classroom. In his letter to the Colossians, the Apostle Paul establishes the rationale for our pursuit of excellence - to know Him and make Him known.

“He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation. For by Him all things were created; things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or powers or rulers or authorities; all things were created by Him and for Him. He is before all things, and in Him all things hold together. And He is the head of the body, the church; He is the beginning and the firstborn from among the dead, so that in everything He might have the supremacy. For God was pleased to have all His fullness dwell in Him, and through Him to reconcile to Himself all things, whether things on earth or things in heaven, by making peace through His blood, shed on the cross.”
Colossians 1:15-20

We are stewards of a priceless treasure in the knowledge of God and what He accomplished through the cross of Jesus Christ. Our faculty and staff are dedicated to providing a biblically faithful and excellent program. It is our desire that our students graduate SCS well equipped to make God’s name famous around the world through their lives and work. We take this task seriously and we know you do, too. Our pursuit of excellence only ends when we stand in the presence of our Savior waiting to hear the words, “Well done my good and faithful servant.”

Please pray with us for God’s wisdom and direction for the school year as we seek to be obedient to Him and a strong support for you through our work. This handbook exists to provide guidance and establish expectations for day-to-day operations.

God bless you,
Mike Annis
Stillwater Christian School Secondary Principal
# Table of Contents

**INSTITUTIONAL STATEMENTS**  
Mission 5  
Vision 5  
Statement of Faith 5  
Core Values 6  
Non-Discrimination Policy 7  
Open Enrollment 7  

**ORGANIZATION**  
Accreditation / Affiliations 8  
Board of Directors 8  
Parent Teacher Organization 8  
School/Home Communication 9  
Assistance Directory 10  

**GENERAL POLICIES**  
Athletic Eligibility 12  
Attendance 13  
Bring Your Own Device (7th-12th grade) 13  
Campus Visitors 14  
Closed Campus 14  
Credit Recovery 15  
Dress Code 15  
Chapel Dress 17  
Dual Enrollment 17  
Facility Use 18  
Graduation Requirements 19  
Immunizations 19  
Inclement Weather/School Closures 20  
Lockers 20  
Lost and Found 20  
Lunch 20  
Personal Electronic Devices 21  
School Hours 21  
Senior Activities Participation Requirements 21  
Sexual Harassment 22  
Student Behavior Expectations 22  
Student Discipline 22
INSTITUTIONAL STATEMENTS

IN THIS SECTION:
- Mission Statement
- Vision Statement
- Statement of Faith
- Core Values
- Non-Discrimination Policy
- Open Enrollment

Mission
To equip students with the tools for learning through a Christ-centered education.

Vision
To develop lifelong learners who discern and apply God’s Truth as they serve and lead wherever God calls.

Statement of Faith
We believe the Bible to be the verbal plenary, divinely inspired, authoritative and inerrant Word of God, our sole authority.

We believe in only one God, eternally existing in three persons: Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

We believe in the Deity of Jesus Christ: His virgin birth; His sinless life; His miracles; His substitutionary and atoning death; His bodily resurrection; His ascension to the right hand of the Father; His present work of intercession; His personal forthcoming return in power and glory.

We believe that all human beings are sinners before God and apart from salvation through Jesus Christ are unable to avoid eternal condemnation.

We believe that for the salvation of lost and sinful persons, regeneration by the Holy Spirit leading to personal faith in Jesus Christ is essential.

We believe in the present ministry of the Holy Spirit, by whose indwelling and renewing the Christian is enabled to live a Godly life.
We believe in the resurrection of both the saved and the lost, those who are saved unto the resurrection of eternal life, and those that are lost unto the resurrection of condemnation.

We believe in the spiritual unity of all believers in our Lord Jesus Christ.

We believe the creation of the universe and human beings was a unique, designed act of God and that man and woman were made in the image and likeness of God.

We believe that God wonderfully and immutably creates each person as male or female, and that these two distinct, complementary sexes together reflect the image and nature of God.

We believe that God created marriage to be exclusively the union of one man and one woman, and that intimate sexual activity is to occur exclusively within that union.

We believe that all human life is sacred and created by God in His image. Human life is of inestimable worth in all its dimensions, including pre-born babies, the aged, the physically or mentally challenged, and every other stage or condition from conception through natural death.

Revised by the SCS Board in March 2019

Core Values

SCS is committed to the following core values:

- a classical approach to teaching and learning which equips students to think, write and speak clearly and to be thoroughly grounded with a biblical worldview.
- developing Christian character for life through instruction, in relationships, in work habits and decision making.
- a staff who are role models as followers of Christ and who demonstrate that the Christian faith encompasses all of life.
- a faculty of gifted teachers who are enthusiastic learners and who establish caring relationships with students that transcend the classroom experience.
- honoring family and church as God ordained institutions and teaching values that reinforce families’ efforts to raise their children biblically.
- the fine arts as a means of praising God in a variety of modes as students learn basic technique and appreciation for the various disciplines of the Fine Arts.
• providing *athletic opportunities* that develop Christian character, leadership, teambuilding, and preparation for life.
• maintaining *independence* as a private, non-denominational school with third party associations and accreditations that advance our mission.

**Non-Discrimination Policy**

Stillwater Christian School admits students of any race, sex, disability, color, national and ethnic origin to all the rights, privileges, programs, and activities generally accorded or made available to students at the school. It does not discriminate on the basis of race, sex, disability, color, national and ethnic origin in administration of its educational policies, admissions policies, scholarship and loan programs, and athletic and other school-administered programs.

**Open Enrollment**

Enrollment at Stillwater Christian School is open to all families that desire a comprehensive biblical education for their children regardless of race, color, gender, national origin, or denominational affiliation and who agree to have their children educated according to Stillwater Christian School’s Statement of Faith.

Given the breadth of diversity within the Stillwater community, there may be times when the school’s doctrinal portions are not aligned with the family’s own interpretation of Scripture or point of view. Parents/guardians must support Stillwater Christian School’s deliberate integration of faith in ways that are aligned with its Statement of Faith and permit their children to be taught according to Stillwater Christian School’s educational philosophy and Christ-centered educational process.
ORGANIZATION

IN THIS SECTION:

● Accreditation and Affiliation
● Board of Directors
● Parent Teacher Organization (PTO)
● School/Home Communication
● Assistance Director

Accreditation / Affiliations

Stillwater Christian School is an independent, inter-denominational, non-profit 501(c) 3, tax exempt organization and is accredited by the Association of Christian Schools International (ACSI) and Cognia. Stillwater Christian School is also a member in good standing with the Council on Educational Standards and Accountability (CESA) and the Montana Christian Athletic Association (MCAA). Transcripts from Stillwater Christian High School are accepted by any other accredited high school or college/university.

