

**Sports Leadership Arts Management Arizona  
Charter School K-5**



**Parent & Student  
Handbook 2022-  
2023**

1938 E. Apache Blvd.  
Tempe, AZ 85281  
480-331-2855 [www.slamaz.org](http://www.slamaz.org)

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**Dear SLAMily,**

Welcome to an exciting first year at SLAM!—Sports Leadership Arts Management—Arizona. SLAM! Arizona is a public charter school serving grades K-5 and gradually adding a grade each year to become a full K-12 campus. Parents are an integral part of our school's success and we gladly welcome your input and suggestions throughout the year. Your collaboration is essential in promoting our school's mission as we continue to place an emphasis on individual student achievement by nurturing a positive learning environment which will enable our students to become confident, self-directed, responsible life-long learners. We are looking forward to a rewarding and exciting year. On behalf of the administration, faculty, and staff we assure you that we are committed to SLAM! Arizona's vision to provide an innovative challenging curriculum in a learning environment that promotes individualized instruction for all of our students.

We are honored and thank you for selecting us as your ***School of Choice!***

## **Charter Information**

### **Charter School Information**

As defined by the National Alliance of Public Charter Schools ([www.publiccharters.org](http://www.publiccharters.org)), Charter schools are independent public schools allowed freedom to be more innovative, while being held accountable for improved student achievement. Charter schools are non-profit, self-managed entities that enroll public school students. They are approved and monitored by the Arizona State Board of Charter Schools; yet, they run independently of one another. Charter schools are funded by state and local monies and are open to any student residing in Arizona who would otherwise qualify to attend a regular public school in the state of Arizona. Charter school students are public school students, subject to all applicable policies. Charter schools foster a partnership between parents, teachers, and students and create an environment in which parents can be more involved, teachers are given the freedom to be innovative and students are provided the structure they need to learn, with all three held accountable for improved student achievement. SLAM! Arizona is sponsored by the Arizona State Board of Charter Schools, not the Tempe School District.

### **Mission & Vision**

The *mission* of Sports Leadership Arts Management of Arizona (SLAM! Arizona) is to provide viable innovative educational choices for students ultimately yielding college-bound and career-oriented graduates. SLAM! Arizona students will develop advanced skills through unique, hands-on experience, utilizing community partnerships, innovative ideas, and state-of-the-art technologies essential for students to become successful scholars, professionals, and future leaders. SLAM! Arizona students will thrive as contributing members of our local and global community.

### **Core Values**

SLAM! Arizona believes in and teaches five core values referred to as the **SLAM High Five**. These qualities are fundamentally desired to be modeled within the educational practices of the school, and also be intrinsically established in the practices of the staff and students. These tenets include accountability, perseverance, respect, integrity, and leadership.

## **SLAM Staff**

<b><u>Principal:</u></b>	Shannon Beem	<a href="mailto:shannon.beem@slamaz.org">shannon.beem@slamaz.org</a>
<b><u>Athletic Director:</u></b>	Jeff Huber	<a href="mailto:jeff.huber@slamaz.org">jeff.huber@slamaz.org</a>
<b><u>Office Manager:</u></b>	Janella Flores	<a href="mailto:janella.flores@slamaz.org">janella.flores@slamaz.org</a>
<b><u>Paraprofessional:</u></b>	Corrine Smith	<a href="mailto:corrine.smith@slamaz.org">corrine.smith@slamaz.org</a>
<b><u>Kindergarten:</u></b>	Megan Ables	<a href="mailto:megan.ables@slamaz.org">megan.ables@slamaz.org</a>
<b><u>1st Grade:</u></b>	Marybelle Aguilar	<a href="mailto:marybelle.aguilar@slamaz.org">marybelle.aguilar@slamaz.org</a>
<b><u>2nd Grade:</u></b>	Adriana Estrada	<a href="mailto:adriana.estrada@slamaz.org">adriana.estrada@slamaz.org</a>
<b><u>3rd – 5<sup>th</sup> Grade:</u></b>	Laycey Doss	<a href="mailto:laycey.doss@slamaz.org">laycey.doss@slamaz.org</a>
<b><u>Special Education:</u></b>	Taylor Hovey	<a href="mailto:taylor.hovey@slamaz.org">taylor.hovey@slamaz.org</a>

## **Board of Directors**

<b><u>President &amp; Chair:</u></b>	Rene Ruiz	<a href="mailto:r Ruiz@slamfoundation.org">r Ruiz@slamfoundation.org</a>
<b><u>Vice-President &amp; Vice-Chair</u></b>	Joseph A. “Tony” Mesa III	<a href="mailto:tmesa@slamfoundation.org">tmesa@slamfoundation.org</a>
<b><u>Secretary</u></b>	Alina Lopez	<a href="mailto:alopez@slamfoundation.org">alopez@slamfoundation.org</a>



## Grievance Policy

SLAM! Arizona values open and proactive communication among and between the members of the school community, including parents, students, faculty, staff, administration, and the Board. Issues that are not dealt with directly can become destructive to the school community and, therefore, detrimental to the learning process of our students. The adults in the SLAM! Arizona community must model for its students a willingness to address conflict directly, respectfully, and at the lowest level possible, whenever possible.

As such, SLAM! Arizona will create a grievance policy consisting of four steps that is designed for settling differences in a prompt and equitable manner. These procedures guide how any adult member of the school community – parent, employee (faculty or non-faculty), administrator, or other adult – is expected to express grievances about other members of the community.

The school's administration and Board both expect that conflict will be addressed and proactively dealt with following the fewest number of steps possible. The steps include:

1. addressing the situation directly with the other person(s) involved;
2. enlisting the assistance of an administrator to assist in facilitating a resolution;\*
3. preparing a written grievance for the Principal, who then reviews and acts upon that grievance as appropriate;\* and
4. preparing a written grievance for the Board of Directors, who then may choose to hear additional information at a Board meeting and will ultimately make a final decision, not subject to appeal.\*\*

It is important to emphasize that the Board will not become involved in a grievance until the final step of the process. Board members are expected to refer any member of the school community who may approach them with a grievance to the school's grievance policy and the proper process or resolving the issue. This process is designed to avoid Board micromanagement and the creation of factions within the school.

\*If the grievance is with the administrator or principal it will be handled by a different administrator.

\*\*An individual Board Member cannot address issues.

## **General Information**

### **Professional Development Day(s)**

SLAM! Arizona will schedule Professional Development Days at different times throughout the year. A priority of focus during these days is using student data to increase student achievement. As a school, we monitor and track student progress, especially the progress of our struggling students, to help increase school-wide student achievement. Teachers regularly meet to discuss their struggling students at each grade level. Each grade level discusses the strengths and weaknesses of each of those students. Discussions are based solely on student achievement and improvement. Teachers present hard data on students and answer questions as to why their students are or are not improving. The staff offers suggestions, materials, websites, and activities that may help these students increase their achievement. Based on this information we determine what Professional Development teachers need to best help students make academic gains. Professional Development days are very beneficial to the staff as the entire expertise of the staff is providing guidance and suggestions to help support all of our students. It is truly a collaborative, school-wide effort to monitor and track student achievement and add programs, structures, and strategies to our teaching practice to help students make higher gains.

### **Data Days - Early Dismissal Schedule**

There are scheduled Data Days at SLAM! Arizona to monitor, report, and discuss student achievement. As a school, we monitor and track student progress, especially the progress of our struggling students, to help increase school-wide student achievement. We meet school-wide and teachers discuss struggling students at each grade level. Grade levels discuss the strengths and weaknesses of each student. Discussions are based solely on student achievement and strategies for improvement. Teachers present data on each student and offer suggestions, materials, websites, and activities that will help students increase their achievement. Data Days are very beneficial to the staff and students. It is truly a collaborative, school-wide effort to monitor and track student achievement.

The Data Days/Minimum Days are half-days and students will attend school from: ●  
8:00 am – 11:30 am

Anyone who remains on campus after 12:00 pm, a \$25 Data Day fee will be added to their Infinite Campus account.

### **Lost and Found**

A lost and found will be located in a designated area. To minimize the quantity of lost and found items, we ask that you please write your child's name on everything he/she brings to school. Lost and found items will be put out every two weeks to be picked up. Items not picked up within two weeks will be donated.

