

Valley Alternative Learning Transitioning School

**VALTS
2020-2021**

Harms Advanced Technology Center
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Scottsbluff, Nebraska 69361
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The VALTS program is a result of an Interlocal Cooperative Agreement
with the:

**Banner County, Bayard, Bridgeport, Gering, Kimball, Minatare,
Mitchell, Morrill, Sidney and Scottsbluff School Districts**

VALTS is administered by:
Educational Service Unit #13

Under the direction of:
Dr. Andrew Dick, Administrator
George Schlothauer, Director

Instructors:
Cynthia Brown
Karen Reason
Lesley Billingsley
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Secretary
Jolene Hofmaier

VALTS School Board

Brad Helgerson	President
Mary Winn	Vice President
Jolene Hofmaier	Secretary (Appointed)
Jodi Walker	Treasurer (Appointed)
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Superintendents

Banner County – Dr. Evelyn Browne
Bayard – Dr. Travis Miller
Bridgeport – Chuck Lambert
Gering – Gary Cooper (Interim)
Kimball – Trevor Anderson
Mitchell – Kathy Urbanek
Morrill – Joe Sherwood
Minatare - Tim Cody
Sidney- Jay Ehler
Scottsbluff - Rick Myles

High School Principals

Banner County – Charles Jones, Principal
Bayard – Kelley Rice, Principal
Bridgeport – Chris Lecher, Principal
Gering – Rocky Schneider, Principal
Kimball –Danielle Reader, Principal
Minatare – Rocky Robbins, Principal
Mitchell - Heath Peters, Principal
Morrill – Tom Peacock, Principal
Sidney- Chris Arent, Principal
Scottsbluff – Justin Shaddick, Principal

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NOTE: The school reserves the right to change or modify the handbook whenever it chooses. The rules, regulations and policies contained in this handbook will be constantly monitored for effectiveness. You will be notified of changes or additions. The VALTS Handbook is a framework for students. Students are still subject to their home districts handbook and school policies.

Mission Statement

The mission of Valley Alternative Learning Transitioning School is to empower students to meet the challenges of our changing world. Our setting will create engaging and empowering learning opportunities.

Philosophy

The philosophy is based upon the belief that students have a right to a free, appropriate education; and students, when offered the appropriate environment, can experience educational success. The traditional educational model, effective as it may be for the majority of our students, does not provide the right environment for some students. The Valley Alternative Learning Transitioning School will be student rather than department centered. Its curriculum will be built upon state and district mandated standards.

Program Description

What then is “alternative education”? An alternative school is one that offers the same basic curriculum as the “traditional” school but uses alternative delivery methods. Just as some of us learn best visually, and others acoustically or kinesthetically, students’ unique characteristics cause them to learn best in situations, which support their individual needs. While the structure of the alternative program may vary from site to site, the following common effective characteristics have been identified:

- Small size
- Supportive environment

- Individual educational planning
- Many choices for delivery of instruction
- Autonomy and democratic structure
- Broad participation of family and community
- Well defined standards and rules
- Targeted services
- Accountability and constant evaluation
- Support of school districts
- School environment which is safe, disciplined, and drug free
- Opportunities for community involvement

Effective alternative schools serve a segment of the population whose needs differ from others. They are not exclusively remediation centers. They are also designed to meet the needs of gifted students.

Program Goals

The program goals are as follows:

- A. To provide alternative ways for students to achieve high school graduation resulting in an increased graduation rate.
- B. To certify that, upon completion of a course, students will have reached or surpassed the district and state performance assessments which measure student progress. To develop innovative student performance assessments that measure student progress.
- C. To develop innovative student performance assessments which measure student progress.
- D. To provide a caring, diversified learning environment where students will develop positive self-concepts, increase their self-esteem, and recognize and appreciate the correlation between education and success in the workplace.

- E. To be accountable to the community and the home school district through quality student achievement.
- F. To provide opportunities for community involvement.
- G. To provide a safe and orderly school environment.
- H. To provide an alternative diversified environment where students can achieve success.

Curriculum

The academic program offers standards-based programs and career-oriented programs in science, social studies, math, English and communication skills. Socialization skills, job skills training, and problem solving are also emphasized.

Because the staff is small, we work together to help each student achieve the necessary requirements for grade level advancement and graduation. Each student's program is individualized to meet graduation requirements.

