



**An alternative education, credit recovery campus**

**2023-2024**

## **Student Handbook**

Principal: Mr. Satcher

Dean: Ms. Lang

Assistant Principal: Mr. Foster

Assistant Principal: Ms. Tesmer

Assistant Principal: Ms. Green

Academic Advisor A-L: Mr. Nobriga

Academic Advisor M-Z: Mrs. Burton-Johnson

Social Worker: Mrs. Tovar-Curiel

Secretary: Mrs. Lopez

Attendance: Ms. Reyes

Registrar: Mrs. Hendricks

### **Campus Vision**

*To be a campus in which a student's race, economic situation, language, or previous experiences do not predict or determine their outcome.*

## Accelerated Instruction

- Students are expected to complete all coursework and graduate in their cohort year or before.
- Students work at their own pace. We are not on a 9-week course calendar like a traditional high school.
- Student work is via Canvas. Teacher serves as a facilitator.
- There are no virtual options. Students must come to class to complete work. Students must be on campus to take course tests or exams.
- Students receive a credit/grade once a course is completed.
- EOC tested courses in English I, II ,Algebra I and US History are direct taught courses. These are not self-paced courses and will be on a six week rotation.
- Once a student completes all course work (receives 26 credits), he or she can graduate as long as the student has met all STAAR/EOC testing requirements (take/pass all 5 EOC tests in Algebra I, English I, English II , Biology, US History). **Students can graduate at any time during the school year if STAAR/EOC requirements have been met.** No student will be unenrolled until all STAAR/EOC requirements have been met. Students who have not met all STAAR/EOC requirements but have met credit requirements cannot graduate until they have sat for/passed the necessary STAAR/EOC tests.

## Application Process

- Crosswinds is a school of innovation, a choice school, an academic alternative education school in Grand Prairie ISD. Therefore, entering students must complete an application to be accepted and enrolled into the school.
- Acceptance is based on: student age, graduation cohort year, previous discipline record. Policy for acceptance:
  - Student age – 17+
  - Cohort –current school year or previous year; student should be behind in credits and able to graduate in the current school year of acceptance
  - Discipline record- no serious or criminal infractions/referrals in the past two years
- Out of district applicants must drop off or email a copy of the student’s transcript from most recent high school attended, shot records, discipline and attendance records. We will not review the application until we receive all documents.
- In district applicants have two methods to apply:
  - Receive a referral from the student’s counselor at a GPISD high school
  - Apply online

## Sessions

We offer three sessions. Two-day sessions for students ages 16-18. A night school session for students 19+. Students over the age of 19, cannot attend during the day.

- AM Session: 7:30am-11:30am
- PM Session: 12:00pm-3:55pm
- Night School: time and days of week TBD

## Campus Policies

- **We are a student's "last school" in GPISD. Once a student enrolls here, he or she cannot return to or be enrolled at another GPISD high school.**
- All students are expected to follow the GPISD Student Code of Conduct. Misbehavior or illegal offenses will not be tolerated. If misbehavior occurs, administrators can change a student's session or withdraw the student.
- **All students must wear their student ID:** this ensures student safety and helps us identify who belongs on campus. People wear an ID on most jobs. Wearing an ID should not be an issue. Do not make it an issue.
  - **ID replacement cost:** \$3.00
  - If you cannot afford an ID, you will need to get a temporary ID from the main office.
- Please speak politely and civilly to our staff and administration. We are here to help you graduate. That is our purpose. Know that we have your best interest at heart.
- **We do not allow backpacks ,large purses or bags.** Do not bring them. If you work after school and need to house a uniform, bring it in a grocery bag which can be stored up front.
- Each teacher has his or her own set of policies. **Please follow the policies for each teacher.**
- **Parking Lot :**
  - Do not drag race in our parking lot. We share it with the city of Grand Prairie. You can receive a ticket from law enforcement.
  - Do not loiter, hang out in the parking lot. After your session ends, leave the premises.

- **Entry and Exit**

- Upon arrival, students should report to the cafeteria.
- Once you enter the building you cannot leave to return to a vehicle or to go to the store. Please make sure you have all of your belongings upon entry.
- Students 17 or younger: may not leave unless signed out by a parent/guardian.
- Students 18 and up: may sign themselves out for approved reasons.
- When your session ends, you must leave the building. We do not offer tutoring or after session activities.

- **Attendance**

- You must follow GPISD attendance policies which states that students must be in attendance 90% of a school year or they are in jeopardy of losing credit.
- If you will be absent, please call the school and speak with our attendance clerk.
- Students must attend all 4 classes of their assigned session every day.
- If a student is 15 minutes late for a class, it counts as an absence.
- Students with excessive absences are subject to GPISD truancy consequences.
- Students with excessive absences can be withdrawn from CAHS and cannot return to any other GPISD campus.