### **K-5 School Parties & Gifts**

School parties may be held to recognize special holidays or events related to instruction. Celebrations will be announced throughout the year. Parents may be asked to assist teachers with special preparations. No individual gift exchanges will take place at school. If parents wish to send a small treat, please know that due to allergies, only store-bought and packaged treats are allowed to be shared. The teacher must be notified in advance. All treats must adhere to the allergy restrictions options.

### **Special Events and Activities**

All special events and activities must be pre-approved by the administration.

### **Items Permitted/Not Permitted in School**

Students are expected to bring school supplies that are listed on the official school supply list, homework, lunch money or lunch from home and any other items requested by the teacher. Students are not permitted to bring toys, games, sports equipment (i.e. basketballs, soccer balls) or other items of value to school. Students who violate this policy may be issued a disciplinary referral, and items will be confiscated and remain in the office until the end of the day after which a parent or guardian must come to the office to retrieve it. The school is not responsible for any inconvenience this may cause. After the second confiscation, the item shall remain at school until the end of the school year. **SLAM! Arizona will not be responsible for any lost or stolen items (including cell phones) brought to school.**

### **Visitors**

For the safety of all of our students, **ALL VISITORS** must report to the main office to obtain a visitor's pass. Only persons with pertinent business are permitted on school grounds. Children, including family members, who are not currently enrolled at SLAM! Arizona will not be permitted on school grounds during school hours. Instructional time is precious and must not be interrupted by parent visits. Please schedule appointments/conferences with your child's teacher to avoid unnecessary interruptions.

### **School Arrival and Dismissal**

## **Arrival**

All students must follow SLAM! Arizona drop-off procedures to ensure student safety:

- K- 5 DROP-OFF will begin at 7:30 am. SLAM! Arizona staff will be positioned around the exterior of the school to help guide students as they approach. Students will report to the gym and playground until 7:50 am.
- After 7:50 am students will report directly to their classrooms.

**CARLINE DROP-OFF:** When dropping-off or picking-up elementary students through the carline, all vehicles will be required to use the west entrance off of Apache Boulevard. Cars will then proceed to the lane (marked by cones) on the west side of the school for drop-off in front of the playground at the back of the property. Staff will assist with the opening and closing of car doors. Cars will then proceed to the east exit off of Apache Boulevard.

During drop-off and pick-up, please take the following steps to help ensure the safety of our students:

- ❖ Students should exit/enter vehicles with their backpack in hand and not take the time to take out/put their backpack into the trunk or back of the vehicle.
- ❖ Parents and/or individuals dropping off or picking up students should remain in the car at all times to help speed up the arrival/dismissal process. We also ask that drivers refrain from using their cell phone while in the Drop-off/Pick-up area so they can stay alert and be proactive.

**WALK-UP PARENT DROP-OFF:** Families may also choose to walk their child to school from an offcampus location or parking spot and not use the carline to drop-off students. Vehicles will bypass the carline lane and park in marked parking spots. Parents will then walk their child to the gym or playground.

**ANY TIME AFTER 8:00 AM,** students will need to be signed in at the front office and obtain a tardy slip.

## **DISMISSAL**

PLEASE NOTE: STUDENTS MAY NOT BE RELEASED FROM CLASS BETWEEN 2:30 PM – 3:00 PM AS TEACHERS ARE WRAPPING UP THE SCHOOL DAY.

**CARLINE PICK-UP** will begin at 2:50 pm. Each student will be issued four (4) placards with an assigned number that is to be used with the Silent Dismissal System. All vehicles entering the pickup lane must display their placard on the passenger side of the vehicle dashboard. A few minutes before 2:50 pm, staff will begin entering placard numbers into the Silent Dismissal System. The system then notifies teachers when to release individual students to head to the pick-up area. Once students exit the school, they will head to the area on the east side of the school by the blue picnic tables. Parents using the carline to pick up are to enter from the west entrance on Apache

Boulevard and follow around the building to the cones on the east side to wait for their child/children.

**WALK-UP PARENT PICK-UP:** Parents/Guardians can indicate on the “Departing School” form that an authorized contact will be walking up to the side of the school by the blue picnic tables to pick up their child. The authorized contact must have a placard for each student they are picking up. They will need to present the placard to office personnel who will enter the placard number into the Silent Dismissal System. The system will then notify the student’s teacher that it is okay to release the student to head to the dismissal area.

**STUDENTS WALKING HOME:** Parents/Guardians can indicate on the “Departing School” form that they give their child permission to walk home from school independently. Walkers will be dismissed from class at 2:50 pm.

**STUDENTS RIDING A BIKE HOME:** Parents/Guardians can indicate on the “Departing School” form that they give their child permission to ride a bike to and from school independently. Children must be fully responsible for walking their bike while on school grounds and for locking their bike to the bike rack provided. Bike riders will be dismissed from class at 2:50.

Students arriving prior to 7:30 am or departing after 3:30 pm must be enrolled in *Extra Innings*, our before/after-school program.

**Please note there is no supervision for students after 3:30 pm, so all students must be picked up unless they are participating in a scheduled school activity or attending our after-school program.**

### **Before/After School Program**

SLAM! Arizona will provide a before and after-school program for students enrolled in K-5 for a nominal fee. Details will be provided prior to the beginning of the school year.

- Before school program hours: 6:30-7:30 am
- After school program hours: 3:00-6:00 pm

### **Hazardous Weather Procedures**

Arrival and dismissal procedures may be delayed due to hazardous weather conditions. Please be patient and continue to follow drop-off/pick-up procedures to ensure your child’s safety. Tardies may be suspended due to hazardous weather at the discretion of the administration.

## **Crisis Response Plan**

SLAM! Arizona has plans and procedures in place to protect your child and communicate in the event of an emergency. Our administration works with school staff, local law enforcement, and other public health and safety leaders to make our campus a safe place to learn.

The Charter School Emergency Operations Plan (EOP), includes the following elements:

- A detailed plan, coordinated with national, state, county, and municipal emergency action plans, with detailed procedures for protecting the welfare of students during an emergency event.
- School-based plans, including drills for evacuation, soft lockdown, hard lockdown, shelter-inplace, reverse evacuation, and plans for other potential emergency situations.
- A reunification site to reunite parents/guardians and students if off-school site evacuation is necessary. All community media outlets will communicate the site of reunification immediately after confirmation of the need for a reunification off-site.

## **Incidents on or Near School Campus**

If there is a potential threat the school will go on lockdown to protect students, staff, and visitors. No students will be released during a lockdown. During a crisis situation, please understand that students are not to use their cell phones for communication. Communication will come directly from the school.

## **K- 5 School Cafeteria**

### **Lunch Service**

**Lunch** will be available during the student's designated lunch time. Students may choose to bring their own lunch or purchase school lunches online. Student lunch costs **\$3.60** (subject to change).

### **Closed Campus**

Please note that SLAM! Arizona is a closed campus. This means that once students are on campus, they cannot leave until the school day is over unless they are signed out by a parent/guardian. This especially includes lunch. **No student is allowed to leave campus for lunch or have lunch delivered to them by a food delivery service (Doordash, Uber Eats, etc.).**

### **Student Deliveries**

**WE ARE NOT ABLE TO ACCEPT DELIVERIES OF ANY KIND (FLOWERS, ETC) FOR STUDENTS.**

Please be sure your student has food or lunch money for the day when they arrive at school. In an emergency situation, if you need to drop off lunch for your child, it must be picked up by the student during their lunch time. Food will NOT be sent to classrooms or given to students outside of their lunch time. **In addition, students are not permitted to order and/or accept deliveries of any kind, including UberEats, during the school day.** This is a matter of student/school safety.

## **Health Services & Policies**

Students perform better in school when they are well-rested, eat a healthy breakfast, exercise regularly and are neat and clean. Students need at least 8-10 hours of sleep each night. Students may need parents' help or supervision to make sure they are following these healthy guidelines. These little things help students learn to take care of themselves and develop self-confidence. As children mature, good hygiene and clean clothing are important for self-esteem and acceptance by their classmates.

### **Health Office Personnel**

Each health office has a full-time First Aid Safety Assistant (FASA), who is required to have a high school diploma/GED, certification in CPR/AED and basic first aid. FASAs assist students with health needs and medication administration during school hours. School administration and FASAs work together to maintain student health and safety while at school.