Board of Directors

SCS is an independent Christian School governed by a Board of Directors. The Board of Directors is the chief policy-making body of the school. The following individuals currently serve on the SCS Board:

Mr. Justin Mckerrow, Chairman
Mr. David Fetveit, Vice Chairman
Mr. John Thomas, Treasurer
Mr. Michael Thompson, Secretary
Dr. Tom George
Mrs. Kristen Heck
Mr. Luke Knoll
Mr. Ray Thompson

Parent Teacher Organization

Parent involvement is critical to Stillwater Christian School’s overall effectiveness. Stillwater Christian School’s Parent Teacher Organization (PTO) exists to enrich the learning environment and coordinate the efforts of parents willing to volunteer. The PTO works under the direction of and in collaboration with the Head of School. All parents of SCS students are members of the PTO and are expected to volunteer 30 hours per year. The PTO meets once per month on regularly scheduled dates. Anyone desiring to serve on the PTO Board is asked to attend meetings on a regular basis.
School/Home Communication

A telephone call or email is the best way to communicate with teachers. Parents can leave messages directly with teachers (through individual extensions) by calling the school office at 406-752-4400. All Stillwater teachers and office staff emails are first initial followed by the last name (example jdoe@scscougars.org).

Respecting Boundaries

It is important that parents realize that SCS faculty and staff have lives outside of the professional work God asks them to do each day. Many of them are spouses and parents and need uninterrupted time to flourish in those roles. Additionally, all of them are part of the body of Christ and need time to fellowship with others outside of the school community. Therefore, teachers are encouraged to operate within the following boundaries designed to protect their time.

- Faculty and staff are not required to respond to parent communication before 7:30am and after 5pm each weekday.
- Faculty and staff are not required to respond to parent communication on Saturdays, Sundays, or holidays.
- Faculty and staff are expected to respond to parent communication with 48 hours of receipt (72 hours if communication is received on Friday).

Infinite Campus

Infinite Campus is Stillwater Christian School’s school management software. Within Infinite Campus, student and family records are kept and progress and report cards are generated. Parents of students may download the IC app onto smartphones to receive real-time notifications on grades, attendance, and dress code violations. For day to day reporting, parents can find the following information on IC:

- Attendance
- Grades
- Dress Code Infractions
- Lunch balances
- Fees

Google Classroom

Teaching faculty at SCS are required to post all assignments and due dates, quizzes, tests, and digital resources in their Google Classrooms on the day students are notified of the assignment, project, quiz, or test. Students who are absent, either planned or unplanned, can access all necessary information to stay current with classwork.

Shout Point (Infinite Campus Emergency Messenger)

Shout Point is a mass-communication tool used by Stillwater Christian School to communicate with all families simultaneously through text message or email. This tool is used for emergency communications and inclement weather decisions. To receive Shout
Point messages, current cell phone numbers for parents must be on file in the school office. Through Infinite Campus' Parent Portal, or by contacting the Upper School office, alert options can be customized.

**Messages to Students**

We recognize that in the busyness of life, daily plans change and events occur that require communication between parents and students after students have been dropped off/arrived at school for the day. To support Stillwater Christian School’s Student Personal Device Policy, parents should not text or call their children unless the message can be received after 3 p.m. each day. To honor the time students and teachers have together in classes, parents are asked to take the least intrusive method and avoid having students or teachers called out of class unless the need is urgent. When those situations occur, parents can take the following avenues:

**Email to Teachers:** Parents can communicate messages through classroom teachers via email, especially those that pertain to early dismissals or a change of daily routine that would affect attendance in one the student’s classes.

**Email to the Student:** Parents of students in 7th-12th grade may email their children through their student’s scscougars.org email address (assigned to all students).

**Telephone call to the Upper School office:** Parents may get messages to students by calling the Upper School office.

**Assistance Directory**

Parents are encouraged to seek the answers they need to make informed decisions and understand expectations. To avoid frustration and confusion, parents are encouraged to visit the Stillwater Christian School website (stillwaterchristianschool.org) and to read this Parent/Student Handbook. While many questions are answered between these two resources, it is important that parents know who to contact for any questions or concerns that remain. The following are primary contacts for specific areas within Stillwater Christian School.

**Attendance:** Marie Johnson (5th-12th grade)
Email: mjohnson@scscougars.org
Phone: Extension #151

**Student Success Coordinator:** Michelle Fetveit
Email: mfetveit@scscougars.org
Phone: Extension #177
**Admissions**: Renee Wynne  
Email: rwynne@scscougars.org  
Phone: Extension #154 or (406) 471-1177

**Athletic Director**: Andy Harrel  
Email: aharrel@scscougars.org  
Phone: Extension #180

**Tuition and Fees**: Amy Orem  
Email: aorem@scscougars.org  
Phone: Extension #152

**Financial Aid**: Amy Orem  
Email: aorem@scscougars.org  
Phone: Extension #152

**Infinite Campus login**: Marie Johnson  
Email: mjohnson@scscougars.org  
Phone: Extension #151

**PTO**: Melissa Linrude, President  
Email: melissalinrude@gmail.com  
Phone: Extension #15

**Division Level Principals**:  
**PK-4th Grade**: Tracie Lindborg  
Email: tlindborg@scscougars.org  
Phone: Extension #254

**5th-12th Grade**: Michael Annis  
Email: mannis@scscougars.org  
Phone: Extension #176
GENERAL POLICIES

IN THIS SECTION

- Athletic Eligibility
- Attendance
- Bring Your Own Device
- Campus Visitors
- Closed Campus
- Credit Recovery
- Dress Code
- Chapel Dress
- Dual Enrollment
- Facility Use
- Graduation Requirements
- Immunizations
- Inclement Weather/School Closure
- Lockers
- Lost and Found
- Lunch
- Personal Electronic Devices
- School Hours
- Senior Activity Requirements
- Sexual Harassment
- Student Behavior Expectations
- Student Discipline
- Student Drivers and Parking
- Student Late Work
- Student Search and Seizure
- Substance Abuse Policy
- Valedictorian/Salutatorian

**Athletic Eligibility**

Athletic participation at Stillwater Christian School provides a unique opportunity for students and coaches to pursue the SCS mission through a different avenue. It is, though, an activity that must find its proper place in the athlete's prioritization of time. Student athletes are prominent figures both on and off campus and are, therefore, held to a high standard. To provide proper accountability for student athletes, the following defines how athletic eligibility will be managed:

- All student athletes (5th-12th) will have weekly grade checks after the start of each athletic season. The Athletic Director/Secondary Principal will determine when the 1st grade check is for each sport.
- A student athlete will be deemed "ineligible" if they have one F or two D's.
- Ineligibility periods last a total of one week.
- Students who are ineligible will not be allowed to participate in any competitive games/matches during their ineligibility period. Students will be required to sit on the bench during home games, and they will not be allowed to travel to away games. Students will also be required to attend all scheduled practices.
- If a student is ineligible twice in the same season, the Athletic Director will schedule a meeting with the student, the student's parents, and the head coach of that sport to establish a formal corrective plan. If a student is ineligible three times in the same
season, the student will not be allowed to participate in that sport for the remainder of that season.

