

**2026 – 2027  
Stillman Valley High School  
Student / Parent Handbook  
Proposed Changes**

2025 – 2026 Handbook	2026 – 2027 Handbook (Proposed)
<p>1. Possession of tobacco or look-alike substances. <i>First violation:</i> One-day suspension <i>Subsequent violations:</i> Two to three-day suspension</p>	<p>1. Possession of tobacco or nicotine materials, including electronic cigarettes, e-cigarettes, vapes, vape pens or other vaping related products. <i>First violation:</i> One-day suspension <i>Subsequent violations:</i> Two to three-day suspension</p>
<p>2. Using, distributing, purchasing, soliciting, or selling tobacco or look-alike substances. <i>First violation:</i> One day out of school suspension <i>Second violation:</i> *Option 1: 3-day out of school suspension if the student, along with the parent’s or guardian’s approval, agrees to be evaluated and assessed through a Student Assistance Program (SAP). See SAP conditions. Option 2: 5-day out of school suspension <i>Third violation:</i> 10-day out of school suspension and possible expulsion hearing.</p>	<p>2. Using, distributing, purchasing, selling or offering tobacco or nicotine materials, including electronic cigarettes, e-cigarettes, vapes, vape pens or other vaping related products. <i>First violation:</i> One day out of school suspension <i>Second violation:</i> *Option 1: 3-day out of school suspension if the student, along with the parent’s or guardian’s approval, agrees to be evaluated and assessed through a Student Assistance Program (SAP). See SAP conditions. Option 2: 5-day out of school suspension <i>Third violation:</i> 10-day out of school suspension and possible expulsion hearing.</p>
<p>8. Disobeying directives from staff members or school officials and/or rules and regulations governing student conduct. (Insubordination/disrespect) <i>First violation:</i> 1 – 10-day suspension and possible expulsion hearing <i>Second violation:</i> 1 - 10-day suspension and possible expulsion hearing</p>	<p>8. Disobeying directives from staff members or school officials and/or rules and regulations governing student conduct. (Insubordination / disrespect / failure to pouch) <i>First violation:</i> 1 – 10-day suspension and possible expulsion hearing <i>Second violation:</i> 1 - 10-day suspension and possible expulsion hearing</p>

Commented [JV1]: Use of more specific language in this area.

Commented [JV2]: Use of more specific language in this area.

Commented [JV3]: Addition of failure to pouch as an example. Students disobey staff when they enter the building and do not pouch their device.

<p><b>Third violation:</b> 1 - 10-day suspension and possible recommended expulsion hearing</p>	<p><b>Third violation:</b> 1 - 10-day suspension and possible recommended expulsion hearing</p>																								
<p>1. Attendance letters will be sent to parents after the student has 5, 7 and <b>10</b> absences per semester. The letter is to inform both student and parent of attendance history.</p> <p>2. Any student who has 10 absences during a semester will be required to meet with the principal, assistant principal or counselor before the student will be allowed to return to classes. The meeting with the principal/assistant principal will determine whether or not the student will be allowed to return to classes. Absences beyond 10 days per semester will need a doctor's excuse. Failure to secure a doctor's note will result in an unexcused absence.</p>	<p>1. Attendance letters will be sent to parents after the student has 5 and 7 absences per semester. The letter is to inform both student and parent of attendance history.</p> <p>2. Absences beyond <b>7</b> days per semester will need a doctor's excuse. Failure to secure a doctor's note will result in an unexcused absence.</p>																								
<p>3. <b>Morning Tardy:</b> A student who provides his/her own transportation to school are responsible for getting himself/herself to school on time. A student will be considered excused only if he/she reports to the office upon arriving and provides a note and/or phone call from a parent or guardian stating a legitimate reason for being late. <b>More than one car trouble per semester will not be accepted as an excused tardy. Oversleeping will not be accepted as an excused tardy.</b></p>	<p>3. <b>Morning Tardy:</b> (Arriving to school within 30 minutes of the start of school) A student who provides his/her own transportation to school are responsible for getting himself/herself to school on time. A student will be considered excused only if he/she reports to the office upon arriving and provides a note and/or phone call from a parent or guardian stating a legitimate reason for being late. <b>More than one car trouble per semester will not be accepted as an excused tardy. Oversleeping will not be accepted as an excused tardy.</b></p>																								
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>SVHS GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS</b></p> <p><b>SUBJECT AREA</b></p> <table border="0"> <tr><td>English</td><td>4 credits</td></tr> <tr><td>Mathematics</td><td>3 credits</td></tr> <tr><td>Science</td><td>3 credits</td></tr> <tr><td>Social Science</td><td>3 credits</td></tr> <tr><td>Computer</td><td>1 credit</td></tr> <tr><td>Physical Education</td><td>1 credit**</td></tr> </table>	English	4 credits	Mathematics	3 credits	Science	3 credits	Social Science	3 credits	Computer	1 credit	Physical Education	1 credit**	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>SVHS GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS</b></p> <p><b>SUBJECT AREA</b></p> <table border="0"> <tr><td>English</td><td>4 credits</td></tr> <tr><td>Mathematics</td><td>3 credits</td></tr> <tr><td>Science</td><td>3 credits</td></tr> <tr><td>Social Science</td><td>3 credits</td></tr> <tr><td>Computer</td><td>1 credit</td></tr> <tr><td>Physical Education</td><td>1 credit**</td></tr> </table>	English	4 credits	Mathematics	3 credits	Science	3 credits	Social Science	3 credits	Computer	1 credit	Physical Education	1 credit**
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**Commented [JV4]:** Policy revision to encourage student attendance & better align with state truancy laws