### **Student Health Information**

Each year the parent/guardian is required to complete the Student Health Information Form. The information is important for the health office staff to meet your child's health needs during the school day. Please include information about any health concerns, current medications and/or procedures your child currently has. If the health information is not updated, the previous school year's information will be considered current. Information about students' health concerns will be shared with their teachers and school staff as needed. This will be done in a confidential manner.

### **PE Excuse, Use Of Assistive Devices**

If your child is unable to participate in PE or recess, is using crutches or is unable to walk without help, please notify the FASA and front desk. In order to assist the student who requires health/safety accommodations in the school setting, a licensed health care provider statement may be required.

### **Authorization for Medication**

Students in grades K-5 may self-medicate with prescribed medication for asthma or severe allergic reactions per Arizona law. A Request to Authorize Student Self-Administration of Prescribed Medication for Asthma/Anaphylaxis must be completed by the parent/guardian AND licensed health care provider and returned to the health office.

Students who self-medicate are NOT monitored by the health office personnel.

In order for medication to be administered to your child, we must have an Authorization for Medication form on file. This form is available in the office and on our website listed under the Parents tab. A pediatrician or a family doctor must complete these forms. Medication must be in its original container labeled with the following information: the child's name, dosage, name of the drug, physician's name, and the name and phone number of the pharmacy that filled the prescription. Office personnel designated to dispense medication are required to count the number of pills the student brings to school and document it in the student medication log.

## **Immunization Policy**

In accordance with Arizona law, unless a student is excused because of a religious belief, personal beliefs, or medical condition and has documentation on file, the student's parents or guardian must submit to the registrar of the school a certificate stating that the child has been immunized against diphtheria, pertussis (whooping cough), tetanus, poliomyelitis (polio), rubella (German measles), rubeola, and other such diseases as the local Board of Health or State Board of Health may determine, and has received proper boosters for that immunization. Please see the Arizona Guide to Immunizations Required for more information:

<https://www.azdhs.gov/documents/preparedness/epidemiology-diseasecontrol/immunization/school-childcare/school-immunization-requirements.pdf>

## **Conditional Enrollment**

A child may enter school conditionally if the parent or guardian submits a certificate from a physician or local health officer that states the child is receiving the required immunizations. If a certificate showing the child has been fully immunized is not submitted within 90 school days of the conditional enrollment, **THE CHILD WILL BE EXCLUDED FROM SCHOOL AND THE CHILD'S SEAT AT THE SCHOOL WILL BE RELEASED.**

**\*\*The certificate showing proper immunization or the certificate for conditional enrollment must be received by the school no later than 3:00pm on the school day prior to the first day the child is scheduled to attend his or her first class at SLAM! Arizona. FAILURE TO DO SO WILL RESULT IN THE CHILD'S SEAT AT THE SCHOOL BEING RELEASED.**

## **Students from Out-of-State**

For a child that is transferring from out of State due to military transfer of the child's parent, the parents must submit a certificate signed by a physician or a local health officer showing:

- If the Arizona immunization requirements shown above can be met with one visit to a physician or clinic, a certificate showing full immunization must be submitted within 30 days of enrollment; or
- If the certificate shows that the Arizona immunization requirements shown above cannot be met with one visit to a physician or clinic, a certificate showing the student is receiving full immunization must be submitted within 30 days of enrollment. The parent must then submit a second certificate showing full immunizations within 120 days of enrollment.

**\*\*FAILURE TO SUBMIT THESE REQUIRED CERTIFICATES IN THE TIME FRAMES INDICATED WILL RESULT IN THE CHILD BEING EXCLUDED FROM SCHOOL AND THE CHILD'S SEAT AT THE SCHOOL BEING RELEASED.**



## **Emergency At School**

If a medical emergency occurs:

- Parents/guardians will be notified and are responsible for obtaining medical care.
  - **It is the parent's responsibility to ensure that the school has the correct and current working phone numbers for parents/guardians and emergency contacts.**
- Activation of EMS (911) will be called.
- Students will be transported per EMS protocol.
- The expense of the ambulance transport and subsequent medical care is the responsibility of the parent/guardian.

## **Head/Eye Injuries**

If your child has a head or eye injury, the parent/guardian will be notified. Head injuries may be serious without obvious signs of injury. Injuries occurring from accidents, sports or falls can be serious. Activation of EMS will occur and your child may be transported to a hospital by ambulance based on protocol.

## **Is My Child Too Sick For School?**

If any of these symptoms are present, your child should be kept home.

- Elevated temperature (100 degrees or greater)
- Vomiting and/or diarrhea
- Persistent headache
- Red or sore throat
- Unexplained rash
- Wheezing
- Earache
- Severe toothache
- Untreated head lice

If the symptoms continue longer than 24 hours, you may need to take your child to a licensed healthcare provider. Students must be fever-free for 24 hours without the use of fever reducing medication before returning to school.

If a child becomes sick at school and has a fever of 100° or above, the parent will be contacted to pick up the child from school.

## **Food Allergies**

Severe food allergies can be life-threatening. Notify the school front desk and FASA immediately if your child has a known severe food allergy. If your child has an epi-pen or other required medication, licensed health care provider orders are required. Call the school front desk or FASA to determine the school policy for classroom snacks and lunchroom procedures.

### **Stock Epinephrine**

A severe allergic reaction may occur in a child who has no known allergies. To treat a severe allergic reaction, injectable epinephrine is used. According to Arizona law, all schools must maintain at least two doses of injectable epinephrine, which are readily available during regular school hours. If epinephrine is administered to your child, a parent or guardian will be notified and activation of EMS will occur. Your child may be transported to a hospital by ambulance based on EMS protocol.

### **Contagious Illnesses**

According to the Arizona Department of Health, students with known or suspected contagious illnesses cannot come to school. For the health of both your child and others, all children must be fever free for 24 hours without the use of fever reducing medications, like Tylenol or Motrin, before they can return to school.

### **Pink Eye or Conjunctivitis**

Pink eye may be caused by a virus or a bacterial infection. It causes redness of the eye, with itching, burning and sometimes a discharge (mucus). Pink eye is highly contagious and **MUST** be treated by a licensed health care provider. The student can return to school 24 hours after treatment has begun or medical clearance has been obtained by a licensed healthcare provider. Verification of treatment may be required.

### **Rashes**

Rashes are often associated with illness or allergies; some rashes may be contagious. Students who have a rash accompanied by a fever of 100 degrees or greater will be sent home. Seek care from your licensed health care provider for diagnosis and possible treatment.

### **Head Lice**

Lice are small insects which live in the hair and lay tiny white eggs called nits. The eggs or nits are usually found very close to the scalp, at the back of the neck and behind the ears. Itching is the most common symptom of head lice. Head lice do not jump, fly or carry disease. They can be spread by sharing hats, combs, brushes, and having head to head contact. Lice can be treated with an over-the-counter lice shampoo. Follow directions carefully. Removal of nits is important to prevent the spread of lice. Call the front desk or FASA for more information. Children may return to school after verification of treatment and visual inspection showing no evidence of live lice. Your child's head will be checked by health office personnel before returning to class.

### **Upper Respiratory Conditions**

There are several upper respiratory infections, such as the common cold, acute bronchitis, strep throat and pneumonia. If your child has a sore throat, swollen glands, a fever, chest pain, or persistent cough, he or she should be kept home and seek advice from a licensed healthcare provider.

### **Influenza (Flu)**

The flu is caused by a virus. A person with the flu may have the following symptoms: fever, persistent cough, sore throat, tiredness, headache, runny/stuffy nose, body aches. Vomiting and diarrhea can also occur. The student can return to school when symptoms have resolved and the child is fever-free for 24 hours as noted above. Medical clearance may be requested from a licensed healthcare provider.

### **Fungal Infections**

Common fungal infections include ringworm and athlete's foot. Ringworm is a skin and scalp disease caused by several different types of fungi and is highly contagious if untreated. The student can return to school 24 hours after treatment has begun. Ringworm of the scalp requires treatment verification from a licensed healthcare provider.