**Attendance**

SCS is committed to the philosophy and practice of classroom academic instruction. Each school day provides new learning experiences and opportunities to grow. In addition, the social and relational aspects of the learning process are as significant as the content and subject matter. While some elements of a missed classroom experience may be repeated or recovered, certain facets are lost, to the student's detriment. Therefore, you are expected to attend and participate in all classes.

*Perfect attendance* is defined as being at school or at school sponsored activities whenever school is in session. Missing class for any reason other than a school-sanctioned event (including medical appointments) disqualifies a student from perfect attendance.

**Tardiness**

It is imperative that students learn the value of time and the importance of being on time; a demonstration of honoring the value of others' time. Students are to be seated in their 1st period classes when the bell rings at 8 a.m. Those who arrive after 8 a.m. will be marked tardy by their 1st period teacher and must be checked in at the Upper School office before going to class.

A student who arrives at school tardy and unexcused three times will be placed in detention. Each time a student reaches three unexcused tardies, they will serve after school detention. It is important that students realize that after-school detention supersedes participation in athletic practice or competition and personal commitments.

**Absences**

Parents and students should strive to avoid absences whenever possible. At Stillwater, absences are recorded in Infinite Campus as either excused or unexcused.

Students who arrive late to school or leave early from school are required to sign in and out in the Upper School office.

When students are absent, whether planned or unplanned, they are responsible to initiate make-up work with the class(es) they missed. Parents and students should carefully read the “*Make-Up Work*” section to ensure they understand the expectations to which they will be held.
Bring Your Own Device (7th-12th grade)

Students growing up in the 21st century live in a digital world. While most are familiar with the casual use of digital devices, it is imperative that they become technologically proficient, understanding how to harness the power of technology to do God glorifying work both in the present and the future. Therefore, SCS has a “Bring Your Own Device” policy for 7th-12th grade students. Each student having his or her own device allows for digital collaboration, information sharing, research, and creating. Student devices should meet the requirements outlined in the BYOD Buyer’s Guide.

Students who forget their devices, fail to charge them, or lose the privilege of bringing devices to school may check one out in the office if a device is available. Students and parents should not rely on availability as supplies are limited or count on a device being available to check out.

Campus Visitors

Stillwater Christian School faculty and staff welcome parents, family and friends to school at any time. As Stillwater is a closed campus and the safety of our students is a high priority, all visitors to the school grounds must follow proper check-in procedures.

1. All visitors must enter through the Upper School’s main door, sign in, and obtain a Visitor badge.
2. All visitors must wear the Visitor badge in plain sight
3. All visitors must sign out, recording the time of their departure, and return the Visitor badge before leaving through the Upper School’s main door

Arrangements to visit the school’s campus by those not directly associated with Stillwater Christian School must be made in advance, by either the visitors, themselves, or the faculty/staff that invited them. On the day of the visit, visitors must check in at the office where they will be escorted to the classroom being visited.

Students from other schools, or SCS alumni, desiring to visit current students may do so by notifying the main office prior to their visit. Visitation may only take place during the lunch period so as not to disrupt the school day.

Closed Campus

The safety and security of Stillwater Christian School students is of highest priority. Therefore, the campus is considered a “Closed Campus”. With the daily exception of 7:45-8 a.m., all exterior doors should remain locked at all times with the exception of the doors closest to the Upper School office. Doors should not be propped open. The Head of School may make exceptions to the “Closed Campus” status when school-sanctioned events deem it appropriate to leave doors unlocked for a designated period. Visitors intending to stay on campus must
follow established procedures for being inside the school building between the hours of 7:00 a.m. and 5:30 p.m. each weekday.

**5th-11th Grade:** Stillwater Christian School students may not leave campus without express permission given to the Upper School office. 10th and 11th grade students who drive may not sit in their cars during the school day nor can they be released from school to run errands. With a telephone call to the Upper School office, parents may give permission to release driving students for medical appointments. Students capable of driving themselves must sign out and in at the Upper School office.

**Seniors:** With written permission from parents, SCS seniors have the freedom to leave campus during their designated lunch period and one study hall per quarter. They must sign out and sign back in at the Upper School office. All other students must stay on campus for the duration of the school day.

### Credit Recovery

Stillwater Christian School high school students who fail to earn required credit(s) for graduation are responsible to earn the credit from an institution (either online or brick and mortar) approved by Stillwater Christian School administration. As credit recovery places stress on students due to the additional workload, it is imperative that students do their best to earn every credit on their first attempt at a class.

### Dress Code

The dress code used by Stillwater Christian School exists to reflect the school’s expectations for appropriate student dress and to align with three goals:

1. Uphold an expectation of neatness and modesty.
2. Establish a “uniform” standard by which compliance is measured and enforcement is held.
3. Reinforce the truth that different articles of clothing may be appropriate for different activities/environments/ages in life.

The primary responsibility for student dress lies with the parents. If there is any concern that an article of clothing is too close to guarantee compliance with the standard, parents should designate that clothing item for outside of school hours. “If in doubt, don’t wear it” is the general guideline to follow. All clothing should be suitable for the gender of the person wearing it. At a glance, the dress code is fairly lenient which gives students freedom to make decisions within an established set of guidelines.