**Commented [JV5]:** Addition of specific information about the length of a morning tardy

Health .5 credit	Health .5 credit
Consumer Education .5 credit	Consumer Education .5 credit
Fine Arts/Vocational 2 credits	Fine Arts/Vocational 2 credits
Required Credits 18	Required Credits 18
Elective Credits 10	Elective Credits 10
<b>Total Credits 28</b>	<b>Total Credits 28</b>
<u>Specifically Required Courses</u>	<u>Specifically Required Courses</u>
Health .5	Health .5
Intro to Computers (Classes of 2025 & 2026) .5	Intro to Computers (Classes of 2025 & 2026) .5
U.S. History 1.5	U.S. History 1.5
Government .5	Government .5
Consumer Education .5	Consumer Education .5
Physical Education 1	Physical Education 1
Science – 2 of the following 3 courses (Earth Science, Biology, or Chemistry)	Science – 2 of the following 3 courses (Earth Science, Biology, or Chemistry)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Credits are earned by semester. One semester of a course earns ½ credit.</li> <li>• <b>Note:</b> Illinois also requires that all high school students take a statewide assessment (test). The ACT with essay is the required statewide test in Illinois high schools. All public school students enrolled in grade 11 will take the ACT or the <u>DLM-AA</u>, an alternate test for students with significant cognitive disabilities.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Credits are earned by semester. One semester of a course earns ½ credit.</li> <li>• <b>Note:</b> Illinois also requires that all high school students take a statewide assessment (test). The ACT with essay is the required statewide test in Illinois high schools. All public school students enrolled in grade 11 will take the ACT or the <u>DLM-AA</u>, an alternate test for students with significant cognitive disabilities.</li> </ul>
* <b>Enrollment in Drivers Education will be contingent on the student passing 14 classes the previous two semesters.</b>	** <b>Physical Ed</b>
** Students may be waived from physical education class per school code 105 ILCS 5/27-6 or Medical Physical Education Waiver.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Note:</b> Only seniors will be allowed to enroll in both Strength &amp; PE during the same semester and only if they meet the following criteria: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Accrued 21 or more credits by the end of their junior year</li> <li>2. No suspensions (ISS nor OSS) during their high school career</li> <li>3. Cumulative GPA of 2.0 or better with no class failures</li> </ol> </li> </ul>
	* <b>Enrollment in Drivers Education will be contingent on the student passing 14 classes the previous two semesters.</b>
	** Students may be waived from physical education class per school code 105 ILCS 5/27-6 or Medical