Expected Outcomes

The expected outcomes of the program are as follows:

- *Increased proficiency in basic skills*
- *Increased standardized test scores*
- *Increased career/vocational exploration*
- *Increased skills in conflict resolution*
- *Increased appropriate career choices*
- *Increased student self-confidence*
- *Increased student productive behavior*
- *Increased student attendance*
- *Increased student recognition of relevancy between education and employment*

Target Population

Below are characteristics of at-risk students whose needs can be met through an alternative program:

- Students at risk of dropping out and/or not meeting cohort graduation date.
- Students who have exhausted the educational opportunities in their resident school.
- Students with a demonstrated need for consistency in instructional staff, curriculum, and/or scheduling.
- Students whose individual instructional pacing needs do not fit the traditional means of instructional delivery.
- Students whose educational success is, in part, dependent on non-academic support, i.e., flex scheduling, intensive counseling, child care, and health counseling.
- Students whose talents significantly exceed their performance.
- Students with deficiencies in basic skills.
- Students wanting to have a second chance to complete their education.

Application Procedures

Students wishing to apply for enrollment in the Valley Alternative Learning Transitioning School facility must submit to their host high school a written request signed by both the student and his/her parent. The request must include the reason(s) the VALTS facility is being requested to meet the educational needs of the student.

All applications will be reviewed by the high school administrative team (counselors and principals) to determine placement.

While all applications will be reviewed on an individual basis, placement priority will be given to senior level students with a minimum number of credits needed to complete graduation requirements.

Placement on a waiting list will be necessary should the VALTS facility experience full enrollment. Priority for the waiting list positions will follow the same guidelines as placement in the facility.

Criteria for Admission

- Referred by the student's home district.
- Expressed desire to be part of the program (self-referral).
- Expressed desire to achieve graduation.
- Referred by the high school screening committee team and principal.
- Complete academic/interest/aptitude tests upon placement.
- If a student has qualified for special education services, they must demonstrate one year of success in the regular education program of their resident district before qualifying to enroll in the VALTS program.
- Reasonable student expectation to complete the program within one year of graduation class. At a minimum, students should have completed at least 40% of their resident district's graduation requirements prior to entering the VALTS program.
- Agrees to abide by conditions and rules established for the program.
- Completion of a successful intake interview.

Academic Requirements

Requirements for graduation from the Valley Alternative Learning Transitioning School will remain the same as for all other students in their home district.

When the student is admitted to the VALTS facility, the application will include the student's transcript, attendance records, State Assessment Scores and a listing of all courses required for graduation.

The VALTS curriculum is designed to help those students lacking the required credits to graduate with his/her class. It is not designed to be an accelerated way for traditional students to go through school in a hurry;

therefore, a student may not graduate early from the VALTS facility without permission from his/her high school principal.

Students who are not on track to graduate with their cohort class are required to attend summer school. Summer school dates and times will be determined on an annual basis.

Building and Grounds Rules

- I will respect all property.
- I will not loiter around other school facilities.
- I will only have food or drink in designated areas.
- I will help maintain a clean parking lot and grounds area.
- I will leave all work areas and school grounds clean and litter-free.
- I will only be in my vehicle when it is allowed by VALTS staff.
- I will not leave the building during school hours, unless permission is granted by VALTS staff.
- I will enter and leave the school parking lot at a safe, slow speed.
- I will only use approved vehicles for field trips.

Violations of VALTS rules and regulations could result in the student receiving in-school suspension, out-of-school suspension, or expulsion from the program.

Student Behavior

- I will attend school every day, unless there is a medical or family emergency.
 - Make all possible attempts to schedule appointments outside of scheduled school time.
 - The attendance policy will be adhered to at all times. If I am going to be absent or tardy for any reason, I or my parents will personally call VALTS prior to my absence.
 - I will make up any assignments I miss as a result of my absence the day(s) I return to school. If I am a morning student I will stay after my classes the day of my return. If I am an afternoon student I will report at 8:00 AM the day of my return.
- I will behave in an appropriate manner at all times. I will remember that aggressiveness and inappropriate gesturing are unacceptable.
- I will use appropriate language. I will remember that profanity and inappropriate innuendos are not acceptable.
- I will treat staff members, fellow students, and visitors with respect.
- I will respect others' privacy.
- I will respect my own and others personal property and personal space.
- I will not interrupt others while they are speaking.
- I will dress appropriately. **Shirts displaying drug and alcohol messages are not permitted and undergarments should not be seen.**
- I will not use, or have in my possession: tobacco, vape pens, alcohol, any illegal substances, mind altering substances, look-alike drugs, or weapons while on the premises of VALTS or WNCC campus. WNCC is a tobacco free campus.