**Shirts and Tops:**

- Shirts must be clean, modest, and sleeved
  - No low necklines, sheer/see-through materials, or exposed midriff when arms are raised
  - No tank tops or muscle shirts
● Logos or other advertising should be appropriate for a K-12th grade Christian school
  ○ No vulgar, derogatory, or profane graphics

**Pants, jeans, and slacks:**
- Pants should be in good repair, not torn or having holes, or patched.
- Skirts and dresses must be within four inches from the crease in the back of the knee. *Students should strive to clearly exceed this measurement to avoid being checked if the skirt/dress is close.*
- Dress shorts must have an inseam of at least six inches.
- Tights and leggings may only be worn under skirts or dresses that meet the dress code. They should not be worn with only a long shirt over them.
- Yoga pants, Jeggings, sweatpants, lounge wear, athletic pants or shorts, and sleepwear are not permitted.

**Hats, caps, sweatshirt hoods, and bandanas** may not be worn in the building during the academic day between 7:45-3:30.

**Hair styles** should be neat, well-groomed, of natural color and out of the eyes, regardless of the style. Facial hair, if worn, must be neat and well-kept.

**Piercings** should be removed with the exception of female ear piercings. While **tattoos** are discouraged, non-offensive tattoos do not need to be covered.

**Dress Code Enforcement:**
With any form of discipline, its purpose is to both encourage good choices and deter bad behavior. It is very important that students strive to comply with the SCS dress code and resist the temptation to see how far the limits or definitions may be pushed. The following are goals and expectations for the process of dress code enforcement:

1. Address infractions first thing in the morning.
2. Avoid drawing unnecessary attention to students who need to be corrected.
3. Inform parents of specific infractions in a timely fashion.
4. Female students are only addressed by female faculty.

On Each Infraction:
- Infraction will be recorded in Infinite Campus.
- Parents will receive email notification.
- Parents are required to sign acknowledgement of the violation.

**Disciplinary Steps:**
- **First Occasion:** Formal warning
- **Second Occasion:** Formal warning
- **Third Occasion:**
  - Non-driving students must go to the office (and remain in the office) until appropriate clothes are brought from home. Students are required to initiate make-up work for classes missed within the late-work policy time frame.
Driving students must go home to change into appropriate attire. Students are required to initiate make-up work for classes missed within the late-work policy time frame.

- **Fourth Occasion:**
  - Same consequences as for the 3rd occasion plus student will serve detention

- **Fifth Occasion:**
  - Same as consequences for 4th occasion plus meeting with parents.

### Chapel Dress

On chapel days, the student dress standard changes in accordance with the events of the day. Students are expected to remain in chapel dress throughout the day (with the exception of changing for PE). The following defines expected dress for SCS Chapel:

- **Young Men:**
  - Button down, dress shirt
  - Tie or bowtie
  - Dress pants or slacks (not colored denim or blue jeans)

- **Young Ladies:**
  - Dress or skirt that meets dress code expectations
  - **Loose fitting dress slacks** (no colored denim)

Students who choose to come to school out of chapel dress on chapel days are expected to call home and wait in the office for an appropriate change of clothes.

### Dual Enrollment

Students enrolled full-time at Stillwater Christian School may not dual enroll with the local public high schools. Students may be dual enrolled with an online academy for the following opportunities:

- Credit Recovery
- Classes not offered for credit at Stillwater Christian School

Students seeking dual enrollment with an outside educational institution must have both the institution and the course approved by administration before the credit will be counted towards graduation.

**Seniors** interested in participating in Flathead Valley Community College’s (FVCC) **Running Start** program must talk with the Student Success Coordinator prior to enrollment in the program. Seniors may not take classes at FVCC that are required and offered at Stillwater Christian School.

Parents who elect to enroll SCS students in either online academies or Running Start (for Seniors) will assume the cost of those classes.
There are a few other key points that parents must consider when choosing an online academy:

1. The online academy must be accredited by an agency that is equivalent to the accreditations held by SCS. Some of these include the State of Montana, Cognia, or the Association of Christian Schools International.
2. The online academy must provide a “package deal” for parents and students. This means that the academy provides instruction, assessments, and reporting. For courses that SCS does not currently offer, the SCS faculty does not have the expertise to facilitate classes at a level higher than providing a student the place to work.
3. The online academy must provide the parents/students a formal report of progress each quarter or semester that denotes the grade received and, at the end of the course, the credit earned. That final report must be provided to the Upper School office for inclusion in the student’s cumulative file.
4. Credits earned through an approved online academy will be accepted by SCS towards graduation. They are not noted as SCS credits. On final transcripts, they are noted as credits earned through the institutions where they were received.
5. Grades earned from institutions other than SCS are not calculated into a student’s cumulative GPA.

Facility Use

God has entrusted Stillwater Christian School with a fantastic facility and grounds. Since the school ultimately belongs to God, He has asked each of us to be good stewards of it. Good stewardship includes taking care of fixtures and furniture, leaving the facility and grounds in a better condition than they were found, and maintaining a neat and orderly environment that can be enjoyed by all.

Restrooms

Students may use the restrooms before and after school, between class periods, and during lunchtime. Loitering in restrooms is not permitted. Students who are ill should report to the office and not go to/remain in the restroom. Consistent with the SCS Statement of Faith, students and campus visitors must use restrooms, locker rooms, and changing facilities conforming with their biological sex.

Conference Room

The Conference Room connected to the high school lobby is a professional space and should be treated as such. It may be used for individual or small group study. No food or drinks may be consumed in the Conference Room nor should the chairs or table be used as a footrest. After use, it must be left clean, neat, and arranged for the next group.

High School Lobby

The SCS high school lobby is designed to support fellowship and community building amongst students. High school students may use the lobby for study hall as long as the
space is used appropriately, kept clean, and maintained properly for its furniture arrangements. Students also must maintain a C or higher in all classes. Those whose grades fall below a C (70%) will be required to remain in their study hall classroom until the next quarter’s grades are posted.

**Locker Rooms**

Students may use the SCS locker rooms to change for PE and prepare for athletic competition. The attached restrooms may be used in accordance with the expectations stated above. Loitering in locker rooms is not permitted and students are expected to behave responsibly and appropriately while in the locker rooms. Consistent with the SCS Statement of Faith, students and campus visitors must use restrooms, locker rooms, and changing facilities conforming with their biological sex.

