



# **Venture Academy**

## **Handbook**

**FOR PARENT AND STUDENTS**

1619 N. 9<sup>TH</sup> St., Coeur d'Alene, Idaho 83814 (208) 667-7460

[www.cdaschools.org/venture](http://www.cdaschools.org/venture)

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# A Message from the Principal

On behalf of the faculty and staff, I welcome you to Venture Academy. We believe deeply in the extraordinary potential of our students to meet life's challenges and create meaningful, productive lives. Venture Academy is fully accredited and designed to help students attain the knowledge and skills for lifelong success. Our staff is committed to providing quality instruction and varied learning opportunities for all of our students. Our competency-based approach to instruction and assessment ensures that students have the time and instructional support they need to master academic concepts.

At Venture Academy, academic competency and career readiness are top priorities. Our teachers are dedicated professionals second to none. All are highly qualified and have received advanced training both in their subject areas and in working with young people facing challenging circumstances. Our smaller class sizes and virtual learning options allow for innovative, flexible, and supportive instruction and learning opportunities. Students at Venture Academy learn valuable life skills including resiliency, responsibility, and accountability. We educate the whole person to promote independent, healthy choices for a lifetime of personal and academic success.

Parent and community participation are essential components of a quality school. We encourage parents to be involved in their students' education and we seek out community resources and input.

I speak for all of us when I say we are excited to be working with your student this school year. Please feel free to phone or email with any questions you may have. My door is always open to you and your student.

Sincerely,

*Teresa Kaiser*

Teresa kaiser  
Principal,  
Venture Academy

# Venture Academy Mission and Vision Statements

The mission of Venture Academy is to equip students to achieve their highest potential through individual, flexible and structured educational experiences that enhance their academic growth and prepare them for lifelong learning and success.

The vision of Venture Academy is that every student will graduate able to think critically, communicate effectively, and work collaboratively as successful citizens within their local and global communities.

## Address/Phone#/Office Hours

**VENTURE ACADEMY**  
1619 N. 9<sup>th</sup> Street Coeur d'Alene, ID 83814  
[Website: cdaschools.org/venture](http://cdaschools.org/venture)

### Phone Numbers

Main Office .....(208) 667-7460  
FAX .....(208) 765-2299  
Kitchen .....(208) 765-4518  
Support Classroom.....(208) 676-9360

### Office Hours:

Monday by appointment  
Tuesday-Friday 7:30-3:30

**Principal:** Teresa Kaiser  
**Assistant Principal:** Brianne Weinberger  
**Counselor:** Rachelle Smotherman  
**SRO:** Jordan Noble  
**Office Manager:** Caryn Zimmerman  
**Family Liaison for Virtual Learning:** Karen Whaley



## Daily Bell Schedule for In-Person Classes: Tuesday - Friday

Time	Class
7:50 am – 8:55am	1 <sup>st</sup> Period
9:00am - 10:05am	2 <sup>nd</sup> Period
10:10am –11:15am	3 <sup>rd</sup> Period
11:20 am - 11:45 am	Advisory
11:45am – 12:15pm	Lunch
12:20pm – 1:20pm	4 <sup>th</sup> Period
1:25 pm – 2:25 pm	5 <sup>th</sup> Period
2:35 pm-3:40 pm	Extended Learning

## Activity/Extended Learning Schedule

Time	Class
7:50 am – 8:50am	1 <sup>st</sup> Period
8:55 am - 9:55 am	2 <sup>nd</sup> Period
10:00am –11:00am	3 <sup>rd</sup> Period
<b>11:05 am –11:55pm</b>	<b>Extended Work Time</b>
11:55 - 12:25	Lunch
12:30pm – 1:25pm	4 <sup>th</sup> Period
1:30pm – 2:25pm	5 <sup>th</sup> Period
2:25pm-2:35pm	Afternoon Break
2:35 pm-3:40 pm	Extended Learning

## Late Start Schedule

Time	Class
9:50am – 10:35am	1 <sup>st</sup> Period
10:40 am - 11:25am	2 <sup>nd</sup> Period
11:30am –12:15pm	3 <sup>rd</sup> Period
12:15 pm – 12:45 pm	Lunch
12:50pm – 1:35pm	4 <sup>th</sup> Period
1:40 pm – 2:25 pm	5 <sup>th</sup> Period

# Staff Contacts

Teresa Kaiser: Principal  
[tkaiser@cdaschools.org](mailto:tkaiser@cdaschools.org)

Brianne Weinberger: Assistant Principal  
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Marybeth Wetsch: Food Service  
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# Graduation Requirements