- Any student suspected of possessing or being under the influence of any illegal substance will be referred to the office. The office will contact law enforcement and the student will be assessed by the officer that responds to the call.
- I will refrain from bringing inappropriate reading materials and paraphernalia.
- I will not loiter in the building after my classes.
- I will observe all rules and guidelines in adherence to my host school.

Asbestos

Educational Service Unit 13 has completed and has on file at the Administration Office, each building's Asbestos Management Plan. This plan contains the results of all building inspections and response action necessary to either abate or encapsulate any asbestos-containing material. Each building plan is available for public inspection in the Administrator's office at the Scottsbluff Office (4215 Avenue I, Scottsbluff, Nebraska) and at the Sidney location (1114 Toledo Street, Sidney, Nebraska).

Police Questioning

Questioning or interview of students on the school premises will take place pursuant to the following guidelines:

1. If an interview of a student is requested during school hours concerning an ongoing investigation of a crime not related to the school

setting, questioning should not take place until the parent, custodian, or guardian of the student has been contacted and permission is given for such interview. Unless a parent specifically requests the principal or other school agent to be present during the interview, such presence is not necessary. An attempt should be made to document the parent's consent either by obtaining such consent in writing or by confirming a consent given over the telephone by a letter.

2. If a representation is made by an investigator that an interview is necessary to collect information concerning an allegation of abuse, neglect, or an offense involving a family relation and it is clear that the obtaining of a parent's consent would be impossible or counterproductive, the principal may allow the interview on school premises. In these situations, the principal or his/her agent should be present during the interview to ensure that the interview relates only to those matters specified by the law enforcement official.

3. If the investigation and the request for an interview relate to an incident that took place on school grounds and/or during school hours, it is not necessary to obtain the consent of the parents for an interview. In these situations the principal or his/her agent should be present during the interview to ensure that the matters inquired into relate only to the incident that took place on school property or something that is directly related thereto.

Classroom Expectations

- I will contribute creatively and productively to any independent or group activity.
- I will complete all assignments to passing quality and turn in all assignments by their due dates. If I fail to turn in an assignment or

if I turn in an assignment that is not of passing quality I will correct the situation immediately.

- I understand that any grade below 75% will not be acceptable.
- Students will be placed on **academic probation** after failing three classes. Students will be removed from VALTS upon failing their fourth class.
- Backpacks and purses are not allowed in classrooms. If a student brings a backpack or purse, they will be required to leave it in the office.
- Students who are behind their cohort graduation class are required to attend summer school.
- If a student is granted the option of receiving elective credit for work study, the students must complete 180 work hours per quarter for five elective credits. Work hours that were accrued before becoming a student at VALTS cannot be submitted for credit. W2's or payroll stubs should be turned in regularly. Hours cannot be counted if work is done "under the table" or hours are traded for a service. Babysitting/childcare hours for family and/or friends will not be accepted.
- Jobsite Evaluations: Pre-Approval by Administration on all work/volunteer hours will be required.

Statement of Nondiscrimination

The Valley Alternative Learning Transitioning School/ ESU 13 does not discriminate on the basis of sex in any educational program or activity that it operates. The Service Unit is required by Title IX (20 U.S.C.

§1681) and 34 CFR Part 106 not to discriminate in such a manner. This requirement not to discriminate also applies to admission and employment. Any inquiries about the application of Title IX may be referred to the ESU 13 Title IX Coordinator, to the Assistant Secretary of the Office of Civil Rights, or both. Dr. Laura Barrett, Title IX Coordinator
4215 Avenue I, Scottsbluff, NE 69361 Phone: (308) 635-3696
lbarrett@esu13.org

School Policy on Sexual Harassment

It is the policy of the Valley Alternative Learning Transitioning School to maintain a learning and working environment that is free from sexual harassment. No employee or student of the school shall be subjected to sexual harassment.