**Graduation Requirements**

Stillwater Christian School offers a rigorous high school education that successfully prepares students for both college/university entry or the workforce.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>9th Grade</th>
<th>10th Grade</th>
<th>11th Grade</th>
<th>12th Grade</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>6.5 Required Credits</td>
<td>6.5 Required Credits</td>
<td>6.5 Required Credits</td>
<td>5.5 Required Credits</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.0 Lit/Lang and Comperature</td>
<td>1.0 Lit/Lang and Comp</td>
<td>1.0 Lit/Lang and Comp</td>
<td>1.0 Lit/Lang and Comp</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.0 History</td>
<td>1.0 History</td>
<td>1.0 History</td>
<td>1.0 History</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0.6 Bible</td>
<td>0.6 Bible</td>
<td>0.6 Bible</td>
<td>2.0 Senior Seminar (Bible/Rhet/SeniorThesis)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.0 Conceptual Physics</td>
<td>1.0 Conceptual Chemistry</td>
<td>1.0 Biology</td>
<td>1.0 *Chemistry-Honors</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1.0 Algebra I or Geometry</td>
<td>1.0 Geometry or Algebra 2</td>
<td>1.0 Algebra 2 or Pre-Calculus</td>
<td>1.0 *Math 12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>0.4 Speech and Logic Applications</td>
<td>0.4 Rhetoric</td>
<td>0.4 Rhetoric</td>
<td>1.0 *Pre-Calculus</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1.5 min Elective Credits</td>
<td>1.5 min Elective Credits</td>
<td>1.5 min Elective Credits</td>
<td>1.5 min Elective Credits</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>End of 9th grade: 6.5 credits</td>
<td>End of 10th grade: 13 credits</td>
<td>End of 11th grade: 19.5 credits</td>
<td>End of 12th grade: 25 credits</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Imply academic elective, not core requirements.*
Immunizations

Prior to attending the first day of school, all SCS students must have, on file, either:

a) the required immunizations and documentation OR
b) have completed the appropriate exemption documentation.

Documentation must meet the criteria of the Administrative Rules of Montana. Please submit documentation to the office manager.

Inclement Weather/School Closures

In case of inclement weather, expect an email, phone call, or text message about school cancellation from the automated messenger system. In addition, you may:

- Visit the school website (www.stillwaterchristianschool.org) or call the school.
- Visit the Flathead Valley school closure website: https://flathead.mt.gov/schools/closures.php

Lockers

At Stillwater Christian School, each student is provided a locker at the beginning of the school year. It is important that students use only the locker that is assigned to them. Students should consider each other’s lockers as private property and, therefore, not tamper with or go into the locker of another student. Students caught entering another’s locker without permission from the student will serve detention. Students should keep lockers clean and neat with no open containers of food/drink in them. Decorating the inside of lockers is permitted if done tastefully and with removable tape. Although a locker is for private use of the individual student, the faculty and administration reserve the right to search student lockers and contents if necessary.

Students in 5th-8th grade will be assigned lockers in which they can keep their personal belongings during the school day.

Students in 9th-12th grade will choose lockers from the section of lockers assigned to their grade level.

Students may only take possession of one locker. Locker assignments may only be changed through the Upper School office. Students may use locks on lockers as long as they do not prevent them from getting to class on time.

Lost and Found

Personal items that are lost or found on school property will be placed in the lost and found boxes located in the locker rooms near the gymnasium. Items not claimed by the end of each semester will be donated to those in need. Jewelry, money, or other items of value should be brought to the office.
Lunch
Stillwater Christian School offers hot lunch most days of the school year. Students desiring a hot lunch must notify their 1st period teachers to guarantee they receive a lunch. Students may also bring a cold lunch if they so desire.

Students in 5th-8th grade may eat lunch in the school cafeteria or outside at picnic tables when weather permits.

High School students may eat in the cafeteria, the high school lobby, or outside. Students may not eat lunch in the Conference Room.

*Students may not chew gum on campus. Teachers will require students who are chewing gum to promptly throw it away.*

Personal Electronic Devices
All personal digital devices, including wearable technology, must be powered off and put away from 8:00 a.m. until after the final bell of the school day (3:00 p.m.). This means that devices must be turned off completely and kept, either in vehicles or lockers, for the day (to include passing periods, study halls, and lunch periods). **Intermediate School students may not have personal digital devices on campus.**

School Hours
Students may arrive at school at 7:45 a.m. and should be picked up or leave campus no later than 3:30 p.m. unless attending Extra Instruction. The following exemptions apply:

1. Children of an employee of SCS
2. Children enrolled in the SCS Before and After School Program (PK-5th grade only)
3. Students participating on an athletic team (scheduled practices and games) during the season. Note: Non-driving student athletes should be picked up within 15 minutes of the conclusion of the practice or game.
4. Students under the direct supervision of the parent(s) or legal guardian(s). This includes parents/legal guardians that are visiting campus, fulfilling PTO hours, and/or supporting a school-sponsored activity, such as an athletic event. “Direct supervision” means parents/legal guardians should have a direct line of sight to their children at all times.

Senior Activities Participation Requirements
The following guidelines exist to define which activities, honors, and responsibilities SCS Seniors are eligible for:

1. **Senior Trip:** Successfully complete Senior Thesis
2. **Appear in the SCS Yearbook**: Be enrolled as a senior in good standing at SCS when photos are taken and the yearbook is generated.

3. **Inclusion in the Graduate Wall of Fame Frame**: Complete one full year at SCS and meet all graduation requirements.

4. **Receive a Diploma/Walk in Graduation**: Successfully complete one full year at SCS and meet all graduation requirements.

### Sexual Harassment

It is the policy of SCS to prohibit sexual harassment of all students. Students who believe an employee, student or other person at the school is subjecting them to sexual harassment should report the matter promptly to an administrator, office staff, other staff or teacher. Note: The full policy statement is available upon request.

### Student Behavior Expectations

Because Stillwater Christian School is dedicated to honoring Jesus Christ, all of us must represent the school with behavior and attitudes that are pleasing to Christ and further the cause of His kingdom. Our conduct and speech should always seek to follow God’s directives to “love the Lord your God and love your neighbor as yourself.” All students at Stillwater Christian School, as part of their growth and education, must develop self-discipline appropriate for their age and grade. The primary responsibility for each student’s behavior rests with the parent or legal guardian. Stillwater Christian School pledges to work closely with parents, praying and communicating closely to develop responsible young adults. In order to direct behavior toward what God says in the Bible, the following guidelines have been established. High school student behavior expectations are defined through the acronym STAND:

- **Serve** - We help others and put them first
- **Tenacity** - We persevere through difficult situations
- **Authentic** - We are real with one another
- **Noble** - We do what is right, even when it hurts
- **Decency** - We are kind to one another