<b>ENGLISH</b>	<b>8</b>		<b>SOCIAL STUDIES</b>	<b>7</b>
English 9	2		World History	2
English 10	2		U.S. History	2
English 11	2		American Government	2
English 12	2		Economics	1
<b>SPEECH</b>	<b>1</b>		<b>FITNESS &amp; HEALTH</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>MATHEMATICS</b>	<b>6</b>		PE	1
Algebra-1 (full year)	2		Health	1
Geometry (full year)	2		<b>HUMANITIES</b>	<b>2</b>
Additional Math	2		<b>TECHNOLOGY</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>SCIENCE</b>	<b>6</b>		Computer-based Technology	1
Physical Science	2		<b>SENIOR PROJECT</b>	<b>1</b>
Biological Science	2		<b>ELECTIVES</b>	<b>12</b>
Additional Science	2		<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>46</b>

## Career Counseling

Venture Academy has a full-time counselor and an assistant college and career coordinator who maintain and equip students with information about applying for jobs, career exploration, college admission, testing (ACT, SAT, interest inventories), completing the FAFSA ("Free Application for Federal Student Aid"), searching for scholarships, creating resumes and more.

# 2023-2024 Venture High School Calendar

## 2023 ~ 2024 Calendar for Venture Academy

Wednesday, August 23	Registration BBQ (Noon - 6:00)
Tuesday, September 5	First Day of School
Thursday, September 29	Picture Day
Friday, October 6	No School (Flex Day)
Wednesday, October 11	PSAT (No School for seniors/1:00 release 9-12)
Thursday, October 26	Picture Retakes
Friday, October 27	Halloween BBQ
Friday November 11	No School Students/Certified Staff workday
Friday, November 18	Holiday Dinner for Students
November 20-24	No School (Thanksgiving Break)
Thursday, November 30	Evening Conference/exhibits
Friday, December 1	End of Trimester 1
Tuesday, December 5	First Day of trimester 2
Dec. 22 – January 5	No School (Holiday Break)
Friday, January 26	No School Students/Staff work day
Friday, February 16	No School
Thursday, March 7	Evening Conference/exhibits
Friday, March 8	End of Trimester 2
Tuesday, March 12	First day of Trimester 3
Friday, March 22	Spring BBQ
March 25-March 29	Spring Break
Tuesday, April 10	SAT day: <u>9th, 10th, 12th No School:</u> only - Gr. 11 attends school for SAT tests.
Friday, May 31	Summer is coming BBQ
Wednesday, June 5	Student Exhibits
Thursday, June 6	Graduation
Friday, June 7	Last Day of School (Early release @12:30)
Monday, June 11	Possible Make up/Staff work day

# Venture School Policies and Procedures

The following are some of the school board policies regarding student behavior. You can view the district's policies in their entirety by visiting the web site at [www.cdaschools.org](http://www.cdaschools.org).

## SAFETY

**The following expectations are focused on student safety:**

**CAMPUS:** Venture High School is a closed campus, meaning, once students arrive, they stay on campus until finished with classes for the day. If leaving prior to that, student must sign out at the front office. Once students are finished with classes they must leave campus. If a student leaves campus without permission, he or she will be marked truant for the rest of the day.

**VISITORS:** No visitors are allowed. (Violators may be cited for trespassing). Parents are an exception. Parents are welcome anytime; please check in at the office; if you wish to speak with a staff member please call for an appointment.

**PARKING LOT:** Students are to park in the designated 9<sup>th</sup> Street parking lot only. No speeding in the parking lot area (10 mph max.). ***Students cannot be in the parking lot, their cars, or other's cars at lunch.***

No parking in the staff lot (north parking lot). The parking lot is off limits once you leave your vehicle. Make sure you have all that you need for the day before leaving your vehicle. Bikes, bike area, and skateboards are off limits until after school.

**Venture High School is a DRUG, ALCOHOL, TOBACCO FREE ZONE,.** Any form of tobacco, drugs, alcohol or weapons found on you, on school property, or in cars will result in suspension, citation, and/or referral to law enforcement.

## RESPECT

**The following expectations are focused on respect for self and others:**

**RESPECTFUL INTERACTIONS:** Fighting, harassment of any kind, (racial, sexual, verbal, cell phone, email, text messaging, computer, etc.), bullying, drawing inappropriate pictures, or making threats to do harm to another person or property will not be tolerated. Any person participating in these behaviors is subject to suspension, citation, and/or referral to law enforcement.

**RESPECTFUL LANGUAGE:** Profanity – Vulgar, obscene or profane language, whether spoken, in writing, or gesture, is not allowed.

**RESPECT FOR THE CAMPUS:** Students are expected to help maintain a clean, safe and pleasant environment.

**RESPECT IN THE CLASSROOM:** Classrooms must be respectful, safe environments for all. Behaviors or insubordination towards staff, refusal to follow instructions or to self correct are not acceptable.

# SUCCESS

The following expectations are focused on student success:

## ATTENDANCE:

Attendance is critical for student success. **Students who choose in-person learning and have missed 5 days of a class will be transitioned into an online class for the remainder of the trimester.**

Here are the key features of Venture High School's attendance policy:

### Unexcused Absences:

- **A maximum of 4 unexcused absences are allowed per trimester.** When a student has an absence, he or she must stay for extended learning on the first day back to school for as long as necessary to make up any missing work. Extended learning period ends at 3:40. Students will be dismissed as soon as all work is caught up. They may return for multiple days of extended learning until all work is made up.
  - **If a student has exceeded the limit of 4 unexcused absences, he or she he or she will be moved to online classes**
- Three tardies in any class per trimester will be entered as an unexcused absence for that period.
- Ten minutes late to any class will be entered as an absence.