### **Mononucleosis**

Mononucleosis or "mono" is a virus and often causes a high fever, swollen glands, and excessive fatigue and is very contagious. A student can return to school with clearance from a licensed healthcare provider. For participation in school sports or PE, a medical clearance may be required due an enlarged spleen. If extended absence is anticipated, please call the front desk or FASA for assistance.

### **COVID-19**

COVID-19 continues to be a fluid situation. Please refer to the following links for the most up-to-date information and isolation/quarantine guidelines. Students with suspected COVID-19 will be required to stay at home until proof of a negative test and symptoms subside.

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/schools-childcare/k-12-childcareguidance.html#:~:text=CDC%20recommends%20universal%20indoor%20masking,layered%20prevention%20strategies%20in%20place>.

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/your-health/quarantine-isolation.html> **Screening**

Arizona state law requires school nurses to screen new-to-district students and those in certain grades to be screened for vision, hearing and scoliosis concerns. Your child's height and weight may also be measured. These screenings do not substitute for a professional exam. Problems detected in screening will be referred to the parent/guardian for follow-up. Call the front desk or FASA for assistance.

### **Attendance Policies**

SLAM! Arizona students are expected to:

- Be present at school each and every day
- Attend class as scheduled
- Arrive at school on time
- Demonstrate appropriate behavior and a readiness to learn

### **Absence Notification**

Regular attendance in school leads to increased student achievement, and students benefit from the educational opportunities provided by our dedicated staff. Absences and tardiness also cause disruptions in your child's learning. It is the responsibility of the parents/guardians to ensure student attendance. Pupils who have been absent must provide written notice from the parent/guardian to the school explaining the reason for the absence within three (3) school days after the student's return from the absence. Parent/Guardian explanations should include the following information:

- The first and last name of the pupil;
- The date(s) the pupil was absent, and;
- The reason the pupil was physically and mentally unable to attend, how the absence was related to the pupil's disability, or the nature of the emergency.

### **Excused Absences**

Excused absences include:

- Student Illness: Students missing three (3) or more consecutive days of school due to illness or injury must provide a written statement from a health care provider.
- Medical Appointment
- Death in Family
- Observance of a religious holiday or service when it is mandated for all members of a faith that such a holiday or service be observed
- School sponsored event or educational enrichment activity
- Suspensions
- Other individual student absences beyond the control of the parent/guardian or student as determined and approved by the administration. The administration shall require documentation related to the condition.

### **Course Make-up**

Students granted an **excused absence** have the right to make up all course work within three (3) school days upon the return to school. After successful completion of all make-up assignments, the student cannot be penalized for that absence. Upon request of the student or the parent/guardian, make-up assignments will be provided within two days by the teacher for excused absences. It should be noted that failure to make up all assignments will result in lower assessment of the student's academic and/or effort grade.

### **Unexcused Absences**

Any absence that does not fall into one of the above excused absence categories is to be considered unexcused. Any student who has been absent from school will be marked under an unexcused absence until he/she submits written documentation as specified above. Failure to provide required documentation within three (3) days upon the return to school will result in an unexcused

absence. **Unexcused absences do not require the teacher to provide makeup work for the student.**

Unexcused absences include:

- Absences due to vacations, personal services, local non-school event, program or sporting activity
- Absences due to older students providing day care services for siblings
- Absences due to illnesses of others
- Absences due to non-compliance with immunization requirements (unless lawfully exempted)

### **Pre-Arranged Absences**

Parents/Guardians must submit a written request to the school prior to the absence(s). The maximum number of pre-arranged absences is ten (10) per school year unless approved by administration. Pre-arranged absence(s) will be deemed excused or unexcused based on the criteria listed above and will be determined by the administration. Please note that if the absence is deemed unexcused, teachers are not required to provide make-up work for the students.

### **Truancy Notification**

Truancy Letters will be sent home after the 3<sup>rd</sup>, and 6<sup>th</sup> unexcused absence. After the 10<sup>th</sup> unexcused absence, parents and students will be required to meet with the administration.

### **Tardy Policy**

Any student who is not in his/her classroom by the bell will be marked "TARDY".

- All students who arrive after the bell MUST check in through the office.
- Frequent tardiness will require a meeting with administration.

### **Early Dismissal**

Students who are dismissed early (on a regular school day) must be signed out by a parent or guardian in the main office. Students will not be released to those whose names do not appear as a parent/guardian or on the emergency contact list kept on file in Infinite Campus. A photo ID must be shown in order to release a student from the school building. It is the parent's responsibility to come to the main office to add people to the emergency contact list. **Students will not be dismissed 30 minutes prior to dismissal time. NO EXCEPTIONS.**

### **Withdrawals**

Please notify the school office of your child's withdrawal or transfer at least one day in advance. In order to process a withdrawal from the school, the parent/guardian must come into the school office and complete the necessary paperwork to process a transfer. A transfer involves notification of a change in school and the return of any issued technology and textbooks.

## **Dress Code Policy**

SLAM! Arizona will be following a policy of standard student attire. The appearance of the members of the SLAM! Arizona family is of paramount importance as good appearance is fundamental to good character development and success. By wearing school uniforms, students will become part of a team. It is this team effort and sense of belonging that will help students experience a greater sense of identity and promote academic excellence. Just as a coach requires his or her players to wear a specific uniform, students at SLAM! Arizona are required to be dressed appropriately every day according to the policy listed below.

**In the event that a student reports to school without the proper uniform, the student will call home in order for the parent to provide the correct uniform.** If available, students will be provided with appropriate clothing. The inappropriate clothing will be held for pick up at the end of the day. Failure to follow this policy will result in administration action to be taken.

## **K-5 Dress Code**

### **Shirts**

- Uniform **polo shirts** are required each day Monday - Thursday and must be red with the SLAM logo. Students are **not allowed** to wear SLAM sports t-shirts Monday-Thursday.
- Long-sleeved shirts or sweatshirts may be worn **underneath** collared polo shirts and must be in a solid color of red, black, gray, or white. For safety purposes, the SLAM logo must be showing at all times.

### **Outerwear (Sweatshirts, Sweaters, Jackets, etc):**

- All outerwear must **contain the SLAM logo or be solid in color (red, black, gray, or white). No designs or decorations are allowed. If worn in the building, jackets must be unzipped with the SLAM logo visible.**
- Hoods are NOT ALLOWED to cover the head while on campus. This is for safety purposes.

### **Pants, Skirts, Shorts, Capris:**

- All pants must fit properly (sagging pants are not allowed) and all pants must be khaki (tan), navy blue, black, or gray in color. Pants may be in denim material, but may not be the more casual look of the blue jean Monday – Thursday.
- Skirts/shorts must be fingertip length and must be solid khaki (tan), navy blue, black, or gray in color.
- Clothing of any kind (pants, shirts, jackets) must not be frayed, ripped, or have holes.
- Leggings are acceptable as long as they are non-see-through, full-length and **solid black**. No mesh or cut outs allowed.
- Blue jeans are not allowed Monday – Thursday.
- **Administration has the final approval for all pants, skirts, shorts, and capris.**

### **Shoes and Sneakers:**

- All shoes must fit securely on the foot for student safety.
- No slides, flip flops, or crocs allowed.
- **Administration has the final approval for all footwear.**

### **Accessories:**

- Belts must be worn through belt loops and may not hang down.
- No distracting jewelry should be worn to school.
- No hats or headwear are allowed. Hats and headwear should be taken off upon entering the building. Hats will be confiscated and returned to parent/guardian only.
- **Administration reserves the right to deem any accessory a distraction to instruction and require it to be removed.**

### **Friday Spirit Day (Free of Charge):**

- Students may wear their SLAM polo, SLAM Gear and associated SLAM sports club/ spirit shirts and outerwear on Fridays with blue jeans or uniform pants outlined above.
- Students and families will have several opportunities throughout the year to purchase SLAM Gear.
- **All tops should follow all free dress guidelines.**

### **Friday Free Dress Fundraiser (\$1):**

- Students who choose to participate in this fundraiser will pay \$1 on Fridays and be able to wear free dress.
- Free dress attire should adhere to basic requirements of appropriate school attire (short/skirt length, shirt straps of appropriate width, no stomachs showing, no inappropriate pictures or graphics, etc.)
- **All clothing (pants, shirts, jackets) including denim should be free of holes, frays, rips - no exceptions.**
- No hats or beanies for safety purposes.
- **Administration reserves the right to deem any free dress item as inappropriate and require it to be covered or removed.**

### **Additional Uniform Policies:**

- No buttons, pins, tags, or labels may be worn on the school uniform unless approved by administration.
- No writing on school uniforms or school approved apparel will be permitted.
- **Administration reserves the right to deem items a distraction to instruction.**

## **Academic Information**

## **Educational Philosophy**

SLAM! Arizona's instructional model is based on the philosophy of the three R's: Rigor, Relevance, and Relationships in the learning process. This model has proven successful in raising student achievement across middle and high schools nationwide. Attributed to the research of the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, the three R's represent the essential components that must be in place to effectively prepare students for the demands of the 21st Century. A study conducted by Ronald Newell and Mark Van Ryzin of EdVision Schools, a Gates Foundation project, found that simply making greater demands on students will not ensure long-term success "...especially for the students who have had little success in traditional settings."