### Student Discipline

In Proverbs 3:11-12, Solomon writes about the “heart” of discipline. It is to be an act of love. Its goal is to serve as a deterrent against destructive behavior, and God entrusts that responsibility and authority, first, to parents. When parents enroll their children in school, they do not abdicate their responsibilities in this realm. Rather, they empower authority figures within the school to support them in discipline. The school’s responsibility to discipline students is to be a direct complement to parents’ efforts as long as we both strive to be faithful to biblical principles. Ultimately, our desire is that our students display the “peaceful fruit of righteousness for those who have been trained by it (discipline).” Because our students are uniquely created individuals, there is no universal template for effective discipline—only guidance. Therefore, the SCS
disciplinary process, including the steps and principles outlined below, serves as guidelines for faculty, staff, and administration to follow:

1. Principle One: Discipline begins with a clearly communicated set of expectations.
2. Principle Two: Discipline is relational and is best handled by those closest to the situation—teachers and parents. If a student does not respond to reminders, warnings and verbal correction, parents will be notified so that they can reinforce the teacher's efforts.
3. Principle Three: Discipline becomes more severe if there is resistance to correction or persistent disobedience. If a student enters a pattern of needing this level of discipline, the situation is serious and the following tools will be considered:
   a. Detention
   b. Suspension
   c. Expulsion
4. Principle Four: Discipline may be severe for a first offense if the action is illegal, sexually immoral, in flagrant violation of school policy, or compromises the safety and security of other students, faculty, staff, administration or visitors on campus.

Areas of Control: Expectations for student behavior extend to the following:
- In the school building or on the school grounds
- In school-sponsored activities (both on and off campus)
- Non-school related, public activities that meet the definition of a serious offense and reflect poorly on the name and reputation of Stillwater Christian School.

Types of Discipline: For discipline to be effective, the consequences or incentives must be uniquely meaningful to the student. The following disciplinary tools may be used when students refuse to abide within the expectations established for appropriate behavior at Stillwater Christian School. Note: this list is not exhaustive.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Warnings</th>
<th>Detention</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Loss of Recess (IS)</td>
<td>Out of School Suspension</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Silent Lunch</td>
<td>Expulsion</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Serious Offenses: Certain behaviors are considered serious at Stillwater Christian School. If a student commits a serious offense, he or she will receive a more serious consequence. Serious offenses include but are not limited to the following:
- Vandalism
- Fighting
- Stealing
- Bullying/Harassment
- Substance Abuse
Student Drivers and Parking

Driving is a freedom and demands the display of maturity and self-discipline. Student drivers are required to have a valid driver’s license and exercise special care and consideration while driving on campus. Additionally, SCS upholds a policy that designates whether student drivers may/may not transport other students to off-campus activities or to/from school. Student drivers must carefully adhere to the established policy. Student parking is designated for the three parking lanes on the west side of the school’s parking lot. Student drivers who disregard the safety of others and school policy will lose the privilege of driving to school.

Student Late Work

Timeliness is an important discipline that must be instilled in students. It displays an understanding of the value of time, both theirs and others’. To dismiss deadlines, due dates, and start times results in a distorted view of punctuality and sets students up for heartache when they face the requirement of timeliness as adults. The Late Work Policy is designed to apply “natural” consequences when students fail to honor responsibilities and commitments both now and in the future. Additionally, the policy is tiered in accordance with the growth trajectory desired between 5th and 12th grades. To be clear, this policy does not apply to times when students are absent from school. This policy is for when students make decisions that interfere with their ability to meet assignment deadlines.

High School:
- Major assignment grades will be reduced by 20% per day late.
- Minor assignment grades will be reduced by 50% per day late.

Intermediate School and Junior High:
- Day 1: 10% deduction
- Day 2: 25% deduction - Parent Notification
- Day 3: 50% deduction
- Day 4: No credit given-Missing Assignment

Intermediate School teachers will establish a grace period as students learn to respect and respond to the deadlines and due dates set for specific assignments. After the grace period expires, students will face the consequences of turning work in late.

Student Search and Seizure

School officials may search a student’s outer clothing, pockets, or property by establishing a reasonable cause or securing the student’s voluntary consent. Searches are reasonable if they meet both of the following criteria:
- The school official has reasonable grounds for suspecting that the search will uncover evidence of a policy, rule, or criminal violations.
- The scope of the search is reasonably related to the circumstances that justified the search in the first place, i.e., the measures adopted are reasonably related to the
objectives of the search and are not excessively intrusive in light of the age and gender of the student and the nature of the infraction.

**Substance Abuse Policy**

Using, possessing, distributing, purchasing, or selling illegal substances or paraphernalia, such as vapor and tobacco products, alcoholic beverages, marijuana, or other illegal drugs, including the misuse of prescription drugs, will result in disciplinary action up to and including expulsion. This policy is in effect at all times and all places.

The primary function of this policy is to promote health and safety of all Stillwater students and to assist them in making good choices. With this in mind, there are five goals of this policy:

1. To affirm our students who are choosing to be drug and alcohol free and provide them with a reason to continue to do so.
2. To serve as a deterrent to keep students safe and free from using drugs and alcohol.
3. To arm our students with a reason to say “no” when they are faced with the temptation to use drugs and/or alcohol.
4. To educate students who are choosing to experiment with drugs and alcohol of the consequences.
5. To provide students who may have a drug and/or alcohol problem with an avenue to get needed help.

The potential consequences for violating this policy are as follows:

1. Meeting with the student’s parents or guardians.
2. Dismissal from current and/or future extracurricular activities and student leadership opportunities.
3. Out-of-school suspension or expulsion.
4. Random drug testing as well as searches.
5. Notification of appropriate law enforcement agencies if the violation occurs on campus or during a school event. (45-5-637, 45-5-624, 45-9-102 MCA). Penalties will be at the discretion of local law enforcement.

**Valedictorian/Salutatorian**

At Stillwater Christian School, graduating seniors have the opportunity for recognition across several performance and developmental areas. Valedictorian and Salutatorian are academic distinctions denoting the highest achievement in high school. For each honor, one student will be chosen. For a student to be considered eligible for either title, he/she must be enrolled full-time at Stillwater Christian School for the full Junior and Senior years. To reduce the likelihood of a tie, SCS will use the following criteria to differentiate the highest and second highest academic achievement rather than solely using the Grade Point Average (GPA).