Sexual harassment may include, but is not limited to the following:

- Verbal harassment or abuse.
- Repeated remarks with sexual or demeaning implications
- Unwelcome touching
- Sexual jokes, posters, etc.
- Suggesting or demanding sexual involvement accompanied by implied or explicit threats concerning one's grades, job, etc.

Sexual harassment is a violation of law: Title IX, Title VII and/or the Nebraska Equal Opportunity in Education Act. Other laws may also be violated if sexual harassment has happened.

School Policy on Dating Violence

VALTS provides physically safe and emotionally secure environments for all students and staff. Positive behaviors are encouraged in the educational program and are required of all students and staff.

Inappropriate behaviors, including but not limited to, dating violence, will not be tolerated and must be avoided by all students and staff.

Pursuant to Section 79-2,140, the Legislature has defined (a) "dating violence" to mean a pattern of behavior where one person uses threats of, or actually uses, physical, sexual, verbal, or emotional abuse to control his or her dating partner; and (b) "dating partner" to mean any person, regardless of gender, involved in an intimate relationship with another person, regardless of gender, involved in an intimate relationship with another person primarily characterized by the expectation of affectionate involvement whether casual, serious, or long term.

Strategies and practices are implemented to reinforce positive behaviors and to discourage and protect others from inappropriate behaviors. Dating violence training, as defined by Section 79-2,141 (4) shall be provided to staff deemed appropriate by administration. The administration will be responsible for reviewing the school district's Student Code of Conduct to insure that this policy is reflected therein.

Tornado Drill Procedures

VALTS will conduct tornado drills in accordance with the Harms Advanced Technology Center and host school districts' regulations. We will quickly and quietly proceed down the stairs to the lower level of the building and to the appropriate room where all faculty and students will assume the position required for tornado safety. At the conclusion of the drill, we will quietly return to the VALTS classrooms.

Fire Drill Procedures

In compliance with State Fire Marshal regulations, VALTS will hold fire drills. During these drills, students and faculty will exit the building in a quiet, orderly fashion through the door that offers the safest exit. Students should then proceed to the parking lot on the north end of the Harms Advanced Technology Center at a safe distance from the

building. Students are to remain in this area until they receive an all-clear signal from an authorized person.

Personal Belongings

Students are responsible for the safekeeping of all their personal belongings. Valuable items should not be brought to school or on school field trips.

Parent/Teacher/Student Conferences

Parents/guardians are expected, as per agreement, to consult with teachers about their student's progress. Regular conferences will be scheduled in the fall and spring semesters. Special conferences may be scheduled as needed. Parents are encouraged to contact VALTS staff for an appointment any time they have a question or concern.

Electronic Devices

Cell phones, watches, etc. need to be shut off (powered off) during class and not turned on at all until break or after school, unless a teacher uses it as part of their lesson. If a student is using their phone without permission, they will be given one warning to put their phone away. If a student is asked a second time, they will be required to take the phone to the office. The student may then pick the phone up at the end of the school day. Cell phone policy may vary depending on the class/teacher.

If for any reason a student needs to have his/her cell phone available to them during school hours, that student will need to obtain permission from VALTS staff to have his/her phone set to vibrate.

VALTS Attendance Policy

ABSENCES

1) Students are expected to attend school every day school is in session.

a) ALL work due to absences must be made up.

b) Appearing for court is not a valid reason for missing school. To change your court date &/or time, instruct your attorney to have your date and time rescheduled for an appropriate time, or call the Scotts Bluff County Clerk Magistrate: **436-6648**.

TARDIES

Students are expected to be in class every day, and to arrive on time.

These simple habits are the top two skills required by employers.

Punctuality is important in all careers.

- Tardy = Not in seat when class starts
- Absence is recorded when a student is greater than 10 minutes late to class.
- Three (3) tardies will constitute 1 absence.
 - For every minute a student is tardy they must make up 2 minutes at the end of the day.

Network Acceptable Use and Internet Safety Policy

Educational Service Unit No. 13 (ESU #13) recognizes the value of computer and other electronic resources to improve student learning and enhance the administration and operation of its schools. To this end, ESU #13 encourages the responsible use of computers, computer networks (including the Internet), and other electronic resources in support of the mission and goals of ESU #13 and its schools.

It is the policy of ESU #13 to: (a) prevent user access over its computer network to, or transmission of, inappropriate material via Internet, electronic mail, or other forms of direct electronic communications; (b) prevent unauthorized access and other unlawful

online activity; (c) prevent unauthorized online disclosure, use, or dissemination of personal identification information of minors; and (d) comply with the Children's Internet Protection Act [Pub. L. No. 106-554 and 47 USC 254(h)].