The founders of SLAM! Arizona believe that the school must deliver Rigor and Relevance while cultivating Relationships in the educational program. These attributes, incorporated in the specific instructional strategies and in the academies, in addition to differentiated instructional techniques in the core curriculum, will serve to achieve the school's mission. Based on the three R's model, SLAM! Arizona teachers will develop thematic lessons to provide real-world relevance to core subject matter while addressing rigorous content and key areas of the curriculum in alignment with Arizona State Board of Education Content Standards. SLAM! Arizona will actively seek and encourage both parental and community involvement in the school's programs in order to foster relationships that empower students to continuously strive for academic and personal success. The program will promote higher levels of student engagement in the curriculum through mentoring opportunities, community service projects, professional school counseling programs, and athletes as role models, allowing for students to build positive relationships with their peers, their teachers, and their community.

SLAM! Arizona will use motivational engaging elective courses connected to the sports leadership arena to add Relevance to the Rigor of the core curriculum. Emphasizing specific measures of performance, standards-based instruction will incorporate:

- Opportunities for active and genuine Relationships among students, families, and community mentors within the career exploration model to create richer learning communities that hold all stakeholders accountable for success;
- Relevant learning opportunities through career-related projects, real-world application initiatives and community service.
- Project-Based Learning initiatives emphasizing individual and collaborative projects as the foundation for learning;
- Performance-based curricular objectives in alignment with the Arizona Department of Education Academic Standards.



## **School Curriculum**

SLAM! Arizona's curriculum is aligned to the Arizona Department of Education Academic Standards in all areas of the school day. The grade-specific standards will define end-of-year expectations and a cumulative progression to enable students to be college and career ready. The ELA Standards (strands in reading, writing, speaking & listening, and language) and literacy standards will emphasize reading and writing in history/social science, science and technical subjects and will frame instruction in reading, writing, speaking, listening, and language across all disciplines. The Standards for Mathematical Practice and Content will guide teachers to prepare students with the mathematical skills necessary for success in college and future careers. The standards are designed to be robust and relevant to the real world, reflecting the knowledge and skills needed for success in college and careers. Thus the SLAM! Arizona curriculum will offer a sports thematic approach to integrating the academic standards into the curriculum while emphasizing the three R's philosophy of Rigor, Relevance and Relationships in the delivery of the curriculum. In addition, SLAM! Arizona's academies will be integrated into the core curriculum through project-based learning activities that will allow students to make real-world connections between the curriculum and their daily lives and/or future careers.

## **Class Placement**

Our administrators and teachers review each student's scores and performance in order to provide students with the best possible learning environment. We also consider a student's individual personality, development and character in our final decisions.

## **Field Trips**

All trips planned by the school are for specific educational purposes. Participation in field trips requires the student to present a field trip form signed by the parent/guardian to his or her teacher in advance. Field trip chaperones will be selected by classroom teachers. **Parent chaperones may not bring siblings on field trips. All parents attending overnight field trips are subject to fingerprinting and a background check.**

Students will not be released to **anyone** during a field trip unless prior arrangements (with proper documentation) have been made with the administration.

## **Grading and Reporting Student Progress**

### **SLAM! Arizona Grading Policy**

Academic grades are to reflect the student's academic progress. The grade must provide for both students and parents a clear indication of each student's academic performance as compared with norms that would be appropriate for the grade or subject. The academic grades of "A," "B," "C," "D," or "F," are not related to the student's effort and conduct. Grades in all subjects are to be based on the student's degree of mastery of the instructional objectives and competencies for the subject. The determination of the specific grade a student receives must be based on the teacher's best judgment after careful consideration of all aspects of each student's performance during a grading period. The SLAM! Arizona grading policy was created utilizing research and best practices from Douglas Reeves and Ken O'Connor.

Students are to demonstrate knowledge through a variety of assessments including but not limited to classroom assessment, common grade level assessment, project-based assessment, assignment, and teacher observation.

**Grades K-5 Grading Policies:**

- The grading scale listed is used to determine the level of mastery on a specific assessment/assignment.
- All posted grades in Infinite Campus are rounded to the nearest whole percent, i.e. a 79.6% would round to 80%.

A	- Excellent	90-100%	
B	- Above Average	80-89%	C - Average
		70-79%	D - Below Average
			60-69%
F	- Failure to Meet	40-59%	

- SLAM! Arizona will adhere to the following for grade determination:
  - Summative (tests, projects) 60%
  - Formative (classwork, homework, quizzes) 40%
- Home learning is an integral part of a student’s academic success. Only meaningful and applicable homework will be given Monday through Friday and should only take the student a moderate amount of time to complete.

**K-12 Minimum “F”:**

- Teachers will use comments as a record of student work habits
- Missing assignments or work not attempted will receive a score of 40%.
- Grades and behavior are separate. Behavior should not dictate the evaluation of a student’s level of achievement
- Notebook checks, book checks, management items will not be included as academic grades, but should be included in the citizenship grade.
- Final exam scores below a 50% or not attempted, will earn the minimum F score of 50%
- Quarter grades below a 50% will earn the minimum F score of 50%
- Per the State of Nevada End of Course (EOCs) exams receive the given grade as the semester exam grade. Minimum F will not apply.

**Late Work:**

- Refer to specific course expectations for late work policy.
- **Grade Book view for Late and Missing Assignments**
  - The late box will be checked in Infinite Campus to note that an assignment is turned in late for citizenship purposes.

- The incomplete box will be checked in Infinite Campus to note that an assignment was incomplete or missing. Once the hard deadline passes, incomplete and missing work will be entered by the teacher at 40% of the total points.

**Citizenship:**

- The SLAM! Arizona Citizenship Rubric will be used to determine each student's citizenship grade
- Dishonesty on classwork and/or homework will be recorded through progressive discipline as a classroom infraction per teacher discretion
- Dishonesty on an tests and/or projects will result in an Administrative referral

**Citizenship Rubric:**

	<b>CONDUCT</b>	<b>ACADEMIC PERFORMANCE</b>
<b>O</b>  <b>OUTSTANDING</b>	<i>Consistently...</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Stays on task</li> <li>● Arrives on time (No Tardies)</li> <li>● Contributes to the benefit of others</li> <li>● Follows rules (i.e. gum, electronics, physical contact, harassment, insubordination, class disruption, etc.)</li> </ul>	<i>Consistently...</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Completes assignments on time</li> <li>● Participates in class</li> <li>● Prepared for class</li> <li>● Honest in completing assignments/tests</li> <li>● Self-monitors academic progress</li> </ul>
<b>S</b>  <b>SATISFACTORY</b>	<i>Usually...</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Stays on task</li> <li>● Arrives on time (1-2 Tardies)</li> <li>● Contributes to the benefit of others</li> <li>● Follows rules (i.e. gum, electronics, physical contact, harassment, insubordination, class disruption, etc.)</li> </ul>	<i>Usually...</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Completes assignments on time</li> <li>● Participates in class</li> <li>● Prepared for class</li> <li>● Honest in completing assignments/tests</li> <li>● Self-monitors academic progress</li> </ul>
<b>N*</b>  <b>NEEDS IMPROVEMENT</b>	<i>Inconsistently...</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Stays on task</li> <li>● Arrives on time (3-5 Tardies)</li> <li>● Contributes to the benefit of others</li> <li>● Follows rules (i.e. gum, electronics, physical contact, harassment, insubordination, class disruption, etc.)</li> </ul>	<i>Inconsistently...</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Completes assignments on time</li> <li>● Participates in class</li> <li>● Prepared for class</li> <li>● Honest in completing assignments/tests</li> <li>● Self-monitors academic progress</li> </ul>
<b>U*</b>  <b>UNSATISFACTORY</b>	<i>Seldom...</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Stays on task</li> <li>● Arrives on time (6 or more Tardies)</li> <li>● Contributes to the benefit of others</li> <li>● Follows rules (i.e. gum, electronics, physical contact, harassment, insubordination, class disruption, etc.)</li> </ul>	<i>Seldom...</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Completes assignments on time</li> <li>● Participates in class</li> <li>● Prepared for class</li> <li>● Honest in completing assignments/tests</li> </ul>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Self-monitors academic progress</li> </ul>
<p><b>*Administrative referral for major class disruption i.e. fighting, insubordination, destruction of property, results in N or U.</b></p>		