1. Cumulative grades received at the end of each year (9th-12th) will be averaged for each academic class. Non-academic electives (i.e. Fine Arts, PE, TA, etc) will not be included in these averages.
2. The cumulative average for a class will be adjusted up by .5% if a student takes an advanced/honors course rather than a standards level class in the same content area.
3. The total cumulative average will be adjusted up by 1% if a student takes an elective academic course (AP Calculus, Anatomy and Physiology, Advanced Chemistry).
Stillwater Christian School strives to challenge students who seek a higher level of rigor than is required for graduation. Therefore, SCS offers Advanced Placement (AP) classes for Juniors and Seniors in mathematics and English/Literature. Additionally, the academic electives of Advanced Chemistry and Human Anatomy and Physiology are offered.

Since these classes are advanced and demand much from students enrolled in them, careful consideration must be given before students sign up for them. Students must display more than aptitude in a content area. The additional attributes of a strong work ethic, a high level of self-discipline, an insatiable curiosity, and tenacity are essential for success. Students enrolled in AP classes are expected to take the AP Exam at the conclusion of the course. Parents are responsible for the cost of the AP Exam.

Chapel

Chapel at Stillwater Christian School is a key component of community life and is typically held every other week on Wednesdays. Chapel is intended to promote spiritual growth and provide students and staff the opportunity to worship God together. Guest speakers are often invited from local churches. Parents are always welcome to attend chapel. On the “off” weeks, SCS Houses meet together. Students will participate in chapel within the following divisions:

Kindergarten-4th grade
5th-8th grade
9th-12th grade
Class Credit

High school transcripts are important formal documents that reflect students’ growth and readiness for future work and learning. Stillwater Christian School has defined specific credits that must be earned prior to graduation (see Graduation Requirements). Credit is awarded upon the successful completion of each semester. Students who receive a Withdraw Pass, Withdraw Fail, or an F will not receive credit for the class. Official transcripts will reflect first and second semester grades and the credit received for each course.

College and Career Planning

SCS offers our high school students guidance support complimented by college and career planning to assistance parents in helping students succeed both at Stillwater Christian School and their post secondary goals. To that end, the SCS Student Success and Leadership Coordinator (SSLC) and administration regularly meet with students both in class and one-on-one to discuss goals, expectations, and options. This process begins when students enter 9th grade. The following describes the services offered through the office of Student Success and Leadership:

1. SAT dates and deadlines
2. ACT dates and deadlines
3. College application and financial aid process through Reach Higher Montana
4. Scholarship opportunities and application deadlines (as they become available).

In preparation for students’ taking the SAT and/or the ACT and to provide an academic data point for students, all students in 8th-11th grade take the PSAT each year. Additionally, all sophomores take the YouScience assessment which provides information on students' aptitude for different professions.

A guidance file is kept for each student which contains guidance worksheets, PSAT results, class request worksheets, YouScience report, behavior reports, SCS transcripts and a record of meetings. Students and parents are welcome to review the file by contacting the SSLC. Please contact the Student Success and Leadership Coordinator with any questions you may have in these designated areas-Mrs. Michelle Fetveit (mfetveit@scscougars.org).

Conservatory of Music

SCS is pleased to have a majority of middle school and high school students involved in the music program. Policies and requirements related to choir and band, as well as opportunities in the SCS Conservatory of Music, are spelled out in separate handbooks which are available on the SCS website.
Dropping and Adding Classes

Choosing which courses to take through high school is a strategic decision and should be done with a long-term goal in mind. Since high school courses at Stillwater Christian School are yearlong courses, dropping and adding classes should be done carefully. It is understood, though, that there are times when a change is the right step to take. When a change is needed, parents and students need to understand and consider the following:

- Students may drop and/or add an elective without penalty if dropped and/or added within the first 10 days of the start of a school year (third Friday of the school year). Temporary enrollment in the class will not appear on transcripts nor will the student’s GPA be affected.
- After the first 10 days of the school year have passed, students must wait until the start of the second semester to drop the class. Students who drop an elective at the the start of the second semester (within the first 10 days of the start of the second semester) will experience the following:
  - Transcripts will show a Withdraw Pass (WP) or a Withdraw Fail (WF) depending on the cumulative grade average at the most recently completed quarter.
    - Withdraw Pass - There will be no grade recorded nor will GPA be affected.
    - Withdraw Fail - The grade recorded will be an “F” and the GPA will be affected.
  - Course credit is forfeited. Stillwater Christian School does not offer partial credit for incomplete courses.
- Students may not drop a required course at Stillwater Christian School (Bible, History, English, Math, Science, Speech/Logic, Rhetoric).
- Students may not drop an elective if dropping the class results in the student having more than five study halls per week.

Electives

Elective opportunities at Stillwater Christian School provide the well-rounded experience desired for students. Through participation in elective classes, students' strengths and talents are refined in ways that complement their learning in the academic classroom. There are times when students request the opportunity to “double up” on an elective (taking the same class twice in one year) when their schedule permits. When students “double up”, they must understand that they are agreeing to twice the work output. They must meet the expectations of each class at the level required by the instructor.

Students who “double up” on an elective class will receive credit for each section of an elective that they successfully complete and are required to do the work of both classes in which they are enrolled.
**Extra Instruction**

Extra Instruction (EI) exists to help students succeed academically and receive individualized support from their classroom teachers. The following is pertinent information regarding EI:

- EI is provided on Tuesday through Thursday from 3:10 to 3:45 p.m.
- All full-time teachers are available for EI support on designated days. Parents/students must schedule EI opportunities with part-time teachers.
- Teachers can require a struggling student to attend EI. Parents must be notified in advance of a student’s expected attendance in EI.
- Scheduling of EI sessions with individual teachers is preferred although Junior High and High School students may “drop in”. Within the Intermediate School, Extra Instruction (EI) scheduling is required. Students may not “drop in”.
- EI exists to help students who are struggling to understand specific concepts that require additional instruction. Teachers will not help students do homework during EI.
- EI is not to be used as an “After School Care Program” or an after school study hall. Students in the classrooms who are not seeking direct help from the classroom teacher will be asked to leave the classroom.
- Faculty will not seek out students who do not show up for EI. Teachers will notify parents if a student who was scheduled to attend does not.

**Mid-Term/Final Exams**

Mid-term and final exams are given to all students in 9th-12th grades in core classes and academic electives. These are summative exams that measure each student’s retention of knowledge and understanding of key concepts learned at the conclusion of the first semester and then again, at the end of the school year. Midterm exams are weighted as a major test and final exams are worth 10% of the course grade. The three days prior to the final exams are dedicated to review of the material from the entire school year.

Students enrolled in AP classes may be exempt from taking a final exam as those students will be taking the AP exam.