It is the policy of ESU #13 to maintain an environment that promotes ethical and responsible conduct in all online network activities by staff and students. It shall be a violation of this policy for any employee, student, or other individual to engage in any activity that does not conform to the established purpose and general rules and policies of the network. Within this general policy, ESU #13 recognizes its legal and ethical obligation to protect the well-being of students in its charge.

The following uses of school-provided electronic resources, including Internet and e-mail, are not permitted:

- to access, upload, download, or distribute pornographic, obscene, or sexually explicit material
- to transmit obscene, abusive, sexually explicit, or threatening language;
- to violate any local, state, or federal statute;
- to vandalize, damage, or disable the property of another individual or organization;
- to access another individual's materials, information, or files without permission; and,
- to violate copyright or otherwise use the intellectual property of another individual or organization without permission.
- to distribute or forward "chain letters" via email.

Any violation of district policy and rules may result in loss of district-provided access to the Internet. Additional disciplinary action may be determined in keeping with existing procedures and practices regarding inappropriate language or behavior. When and where applicable, law enforcement agencies may be involved.

Students may...

- Design and post web pages and other material from school resources.
- Use direct communications such as e-mail, online chat, or instant messaging with a teacher's permission.
- Use the resources for any educational purpose.

Consequences for Violation. Violations of these rules may result in disciplinary action, including the loss of a student's privileges to use the school's information technology resources.

Supervision and Monitoring. School and network administrators and their authorized employees monitor the use of information technology resources to help ensure that uses are secure and in conformity with this policy. Administrators reserve the right to examine, use, and disclose any data found on the school's information networks in order to further the health, safety, discipline, or security of any student or other person, or to protect property. They may also use this information in disciplinary actions and will furnish evidence of crime to law enforcement.

Enforcement of policy

- To the extent practical, technology protection measures (or "Internet filters") shall be used to block or filter Internet, or other forms of electronic communications, access to inappropriate information.
- Specifically, as required by the Children's Internet Protection Act, blocking shall be applied to visual depictions of material deemed obscene or child pornography, or to any material deemed harmful to minors.
- Subject to staff supervision, technology protection measures may be disabled for adults or, in the case of minors,

minimized only for bona fide research or other lawful purposes.

- An ESU #13 staff member may override the technology protection measure that blocks or filters Internet access for a student to access a site with legitimate educational value that is wrongly blocked by the technology protection measure that blocks or filters Internet access.
- ESU #13 staff will monitor students' use of the Internet by either direct supervision or by monitoring Internet use history to ensure enforcement of policy.

Inappropriate Network Usage

To the extent practical, steps shall be taken to promote the safety and security of users of ESU #13 online computer network when using electronic mail, chat rooms, instant messaging, and other forms of direct electronic communications.

Specifically, as required by the Children's Internet Protection Act, prevention of inappropriate network usage includes: (a) unauthorized access, including so-called 'hacking,' and other unlawful activities; and (b) unauthorized disclosure, use, and dissemination of personal identification information regarding minors.

Education, Supervision and Monitoring

It shall be the responsibility of all members of ESU #13 staff to educate, supervise and monitor appropriate usage of the online computer network and access to the Internet in accordance with this policy, the Children's Internet Protection Act, the Neighborhood Children's Internet Protection Act, and the Protecting Children in the 21st Century Act.

Procedures for the disabling or otherwise modifying any technology protection measures shall be the responsibility of the Director of Technology or designated representatives.

The Director of Alternative Education or designated representatives will provide age appropriate training for students who use ESU #13 Internet facilities. The training provided will be designed to promote ESU #13's commitment to:

- a. The standards and acceptable use of Internet services as set forth in the ESU #13 Network Acceptable Use and Internet Safety Policy;
- b. Student safety with regard to:
 - i. safety on the Internet;
 - ii. appropriate behavior while on online, on social networking Web sites, and in chat rooms; and
 - iii. cyberbullying awareness and response.
- c. Compliance with the E-rate requirements of the Children's Internet Protection Act ("CIPA").

