Melissa S. Breunle Assistant Principal Robbie M. Garnes Principal Ryan A. Gregory Assistant Principal

Thomas W. Connolly, Ed. D Assistant Principal Sharon L. Gibbs Student Support Specialist Jennifer Wegman Director of Student Activities

July 14, 2022

Dear DHS Parent/Guardian:

I hope that your summer is off to a wonderful start. It is always our goal to keep parents informed and aware of the most recent updates regarding Dinwiddie High School. This letter is to inform you of the most recent changes to the 2022-2023 school year's student dress code and other student expectations. This will help you and your child plan their school attire for the upcoming school year and prepare for success.

Tardies/Attendance Policy

Attendance is vital to a student's success in school. (Click here to review the Attendance Brochure).

Student drivers who accumulate 5 or more unexcused tardies to school per semester will have their parking passes suspended for 9 weeks.

Dress Code

<u>Click here to review updated dress code</u>. Please read, review, and discuss it carefully with your child to ensure a productive and positive school year. We ask that all school attire are appropriate and follow the guidelines of our new dress code.

We want our students to have a productive and safe school year. Please make certain that students understand all disciplinary actions associated with the dress code policy. This letter will highlight a few major updates:

Hats and Hoods

Hats nor hoods will be allowed unless required for cultural, religious or medical reasons.

Cell Phones and Headphones/Earbuds

To ensure the most conducive learning environment, cell phones, headphones, earbuds, and other listening devices *are prohibited to be out or used* during classes and hallway transitions for the 2022-2023 school year. Cell phone use is limited to only students who have documented medical (for medical monitoring, e.g. Dexcom) or assistive technology needs, and those needs should not require the cell phone to be out during an entire class period. Students should secure cell phones in a bookbag or other safe location during class.

Students are allowed to use their cell phones before school and after school hours. If any student is caught recording and/or distributing any inappropriate content, the student will be placed on phone restriction for 9 weeks. The student must leave the phone at home, or the student must turn in the phone each day at the main office to be securely locked away until dismissal.

Students are only allowed to use cell phones during lunch time. Students may also contact their parents from the main office phone if needed. If you need to contact your child, we also ask that you please call the main office.

Headphones and earbuds are also prohibited during hallway transitions due to safety concerns. Headphones and earbuds prohibit students from hearing announcements, requests in cases of emergency, etc. Headphones and earbuds will only be used for documented testing needs and specific class assignments that are approved by the teacher or administrator.

It is not the goal of the school to confiscate a student's cell phone, however, cell phones should not be exposed or used inappropriately, and cell phones should not be used to cause a distraction to the learning environment. Students will be asked to put the cell phone away if exposed in the classroom without permission.

1st Offense: Verbal request to put phone away (Warning)
2nd Offense: Phone confiscation with parent phone pick-up

3rd Offense: Discipline referral for defiance

Further issues may result in further disciplinary action.

Please keep in mind that this is not your official *Welcome Back to School Letter*. The welcome letter will be sent at a later date. There will also be a **DHS Parent Forum** held on Wednesday, August 3, 2022 at 6:00 PM at Dinwiddie High School. You will receive an all-call reminder.

We want our students to be good school citizens. Please read and review this information with your child. We look forward to a successful school year.

If you have any questions, please contact me at 804-469-4280.

Sincerely, Robbie M. Garnes Principal