**Grading Scale**

Grades are given to show progress towards proficiency and mastery of understanding and application of knowledge and skills gained through instruction. It is imperative that their purpose is understood. Grades lower than desired are indicative of the need for further instruction and more diligent work. Students are expected to “work as unto the Lord” in everything that they do. If, before God, their best is a “C”, they should celebrate the progress they are making and look forward to continued growth. Grades at Stillwater Christian School are based on the following scale.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>A+=97-100%</th>
<th>B+=87-89%</th>
<th>C+=77-79%</th>
<th>D+=67-69%</th>
<th>F=&lt;60%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A=94-96%</td>
<td>B=84-86%</td>
<td>C=74-76%</td>
<td>D=64-66%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A-=90-93%</td>
<td>B-=80-83%</td>
<td>C-=70-73%</td>
<td>D-=60-63%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Homework
Homework exists to support learning that occurs during the school day. Its purpose is to provide appropriate practice of concepts and skills and promote deeper learning and critical thinking. Homework will be limited to essential work only. At minimum, students should expect daily homework in math classes. It is likely, though, that students will need to work on other assignments at a pace that prevents stress rather than leaving all work until the day before it is due.

Make Up Work
Students are responsible to keep up with work missed when absent whether the absence is planned or unplanned. Student absence is handled differently depending on the cause of the absence:

- **Planned Absence:** Planned absences include events like family vacations, offsite athletic and/or fine arts activities and appointments (medical or otherwise). Students who are absent due to a planned activity or event must turn in work either the day before the planned absence, the day of the absence, or on the first day they return from a planned absence unless prior arrangements have been made with a teacher in writing. Students are responsible to schedule make-up tests and quizzes the day they return to school. Students who disregard this responsibility will experience the consequences of the Late Work Policy.

- **Unplanned Absence:** Unplanned absences are defined as those that are unexpected (i.e. illness, death in the family or other family emergency). Students who are absent from any or all classes during the school day will have the equivalent number of days to make up missed work. If the time given for makeup work aligns with a scheduled school break or holiday, makeup work is due on the first day after the break or holiday. Assignments submitted after the arranged due date will receive reductions according to the Late Work policy.

National Honor Society
Stillwater Christian School seeks to instill in students the desire to pursue excellence and lead with courage and humility. Therefore, SCS partners with the National Honor Society (NHS) as an avenue through which these traits are recognized and refined through practice. NHS is open to Juniors and Seniors who maintain a cumulative GPA of 3.5 or higher and demonstrate a
desire to lead, serve, and develop a good character. Each fall, students who meet established criteria are nominated for induction into NHS, which occurs in November. NHS members assume leadership responsibility within the school and must meet an established number of service hours to remain in the National Honor Society.

**Parent Teacher Conferences**

The relationship between parents and teachers is essential and requires time, trust, and good communication. Parents are urged to ask for conferences at any time they believe necessary. Proactively addressing questions and concerns is a key way to avoid confusion and frustration. To further reinforce the relationship, Stillwater Christian School has one established Parent/Teacher conference window each year; in the fall preceding the Thanksgiving holiday.

For individual parent/teacher conferences that are necessary throughout the school year, parents are asked to schedule appointments to meet with teachers and avoid “drop in” conferences. The demand on a teacher’s time and attention is high immediately before and immediately after the school day. It is difficult for them to prepare for a conference of which they are unaware.

**Retaking a Class**

All classes attempted at Stillwater Christian School and all acceptable transfer credits shall be recorded on student transcripts. If a student repeats a class that was previously passed, the second attempt will be used when computing the GPA, but both grades will be listed on the transcript. In a class retake, credit shall be awarded only once.

**Report Cards/Progress Reports**

Report cards and progress reports are the formal means through which Stillwater Christian School informs parents on the growth of their students. These are generated at the conclusion of each quarter. Parents of students whose grades are lower than a “C” (70%) will receive a progress report that formally notifies parents that a conversation with the specific teachers is necessary. For maintaining a closer eye on real-time progress, parents are encouraged to use Infinite Campus, SCS’s school management platform. Parents who have a smartphone are strongly encouraged to download the application that provides updates and notifications on a daily basis. For those who do not want to download the app or do not have a smartphone, the platform can be accessed through the school’s website (stillwaterchristianschool.org).

**SCS House System**

The Stillwater Christian School House system is an avenue through which SCS students in 7th-12th grade are more intimately connected within the school community. The goals for the SCS program are:
• Develop a greater sense of ownership, belonging and excitement amongst the student body
• Challenge students to move outside of their comfort zones and engage a broader spectrum of the student body
• Provide an authentic leadership development opportunity for designated Juniors and Seniors

The model reflects our desire to create an environment that fosters a response to Hebrews 10:24: or, “Let us consider how we may stir up one another towards love and good works.” The following is a general description of the structure:

• 7th-12th grade students are divided into six “Houses”. In working to achieve the “right” balance amongst houses, consideration is given to different factors that influence relationship development. While immediate family siblings are kept together, friend groups that develop while in school may not be.
• Each “House” is led by one male and one female student, referred to as Captains. Student leaders are mentored by the SCS House Leadership Team made up of the Upper School Principal, the Athletic Director, and the Student Success Coordinator.
• Each House has an assigned male and female faculty member to support the student leaders during House meetings providing wisdom, counsel, and authority when needed.
• Houses formally meet once every two weeks. Informal get-togethers occur at the initiation of the House Captains.
• Houses participate in group activities and competitions throughout the year such as the High School Retreat, Spirit Weeks, the Winter Games, and House Olympics. Additionally, Houses work on other specific tasks aligned with larger annual goals associated with building community and connectedness within the student body.

Study Halls

Study Hall at Stillwater Christian School provides a time when students can accomplish school work within the school day when they otherwise have to complete it after school. For those involved in after-school activities or jobs, this can be significant relief from late night work, stress, and anxiety. Study halls, though, are limited to no more than five per week. The following define study hall expectations:

• Study halls held in classrooms should provide an environment conducive to school work.
• Students in 9th-12th grades may sign out of their assigned study hall classrooms and go to the lobby only after parents provide written consent for the freedom.
• Students are responsible to check in with their study hall teachers before going to another location within the school. Teachers or study hall supervisors are not responsible for chasing students down. Students who fail to check in will:
  ○ Be marked "absent" from the class by the study hall supervisor.
  ○ Lose the privilege of signing out of the study hall for a designated period of time. If the privilege is lost, students must remain with the study hall teacher.
• Students with grades lower than a “C” (below 70%) will not be permitted to check out of the study hall.