Following receipt of this training, the student will acknowledge that he/she received the training, understood it, and will follow the provisions of the ESU #13 Network Acceptable Use and Internet Safety Policy. Curriculum materials and a Scope and Sequence can be found at Common Sense Media. www.common sense media.org

Disclaimers

- ESU #13 and its individual schools, administrators, faculty, and staff thereof, make no warranties of any kind for the service provided and will not be held responsible for any damage suffered by users. This includes the loss of data resulting from delays, non-deliveries, and intrusion by computer virus or service interruption.

- Use of any information obtained via network access is at the risk of the user, and ESU #13 specifically denies any responsibility for the accuracy or quality of the information obtained.
- ESU #13 cannot guarantee complete protection from inappropriate material. Furthermore, it is impossible for the district or content filter to reflect each individual or family's opinions of what constitutes "inappropriate material." If a student mistakenly accesses inappropriate information, he/she should immediately notify a district staff member.
- ESU #13 is not liable for an individual's inappropriate use of the district's electronic communications systems, for violations of copyright restrictions or other laws, and for other costs incurred by users through use of ESU #13's electronic communication systems.
- The district will cooperate fully with local, state, or federal officials in any investigation concerning or relating to misuse of the district's electronic communication systems.

*CIPA definition of terms

MINOR. The term "minor" means any individual who has not attained the age of 19 years.

TECHNOLOGY PROTECTION MEASURE. The term "technology protection measure" means a specific technology that blocks or filters Internet access to visual depictions that are:

1. **OBSCENE**, as that term is defined in section 1460 of title 18, United States Code;
2. **CHILD PORNOGRAPHY**, as that term is defined in section 2256 of title 18, United States Code; or
3. Harmful to minors.

HARMFUL TO MINORS. The term "harmful to minors" means any picture, image, graphic image file, or other visual depiction that:

1. Taken as a whole and with respect to minors, appeals to a prurient interest in nudity, sex, or excretion;
2. Depicts, describes, or represents, in a patently offensive way with respect to what is suitable for minors, an actual or simulated sexual act or sexual contact, actual or simulated normal or perverted sexual acts, or a lewd exhibition of the genitals; and
3. Taken as a whole, lacks serious literary, artistic, political, or scientific value as to minors.

SEXUAL ACT; SEXUAL CONTACT. The terms "sexual act" and "sexual contact" have the meanings given such terms in section 2246 of title 18, United States Code.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

Cheating and plagiarism violate the standards of academic integrity. Sanctions could be imposed against students who engage in such conduct.

- "Cheating" means intentionally to misrepresent the source, nature, or other conditions of academic work so as to accrue undeserved credit, or to cooperate with someone else in such misrepresentation. Such misrepresentations may, but need not necessarily, involve the work of others. Cheating includes, but is not limited to the following: tests, advanced information, use of unauthorized materials, use of another student answers, use of another student to take a test, misrepresenting the need to delay a test, and failure to contribute to group projects.
- "Plagiarism" means to take and present as one's own a material portion of the ideas or words of another or to present as one's own an idea or work derived from an existing source without full and proper credit to the source of the ideas, words, or works.

Sanctions

- Academic Sanction. The instructor will refuse to accept the student's work in which the cheating or plagiarism took place, assign a grade of "F" or zero for the work, and require the student to complete another assignment, test or project in place of the work within such time and under such conditions as the instructor may determine appropriate. In the event the student completes the replacement assignment, test or project at a level meeting minimum performance standards, the instructor will assign a grade which the instructor determines to be appropriate for the work. Credit for the class may be withheld pending successful completion of the replacement test or project.
 - a. Report to Parents and Administration. The instructor will notify the Principal of the offense, and the instructor or Principal will notify the student's parents or guardian.
- Student Discipline Sanctions. Academic integrity offenses are a violation of school rules. The Principal may recommend sanctions in addition to those assigned by the instructor. Such additional sanctions will be given strong consideration if a student has engaged in a serious or repeated academic integrity offense or other rule violations, and if the academic sanction is otherwise not a sufficient remedy, such as for offenses involving altering assigned grades or contributing to academic integrity violations.

Educational Service Unit No. 13
Network Acceptable Use and Internet Safety Policy **Student's** Agreement

By signing this form, I acknowledge receipt of, understand, and agree to abide by the rules and standards set forth in ESU #13 Network Acceptable Use and Internet Safety Policy. I understand that to gain access to the ESU #13 computer network systems, I must return this form signed by me and my parent or legal guardian. I further understand that any violation of the Policy is unethical and may constitute a criminal offense. Should I commit any violation, my access privileges may be revoked, monetary liability may be incurred, school disciplinary and/or appropriate legal action may be taken. I understand that this agreement will be in effect for one school year and must be re-signed in subsequent years.