**Excused Absences:** School sanctioned activities, doctor appointments, and court appointments are considered excused absences when legitimate documentation is provided, but any work missed will still need to be made up during extended learning time beginning at 2:25 pm.

Family vacation/activities etc. will not be an excused absence.

**\*Notes for Absences:** When a student misses school due to doctor's appointment, court, etc. they need to bring documentation the first day they return to school confirming the reason for their absence in order to change those absences from unexcused to excused.

## ELECTRONIC DEVICES

Electronic devices are not permitted during school time, except during lunch. If an electronic device is seen or heard during the school day, the student will be asked to hand it in to the teacher. It will be returned at the end of the day. On the third offense, it will only be given to a parent or guardian. Parents can reach students by calling the office at (208) 667-7460

## **DRESS CODE**

At Venture High School we are committed to maintaining an environment that promotes the health, safety, and well-being of our students while preparing students for a successful experience in the workforce.

### **CDA Schools Dress Code:**

It is the policy of this school district that students shall dress in a manner which is appropriate for an effective educational environment. All students are, therefore, required to dress in a manner that promotes a safe and healthy school environment, and is not disruptive of the educational climate and process. The following is taken from School Dress Code: Policy #517

Students are prohibited from wearing or carrying, clothing, accessories or jewelry, or displaying piercings or tattoos, which, by picture, symbol, or word, depict or allude to any of the following: Drug usage, including alcohol and tobacco, controlled substances of any kind, drug paraphernalia, gangs, violence, sexually explicit, lewd, indecent, or offensive material or illegal acts

**Shirts/Blouses/Tops/T-shirts** – Blouses/shirts should be constructed so that the tops of the shoulders are covered (e.g. no halter tops, strapless tops, spaghetti straps, or bare shoulder tops of any type will be allowed). Blouses/shirts that expose any portion of the waist, hips, midriff or breast are not allowed. (If you raise your arms to shoulder level and the stomach shows, the top is unacceptable.) Undergarments (bras, tank undershirts, etc.) will not be visible. Bedroom clothing, pajamas or sleepwear is not allowed.

**Shorts/skirts/Pants** – All shorts and skirts must be no shorter than mid-thigh from the bottom of the knee. Nylon tights, biker pants or boxer shorts worn as an outer garment are strictly prohibited. Slits in the skirts cannot be above mid-thigh. Waistline of shorts/skirts/pants must be on or above the hips with no underwear showing. Bedroom clothing, pajamas or sleepwear is not allowed. All belts must be properly fastened around the waist.

**Headwear** – Certain types of headwear will not be worn in the school building. This includes, but is not limited to hoods, bandanas and bandana headbands, and sunglasses, or any other head covering as determined by building administration. Exceptions may be granted by the principal.

**Jewelry and other accessories** - For safety reasons, any clothing that may be used as a weapon is strictly prohibited. For example: sharp object jewelry, dog collars with spikes, and any other spiked clothing. Wallet chains are not permitted.

**Shoes** – Health regulations and safety factors require that shoes be worn at all times at school (bedroom shoes are not allowed).

**Enforcement** -- Building principal/designee may deny class entrance to students who are inappropriately dressed until arrangements may be made for their proper attire. Parents or guardians will be notified each time a student is asked to leave school because of inappropriate attire.

# Venture Academy Student/Parent Agreement

As a student at Venture Academy, I agree to the following terms and conditions. I understand that failure to comply with these expectations will result in my withdrawal from Venture Academy.

I agree to:

- Comply with all district guidelines. These include, but are not limited to, guidelines governing dress, behavior and academic achievement.
- Maintain passing grades in all classes.
- Achieve positive progress in credit attainment.
- Not exceed more than 4 absences per trimester. **On their fifth absence, students will be transferred to online classes.**
- Venture's only "excused" absence is a doctor or court note, with the student's name, .
- Follow the tardy policy. Every 3rd tardy to the same class period equals one unexcused absence.
- No cell phone use, except during lunch time and before and after school.
- Follow all district dress code requirements.
- The parking lot is off limits during school hours.

As the parent of a Venture Academy student, I agree to support my student in the attainment of his/her high school diploma by doing the following:

I agree to:

- Comply with getting my student to school on time each day
- Comply with and support all district guidelines. These include, but are not limited to, guidelines governing dress, behavior and academic achievement.
- Participate in a minimum of one student exhibit or conference night per school year, and any additional conferences addressing inadequate student progress
- Support my student in daily attendance.
- I understand that my failure to support my student may result in my student being asked to attend another school, and/or not graduating.