**Student Progress**

Instructional staff uses evaluative devices and techniques as needed to report individual achievement in relation to school goals, acceptance norms and student potential. Student grades, unsatisfactory work notices, parent reports on state assessment and/or standardized testing, parent conferences, and adult/student conferences should serve as the primary means of communicating student progress and achievement of the standards for promotion.

**Infinite Campus and MyEducationData**

All families are expected to create an Infinite Campus account. Infinite Campus Portal allows parents and students to see students' attendance and grades in real time. Contact front office personnel for assistance with Infinite Campus.

All families are able to create a MyEducationData account to track student progress. MyEducationData is a user-friendly platform that pulls student information from Infinite Campus and includes additional academic information for families.

**Grade Reports**

In-progress grades can be checked at any time using the Infinite Campus Portal or MyEducationData. Final grades are posted at the end of each semester and these semester grades are used to determine credit and/or matriculation to the next grade. Parents and students can print out grade reports through the Infinite Campus Portal once grades are posted. Grades will not be sent home. Please review your child's progress with him/her. Please feel free to consult your child's teacher regarding his/her school progress.

**Homework**

Homework may be assigned to reinforce concepts that have been taught and support SLAM! Arizona's curriculum goals and standards. If your child has homework assigned you can help improve the quality of the assignment by doing the following:

- Provide your child with a quiet place which is conducive to studying and learning.

- Show an interest in your child’s home learning assignments by providing assistance and reviewing completed work.
- Do not complete any part of the home learning assignments for your child. If your child is having difficulty with their assignment, please notify the teacher.
- All students should read on a daily basis.

Student responsibilities for completing home learning activities:

1. Students are responsible for completing all homework independently. Parents may provide assistance, but students must complete the work on their own.
2. Homework should be done in a quiet place with good lighting and minimal disturbances.
3. If there is a problem in understanding how to complete homework, students are to do the very best job possible. If a student does not understand the assignment(s), they are encouraged to bring it in the next day and ask the teacher for assistance. In this case, the homework should be completed that evening along with the regular home learning assignments.
4. A daily calendar or agenda can be used to keep track of homework for each night.
5. If a student is having difficulty in managing their time for homework, ask the teacher for assistance with homework time management.

## **Code of Honor**

SLAM! Arizona expects all students to adhere to the code of honor:

There is a clear expectation that all students will perform academic tasks with honor and integrity, with the support of parents, staff, faculty, administration, and the community. The learning process requires students to think, process, organize, and create their own ideas. Throughout this process, students gain knowledge, self-respect, and ownership in the work that they do. These qualities provide a solid foundation for life skills, impacting people positively throughout their lives. Cheating and plagiarism violate the fundamental learning process and compromise personal integrity and one’s honor. Students demonstrate academic honesty and integrity by not cheating, plagiarizing, or using information unethically in any way.

### **What is cheating?**

Cheating or academic dishonesty can take many forms, but always involves the improper taking of information from and/or giving of information to another student, individual, or other source.

Examples of cheating can include, but are not limited to:

- Taking or copying answers on an examination or any other assignment from another student or other source
- Giving answers on an examination or any other assignment to another student
- Copying assignments that are turned in as original work
- Collaborating on exams, assignments, papers, and/or projects without specific teacher permission
- Allowing others to do the research or writing for an assigned paper
- Using unauthorized electronic devices

- Falsifying data or lab results, including changing grades electronically

### **What is plagiarism?**

Plagiarism is a common form of cheating or academic dishonesty in the school setting. It is representing another person's works or ideas as your own without giving credit to the proper source and submitting it for any purpose. Examples of plagiarism can include, but are not limited to:

- Submitting someone else's work, such as published sources in part or whole, as your own without giving credit to the source
- Turning in purchased papers or papers from the Internet written by someone else
- Representing another person's artistic or scholarly works such as musical compositions, computer programs, photographs, drawings, or paintings as your own
- Helping others plagiarize by giving them your work

Consequences for plagiarism will be dealt with on a case by case basis and could include any of the following:

- Receiving a zero (0) on the assignment/project
- Having to redo or complete a new assignment/project
- Disciplinary Action (i.e. lunch detention, in-house suspension, or suspension)

All stakeholders have a responsibility in maintaining academic honesty. Educators must provide the tools and teach the concepts that afford students the knowledge to understand the characteristics of cheating and plagiarism. Parents must support their students in making good decisions relative to completing course work assignments and taking exams. Students must produce work that is theirs alone, recognizing the importance of thinking for themselves and learning independently, when that is the nature of the assignment.

Adhering to the Code of Honor for the purposes of academic honesty promotes an essential skill that goes beyond the school environment. Honesty and integrity are useful and valuable traits impacting one's life.

*Questions or concerns regarding the consequences associated with a violation of the Code of Honor may be directed towards your child's school administration.*

## **Student Recognition**

### **\*Elementary School Awards Night**

In the month of May, elementary school students who qualify will be invited to take part in Elementary School Awards Night. Students may be selected as the student of the year in each core subject area will be recognized at this semi-formal event. Performances by the Kindergarten classes will be performed to congratulate the students.

## **Technology Information**

### **Wireless Communication Devices**

Wireless communication devices include two-way communication devices, including mobile phones, chromebooks, and similar wireless devices.

Possessing a wireless communication device is allowed; however, a student should not disrupt the educational process or interfere with the safety of students by using a wireless communication device.

The following rules must be followed regarding the possession, use and display of wireless communication devices:

- Students may possess, display and use wireless devices before or after the instructional day and during lunch.
- Students shall avoid classroom disruptions, by not displaying, using, or activating wireless communication devices during the instructional day unless instructed to do so by a faculty member. This includes during class, in the media room, during class changes and during any other structured activity.
- Students must ensure that devices are silenced during the instructional day.
- Students must conceal wireless communication devices in a backpack, pocket, purse or other container during the instructional day.
- Wireless communication devices CANNOT be used at any time during school testing.
- The School is not responsible if a student's wireless communication device is lost or stolen even if confiscated by school personnel.
- Cell phones will be confiscated if these rules are not followed.
- Confiscated phones will only be returned to a parent/guardian at the end of the school day.

### **Internet Use Policy**

Access and use of the Internet is a privilege, not a right, and its use must support the educational objectives of the school. Students must always get permission from their teachers prior to using the internet. Students who violate the following internet usage policy may lose any and all internet usage privileges and may be referred to the administration for disciplinary action.

The school requires the following of its staff, students and parents:

- No recording, either photographic or audio/visual in nature may be made on school property without the express permission of the administration.
- No document or media that exists or is produced in reference to the school, its staff or students including photographs, letters, yearbooks and other material may be published where it is accessible to the public without the express permission of the administration.



- No staff member, student or parent may use the SLAM! name or any of its logos for identification purposes in any public forum or media. The term “public forum or media” also includes but is not limited to publicly accessible websites and web forums.
- SLAM! Arizona students are prohibited from using the school internet to access “chat rooms” at any time.

### **Utilization of the Internet and Inappropriate Use of Computers**

Students are required to use computers, networks, and online communication such as the Internet and electronic mail (e-mail). While exercising the right to use available technology, students must be aware of their responsibility as users. Advancement of technology has given many students the access and opportunity to commit offenses that violate the Code of Student Conduct.