**Commented [JV6]:** Handbook language that would allow only seniors to take both a PE class and a Strength class

	Physical Education Waiver.
<p><b>STILLMAN VALLEY HIGH SCHOOL CHAPTER OF THE NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY</b></p> <p><b><u>NHS MEMBERSHIP REQUIREMENTS:</u></b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>3.0 grade point ratio on the scale used for class rank</li> <li>9 Faculty Ratings (minimum)</li> <li>An overall NHS character rating of 3.0 or better for inductions (juniors &amp; seniors)</li> </ol> <p>* The overall NHS rating includes the scholarship (GPA), which comes from the counseling office records and faculty ratings in service, leadership, and character. For faculty rating, a preliminary eligibility list of names of students who have the required GPA is provided. Faculty ratings are averaged in each area for individual students. The results of this tally are entered on a final tally sheet which will show a rating from 0 (low) to 5 (high) in three areas: service, leadership and character. The ratings are then averaged for final eligibility. The NHS induction ceremony typically occurs in the last week of April. The selection process is done two weeks prior with students and parents being notified one week prior to the induction ceremony date.</p>	<p><b>STILLMAN VALLEY HIGH SCHOOL CHAPTER OF THE NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY</b></p> <p><b><u>NHS MEMBERSHIP REQUIREMENTS:</u></b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>3.0 grade point ratio on the scale used for class rank</li> <li>9 Faculty Ratings (minimum)</li> <li>An overall NHS character rating of 3.0 or better for inductions (juniors &amp; seniors)</li> </ol> <p>* The overall NHS rating includes the scholarship (GPA), which comes from the counseling office records and faculty ratings in service, leadership, and character. For faculty rating, a preliminary eligibility list of names of students who have the required GPA is provided. Faculty ratings are averaged in each area for individual students. The results of this tally are entered on a final tally sheet which will show a rating from 0 (low) to 5 (high) in three areas: service, leadership and character. The ratings are then averaged for final eligibility. The NHS induction ceremony typically occurs in <b>October</b>. The selection process is done two weeks prior with students and parents being notified one week prior to the induction ceremony date.</p>
<p><b>ACADEMIC DISHONESTY</b></p> <p>Stillman Valley High School considers academic dishonesty as the most serious of academic offenses. The fact that a number of people cheat does not make it acceptable. Because cheating cuts away at the very fiber of academic character, every effort will be made to eliminate it from Stillman Valley High School. The major thrust will be to develop an atmosphere on the part of both the faculty and the students that will not tolerate cheating. Students are cautioned to take care to avoid even the appearance of dishonesty. Incidents will be recorded in the office. Academic dishonesty includes but is not</p>	<p><b>ACADEMIC DISHONESTY</b></p> <p>Stillman Valley High School considers academic dishonesty as the most serious of academic offenses. The fact that a number of people cheat does not make it acceptable. Because cheating cuts away at the very fiber of academic character, every effort will be made to eliminate it from Stillman Valley High School. The major thrust will be to develop an atmosphere on the part of both the faculty and the students that will not tolerate cheating. Students are cautioned to take care to avoid even the appearance of dishonesty. Incidents will be recorded in the office. Academic</p>

Commented [JV7]: NHS induction is now in October

<p>limited to: cheating, intentionally plagiarizing, wrongfully giving or receiving help on an academic assessment, and wrongfully obtaining test copies or scores.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• First offense <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Giver: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Full credit for their work, however, assigned four-hour Saturday School</li> </ul> </li> <li>○ Receiver <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Re-submit the assignment for full credit, however, assigned four-hour Saturday School</li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> <li>• Second offense <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Giver: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ 25% reduction in grade and assigned four-hour Saturday School</li> </ul> </li> <li>○ Receiver <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ 25% reduction in grade and assigned four-hour Saturday School</li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> <li>• Third offense <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Giver: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ No credit and assigned four-hour Saturday School</li> </ul> </li> <li>○ Receiver <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ No credit and assigned four-hour Saturday School</li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<p>dishonesty includes but is not limited to: cheating, intentionally plagiarizing, wrongfully giving or receiving help on an academic assessment, and wrongfully obtaining test copies or scores.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• First offense <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Giver: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Full credit for their work, however, assigned four-hour Saturday School</li> </ul> </li> <li>○ Receiver <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Re-submit the assignment for full credit, however, assigned four-hour Saturday School</li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> <li>• Second offense <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Giver: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ 25% reduction in grade and assigned four-hour Saturday School</li> </ul> </li> <li>○ Receiver <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ 25% reduction in grade and assigned four-hour Saturday School</li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> <li>• Third offense <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Giver: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ No credit and assigned four-hour Saturday School</li> </ul> </li> <li>○ Receiver <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ No credit and assigned four-hour Saturday School</li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>**See applicable English syllabi for policy specific language to the research paper process</p>
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**Commented [JV8]:** English Dept. Language: This assignment is different from other essays due to the length of time spent understanding and working through the research process, which takes about a month from start to finish. During this time, your student will produce a rough draft, which will be reviewed not only for content, structure, and grammar but also for plagiarism. According to the handbook policy, if plagiarism is identified and students and parents are notified concerning this issue, students have the opportunity to fix the errors. Because these essays go through such a rigorous rough draft process and all students are notified regarding any plagiarism found in the rough draft, this is considered the first offense. As such, students have the opportunity to revise without penalty before turning in the final draft. If plagiarism is found in the final draft, students will receive up to a 25% deduction on their essay and will be assigned a four hour Saturday school.