PRINTED Student Name: _____

Student Signature: _____

Date: _____

Educational Service Unit No. 13
Network Acceptable Use and Internet Safety Policy **Parent's or Legal Guardian's** Agreement

I have read, understand, and agree with the ESU #13 Network Acceptable Use and Internet Safety Policy. I understand that by signing this form I give permission for ESU #13 to grant access to district electronic communication systems, including the Internet. I understand that this access is designed for educational purposes. I understand that ESU #13 has taken reasonable precautions to eliminate access to inappropriate material and I will not hold the district or staff members responsible if inappropriate material is inadvertently accessed. I understand that this agreement will be in effect for one school year and must be re-signed in subsequent years.

PRINTED Parent/Guardian Name: _____

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____

Date: _____

Parent / Guardian and Student Contract

My child and I are prepared to meet the following criteria in agreement with the Valley Alternative Learning Transitioning School:

- Attend scheduled Parent/Teacher/Student Conferences.
- Support the attitude that we are a 3-part team (Parent, Student, and Teacher) and all parts of the team must work together for the good of the student.
- See that my child gets to school on time for his/her session and adheres to the attendance policy.
- Support the VALTS program in all the rules and regulations of the VALTS, Harms Advanced Technology Center, and my child's host school district.
- Understand that tolerance and respect for differences are valued at VALTS.
- Actions or words that violate this expectation may result in suspension or expulsion.
- Understand that using, possessing, distributing, or being under the influence of look-alikes, drugs, alcohol, or weapons during school hours or daily breaks will result in suspension or expulsion. Students suspected of any these types of behaviors will be referred to local law enforcement officials for investigation/assessment.
- Understand that fighting will not be tolerated and will result in expulsion.
- Understand that VALTS is not a shortcut to graduation. VALTS follows the host school district's policy for credits to graduate.
- Understand that if we fail to uphold our commitment to this agreement our child's continued placement in the VALTS program could be in jeopardy.

Parent/Guardian

Date

Student

Date

VALTS FIELD TRIP FORM

I give permission for:

(Student's Name)

to take part in all field trips this school year. I understand that there will be times when there will be no advance notice prior to a trip away from the building. One of the features of VALTS is an opportunity to tie into the broader community and I understand that this sometimes happens spontaneously.

I agree that students will ride only in vehicles approved by VALTS administration.

I release the Valley Alternative Learning Transitioning School and my student's home school district from all responsibility in case of an accident.

Signed: _____

(Parent or Emancipated Youth)

Date: _____

Attendance Policy Contract

**I, _____ have read
(student's signature)**

and understand the Attendance Policy for the current school year. I understand that the purpose of this attendance policy is to instill in me the importance of attendance and punctuality as I continue to develop meaningful life skills. I will adhere to this policy. I understand that should I abuse this policy I could be dismissed from the program.

Date: _____

**I, _____ have read
(parent/guardian signature)**

and understand the Attendance Policy for the current school year. I will support my student in adhering to this policy. I understand that should my student abuse this policy he/she could be dismissed from VALTS.

Date: _____

VALTS News Coverage/Web Publications Authorization

Return this form ONLY IF you DO NOT want your child to be included in any publicity that a classroom or regular school program might receive.

Reporters from local newspapers, television stations, and radio stations frequently visit schools to gather information and pictures for stories on a variety of topics (profiles on new school programs, stories about outstanding students and teachers, parent/student issues, news such as new standards and policies).

Occasionally, due to family, legal, or other reasons, parents and legal guardians prefer that their children never receive publicity. We ask that those parents and legal guardians sign and return the form below. Signed forms returned to us will be kept on file at ESU #13 and referred to when members of the media visit the school. Reporters and photographers will be asked to avoid featuring any children for whom this form is on file.

Please note that this procedure cannot apply to public events or programs for which children must register.

I do **NOT** want my child to be included in any publicity or web publications that a school classroom or regular school program may receive.

I give permission for my child to be included in any publicity or web publications that a school classroom or regular school program may receive.

Name of Child _____

Parent/Guardian Signature _____