The following are examples of improper uses of technology and are violations of the Code of Student Conduct:

- Not syncing to Go Guardian or logging in using SLAM! Arizona Google account;
- Using the network to send or receive obscene or lewd material;
- Using the network to make threats against anyone or the school;
- Using the network to post pictures and/or videos of students, faculty, or staff without their express permission;
- Sending electronic mail that threatens to do bodily harm to another student or staff member that might be considered assault or cyber-bullying;
- Downloading pirated software (is comparable to stealing);
- Willfully and knowingly obtaining an unauthorized access to or “hacking” into the school’s computer system (constitutes vandalism);
- Using, without authorization, school property or a school computer or other electronic device and damaging a school’s computer system or causing the computer to “crash” (constitutes a “computer-related” crime leading to criminal charges).
- Sharing login information with anyone, for any reason is not allowed. If a student uses your login information, you will be held accountable.

These are only a few examples of violations committed through electronic means. The school administration will evaluate and determine the appropriate level of infraction under the Code of Student Conduct.

## **Parent Information**

### **Parent to School Communication**

A prime factor in our operation is the importance we place upon communication between home and school. The lines of communication must be kept open at all times so that we may be properly tuned into your child's needs.

Please notify the school immediately if:

- Your child has developed a communicable disease.
- You will be out of town.
- Your telephone number, address (home or work), and/or email address has changed.
- You wish to change or add to the emergency contact numbers we are to use.

**Always attempt to resolve issues/conflicts with your child's teacher first. If you are unable to resolve issues or conflicts with your child's teacher, you may contact the main office to schedule an appointment with the administration.**

### **Contact Information**

It is critical that the school has current phone numbers, home address, and at least one emergency phone number in case of an emergency. Please notify the office **immediately** of any change of address and/or telephone number.

### **Parent/Teacher Communication**

Communication with individual teachers must be arranged by contacting the teacher and/or the office. Please make appointments for conferences before or after school hours. Teachers may also be available during their planning time; however, you must make an appointment during this time. **Please do not engage in conferences during arrival/dismissal of students, in the hallways, or during classroom time.**

### **Parent/Teacher Conferences**

Formal parent/teacher conferences will be held once during the school year to discuss your child's progress. The expectation is that parents attend conferences when they are scheduled. Teachers will make every effort to accommodate parent schedules. It is by working cooperatively that we can provide the best education for your child. You may schedule a conference with your child's teacher or the administration at any time. We especially encourage this when you have questions about your child's progress, class work, or school policies. **Please do not interrupt the classroom during instructional time to conference with the teacher.** Please allow the teacher the opportunity to schedule an appointment to meet with you, to offer privacy and enough time to discuss your concerns without interruption.

## **Parent Volunteers**

SLAM! Arizona encourages parents to become active stakeholders in their child's future. More information about volunteer opportunities will be given throughout the school year. Please contact the school office to volunteer.

Parents/visitors must sign-in at the main office and obtain a visitor's pass. In order to ensure the safety of all of our students, **NO PARENTS/VISITORS WILL BE ALLOWED BEYOND THE MAIN OFFICE WITHOUT A VISITOR'S PASS.**

## **Volunteer Fingerprinting**

SLAM! Arizona requires volunteers with unsupervised OR regular contact with students to be fingerprinted and pass a criminal background check.

Any volunteer who will have unsupervised contact with students or who will have regular contact with students must:

1. Sign a waiver to have their background check complete;
2. Sign an acknowledgment as being a mandatory child abuse reporter; and,
3. Complete a background check including fingerprinting at the expense of the parent volunteer.

These steps will be required every three (3) years. In order to complete these steps, volunteers must inform the school that they wish to undergo fingerprinting. If a parent volunteer has not completed all of the steps above, and has not been cleared by a school administrator, the parent may not have unsupervised or regular contact with students.

## **Parent Commitment to Child's Education**

A student's family plays an extremely important part in his/her education. The following are areas in which parents are asked to offer support and/or assistance:

- Provide a loving, nurturing home environment which motivates the child to succeed in school
- Instill a respect for others
- Ensure punctual and regular attendance
- Become familiar with school policies and procedures
- Attend parent/guardian meetings at SLAM Arizona
- Provide an environment conducive to learning
- Support the school's homework policy
- Stress the importance of reading on a daily basis
- Communicate with your child's teachers on a regular basis

**SLAM! Arizona Discipline Plan**

The SLAM! Arizona Discipline Plan was developed to integrate with the school’s Positive Behavior Plan (PBP) and create a model that is a more collaborative, inclusive, and positive approach to developing effective interventions for personal behavioral growth. In order to empower student’s positive behavior, the school-wide model will create a safe and positive school climate, and help to foster positive relationships with teachers, peers, staff members and the community. The model is a three-tier problem-solving process that provides a continuum of tiered interventions with increasing levels of intensity and duration to prevent inappropriate behavior by means of reinforcing appropriate behavior. Students that are struggling with inappropriate behavior will be monitored frequently through the use of a behavior contract. Since each child has a different social and emotional needs, it is vital that the behavior contract be unique to those needs. It is also important to collaborate with parents, teachers, and staff members in order for students to learn more about their own behavior and to work and support each other as a community of learners. SLAM! Arizona students are expected to show respect for themselves and others. Each classroom has a climate in which optimal learning can take place. Students are expected to behave in ways that are acceptable to classmates and conducive to learning. Misbehavior on the part of students can be generally corrected when parents and teachers work together.

These expectations apply to:

- All students
- Anyone who is on the school property
- Anyone who is in attendance at school or any school-sponsored activity
- Anyone whose conduct at any time or in any place has a direct and immediate effect on maintaining order and discipline in the school

**Discipline Plan**

Tier 1	Practices
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Prevent inappropriate behaviors by introducing schoolwide support.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Establish and reinforce school-wide expectations, initiatives, and systems.</li> <li>● Cultivate healthy, positive, and professional relationships with students.</li> <li>● Emphasize a sense of school community.</li> <li>● Whenever possible, engage students personally before addressing any behavioral issue.</li> </ul>

Tier 2	Practices
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Identify students who are developing chronic inappropriate behaviors.</li> <li>● Focused on behavior data and documentation</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Continue Tier 1 Restorative Practices. ● Temporary/alternative student environment ● Meet with administration.</li> <li>● Self-Reflection / Do what is R-I-G-H-T lesson.</li> <li>● Students required to self-disclose inappropriate behavior to a parent via student initiated contact from the school site.</li> <li>● Informal parent/family contact via phone call, e-mail message, text message, CarPC, etc.</li> <li>● Peer circles.</li> <li>● Apology letters.</li> </ul>

Tier 3	Restorative Practices
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Resolve chronic inappropriate behaviors with individualized interventions.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Continue Tier 1 &amp; 2 Restorative Practices.</li> <li>● Formal parent/family contact.</li> <li>● Social contracts.</li> <li>● Determine Action Plan - Collaborate with student, parents, and all SLAM! Arizona stakeholders to create a plan that is realistic to accomplish. See below.</li> </ul>

For all offenses, common sense and good judgment will prevail. SLAM! Arizona students are expected to show respect for themselves and others. Students are expected to behave in ways that are acceptable to classmates and conducive to learning. Behavior can be generally corrected when parents and teachers work together. Continued disregard for school rules is a key factor for all progressive consequences. Restorative action is also commensurate with the severity of the offense.

**Administration will make the final decision on disciplinary actions.**

If the administration determines that an Action Plan would not be practicable, the following discipline measures may be imposed: **RPC, Suspension, or Expulsion.**

If the student continues to exhibit disruptive, dangerous, defiant, or otherwise undesired behavior and/or the student violates their Action Plan (RAP), parents must come to campus and attend a Required Parent Conference (RPC). The RPC may include members of the Restorative Justice Team, members of the leadership team, the parent(s)/guardian(s), and the student. It may be necessary to determine interventions or a revision of the student’s Action Plan.

**The following disciplinary chart shall only be used if:**

1. A student has not followed or has violated their Action Plan.
2. School administration has deemed that the Action Plan is not practicable.