- **Academic Expectations**

- Cohort= the year the student is supposed to graduate based on four years in high school

<b>Graduation/course completion expectation</b>	<b>Cohort 2023 or before</b>	<b>Cohort 2024 or later</b>
Graduation/course completion expectation	Complete by December 2023	Complete by May 2024
STAAR testing expectations (only if STAAR/EOC requirements have not been met) <i>NOTE: Students who have completed all coursework but have not met state STAAR standards, must test until they meet the standard.</i>	Test in December 2023	If STAAR testing is needed: test in April/May 2024

- Students must work hard, be present, attain credits, be self-managing and ultimately graduate at an accelerated rate.
- You are only here 4 hours a day. Sleeping in class will not be tolerated. If you work late and need to be moved to a different session, please see Ms. Lang.
- The purpose of this school is to help students receive a high school diploma. If you are not making progress, you can be withdrawn.

## Advisory

We will have advisory on Wednesdays at the beginning of period 4 and 5. Students are expected to participate in any advisory activity, be attentive to speakers or visitors who are sharing information about employment, college or other mandated topic by our district . Advisory will begin after Labor Day in September.

- **Cellphone policy**

*GPISD new cellphone policy as of the 2023-2024 school year.* The guidelines are designed to limit distractions and learning disruptions in the classroom and include all devices used to communicate electronically including, but not limited to, cell phones, smart watches, and ear pods/headphones.

**“All students in grades 9-12 will be required to keep their devices turned off or on silent with no use during class periods.** Students will not be allowed to use cell phones in class to access Canvas. Campus principals will have the discretion to allow cell phone use during passing periods and lunch.”

- **Restroom privileges**

- Teachers have their own policies about when a student can, cannot go to the restroom.
- We would rather students go to the restroom during the passing periods. Restrooms are located in the cafeteria and in the student break room.
- Please respect our property by not smoking, or participating in illegal activities in the restrooms. We do not want to restrict its use because some people cannot abide by this policy.

- **Campus Dress Code**

- No gang or drug-affiliated items of any kind
- No sagging
- No midriff tops, halter tops; no transparent tops or inappropriately short dresses/shorts
- No spaghetti strap shirts without hoodie or jacket
- No sunglasses wore indoors.
- No attire that contains obscene, violent, or drug/alcohol-related content of any kind
- We prefer you not wear pajama bottoms
- No head gear: bonnets, durags, hats, scarves (unless religion based)

- **Campus Communication**

- Most campus messages and information are communicated in the following ways:
  - Canvas (you must accept your Canvas invites)
  - Blackboard messenger
  - Email

Please make sure that your Skyward account includes the most up to date information. If you need to make a change, please see the district's website about how to update your Skyward information.

A teacher or staff member may call you if we have not been successful contacting you.

Information about graduation, senior pictures, College and Career information are all shared via Canvas or Blackboard.

Please check your personal email and Canvas messages on a regular basis.

- **State and National Testing Policies**

- Students are expected to take all 5 STAAR/EOC if they have not previously met standard.
- On testing days students cannot:
  - Wear a hoodie or hat
  - Bring a blanket
- Students must also have a photo ID to test.

Students are expected to participate in district MAP Growth and midpoint testing if needed and national testing such as ACT, SAT, TSIA2 and ASVAB when given on campus.

### **College and Career Planning**

- We do have a College Bound Advisor, Miss Rodriguez, room 113A, to assist students who want to attend area community colleges or four-year colleges.
- Throughout the year, local employers do visit, to share how students can gain employment and learn trades through their company.

**Get credits, graduate, pursue your dreams!**

**BE KIND  
WORK HARD  
GRADUATE**

**Student Acknowledgement:**

I \_\_\_\_\_, understand that

*Student please initial next to each statement*

- I should complete a course every two to three weeks. \_\_\_\_\_
- Once enrolled, I cannot return to any other GPISD high school. \_\_\_\_\_
- I must attend class to complete coursework. There are no virtual options. \_\_\_\_\_
- I must follow the campus policies and procedures. \_\_\_\_\_
- Because Crosswinds is an alternative education, school of choice,, I can be withdrawn for poor attendance and behavior issues. \_\_\_\_\_
- I cannot graduate until I have met the state of Texas graduation requirements: attain 26 credits (unless via an IEP) and take/pass all 5 STAAR/EOC tests or equivalentents. \_\_\_\_\_

*If the student is under the age of 18, a parent will need to sign as well. Student please get this form signed and return it to your first period teacher by the end of the week.*

**Parent Acknowledgement of CAHS Policies and Procedures**

I, \_\_\_\_\_ have read all of the policies stated in this handbook and will help my student adhere to these policies.

- I understand it is my responsibility to read and understand the GPISD student code of conduct and understand the consequences if my student makes a bad decision.
- I understand that once my student enrolls at Crosswinds, he or she cannot return to any other Grand Prairie ISD high school.

Email address:

Phone number:

Parent Signature \_\_\_\_\_