**A student may be expelled, suspended, or removed if they have been charged with a crime if:**

- a. The school conducted its own documented investigation.
- b. The school gives notice of the charges brought against the student.

**SLAM! Arizona Disciplinary Chart**

AC= Administrative Conference

RPC = Required Parent Conference

<b>Infraction/Intervention</b>	<b>Level I Intervention/Consequence</b>	<b>Level II Intervention/Consequence</b>	<b>Level III Intervention/Consequence</b>	<b>Level IV Intervention/Consequence</b>

<b>Absence from School/Truancy</b>	AC, 1 <sup>st</sup> Truancy Notice	RPC, 2 <sup>nd</sup> Truancy Notice	RPC, 3 <sup>rd</sup> Truancy Notice/ Citation  Law enforcement will be notified	Refer to habitual/subsequent truant  Grade Retention possible  Additional Citation  Law enforcement will be notified
<b>Alcohol or Substance Represented to be Alcohol (use/possession of)</b>	School Based Consequences AC/RPC Suspension  Expulsion  Drug Intervention Program  Police notified	-----	-----	-----
<b>Assault (Verbal-Including Threats on SLAM Nevada Employee)</b>	AC/RPC  Suspension	AC/RPC  Suspension  Police notified	AC/RPC  Prog. Susp.  Police notified	AC/RPC  Prog. Susp. And/or Expulsion  Police notified
<b>Assault (Student)</b>	AC/RPC  Suspension	AC/RPC  Prog. Susp.  Police notified	AC/RPC  Prog. Susp.  Police notified	AC/RPC  Prog. Susp. And/or Expulsion  Police notified

<p><b>Arson</b></p>	<p>AC/RPC Suspension Expulsion Police notified</p>	<p>-----</p>	<p>-----</p>	<p>-----</p>
<p><b>Battery (Physical - on SLAM Arizona employee)</b></p>	<p>AC/RPC Suspension w/ Possible Expulsion Police notified</p>	<p>-----</p>	<p>-----</p>	<p>-----</p>
<p><b>Battery - Student</b></p>	<p>AC/RPC Suspension</p>	<p>AC/RPC Prog. Susp.</p>	<p>AC/RPC Prog. Susp. Possible Habitual Discipline Expulsion</p>	<p>-----</p>
<p><b>Campus Disruption - Major (includes incitement)</b></p>	<p>AC/RPC Suspension</p>	<p>AC/RPC Suspension</p>	<p>AC/RPC Prog. Susp.</p>	<p>AC/RPC Prog. Susp. w/ Possible Habitual Discipline Expulsion</p>



<b>Campus Disruption – Minor</b>	School Based Consequence Parent Notification  RPC	AC/RPC  Suspension	AC/RPC  Prog. Susp.	AC/RPC  Prog. Susp.
<b>Continual Disregard of School Rules</b>	AC/RPC  School Based Consequence  Counselor Referral	AC/RPC  Suspension	AC/RPC  Prog. Susp.	AC/RPC  Prog. Susp.

<b>Controlled Substance/Substance Abuse/Substance Represented to be a Controlled Substance. (use, possession, sale, distribution)</b>	AC/RPC  Suspension  Expulsion  Police notified	-----	-----	-----
<b>Controlled Substance Paraphernalia</b>	AC/RPC  Suspension  Expulsion  Police notified	-----	-----	-----
<b>Defiance of School Personnel</b>	AC/RPC  School Based Consequence	AC/RPC  Suspension	AC/RPC  Prog. Susp.	AC/RPC  Prog. Susp.

<b>Dress Code Violation</b>	School Based Consequence	School Based Consequence  Parent Notification  Detention	Parent Notification  RPC	AC/RPC  Suspension
<b>Extortion/Robbery</b>  <b>Police Notified</b>	AC/RPC  Restitution  Suspension  Expulsion	-----	-----	-----
<b>Fighting</b>	AC/RPC  Suspension  1 <sup>st</sup> Fight Notice	AC/RPC  Suspension  2 <sup>nd</sup> Fight Notice of Expulsion	-----	-----

<b>Forgery</b>  <b>Police may be notified</b>	School Based Consequence  AC/RPC	AC/RPC  Suspension	AC/RPC  Prog. Susp.	AC/RPC  Prog. Susp.
<b>Gambling</b>	School Based Consequence  AC/RPC  Suspension	AC/RPC  Suspension	-----	-----

<b>Gang Activity</b> <b>Police may be notified</b>	AC/RPC Suspension	AC/RPC Suspension Expulsion	-----	-----
<b>Habitual Discipline Problem - NRS 392.4655</b>	AC/RPC Suspension Expulsion	-----	-----	-----
<b>Harassment</b>	AC/RPC School Based Consequence	AC/RPC Suspension	AC/RPC Suspension	AC/RPC Suspension
<b>Horseplay</b>	School Based Consequence	AC/RPC Suspension	AC/RPC Prog. Susp.	AC/RPC Prog. Susp.
<b>Illegal Conduct</b> <b>Police will be notified</b>	AC/RPC Suspension Possible Expulsion	AC/RPC Suspension Possible Expulsion	-----	-----

<b>Immoral/Lewd Conduct of Sexual Nature</b>	AC/RPC Suspension Expulsion Police Notified	-----	-----	-----
<b>Immoral/Lewd Conduct non-sexual</b>	AC/RPC School Based Consequence Possible Suspension Police Notified	AC/RPC Suspension Possible Expulsion Police Notified	-----	-----
<b>Insubordination</b>	Parent Notified School Based Consequence	AC/RPC Suspension	AC/RPC Prog. Susp.	AC/RPC Prog. Susp.
<b>Nuisance items</b>	Confiscation Parent Notified	Confiscation Parent Notified Counselor Referral School Based Consequence	Confiscation AC/RPC School Based Consequence	Confiscation AC/RPC Suspension
<b>Profanity</b>	Parent Notified School Based Consequence	AC/RPC	AC/RPC Suspension	AC/RPC Suspension

<b>Racially Derogatory Remarks</b>	Parent Notified	AC	AC	AC
	RPC	Suspension	Prog. Susp.	Prog. Susp.

<b>Scholastic Dishonesty</b> <b>Includes plagiarism</b>	Parent Notified		AC/RPC	AC/RPC
	School Based Consequence	AC/RPC School Based Consequence Suspension	Prog. Susp.	Prog. Susp.

<b>Tardiness</b>	Detention	Detention	Detention	Detention
		School Based Consequence	School Based Consequence	AC/RPC Suspension

<b>Theft (includes possession of stolen property)</b>	AC/RPC	AC/RPC	AC/RPC	-----
	Restitution	Restitution	Restitution	
	School Based Consequence	Suspension	Suspension	
	Suspension	Police Notified	Expulsion	
	Police Notified		Police Notified	

<b>Threats, Bullying, Cyberbullying, and Intimidation to Student</b>	AC/RPC	AC/RPC	AC/RPC	-----
	School Based Consequence	Prog. Susp.	Prog. Susp.	
	Suspension	Police Notified	Expulsion	
	Police Notified		Police Notified	

<p><b>Threat Against the School</b></p>	<p>RPC Suspension Possible Expulsion</p>	<p>-----</p>	<p>-----</p>	<p>-----</p>
<p><b>Tobacco - use/possession</b></p>	<p>Confiscation AC/RPC School Based Consequence Counselor Referral</p>	<p>Confiscation AC/RPC Suspension</p>	<p>Confiscation AC/RPC Suspension</p>	<p>-----</p>
<p><b>Vandalism/Destruction or Defacement of Property</b>  <b>Less than \$500</b></p>	<p>AC/RPC Restitution Suspension Police Notified</p>	<p>AC/RPC Restitution Suspension Police Notified</p>	<p>-----</p>	<p>-----</p>
<p><b>Vandalism/Destruction or Defacement of Property</b>  <b>More than \$500</b></p>	<p>AC/RPC Restitution Suspension Expulsion Police Notified</p>	<p>-----</p>	<p>-----</p>	<p>-----</p>

<b>Verbal Altercation</b>	AC/RPC Suspension	AC/RPC Prog. Susp.	AC/RPC Prog. Susp.	-----
<b>Weapons (firearms, knives, explosives, inflammable materials, or other items that may cause bodily injury or death) as defined by NRS or Gun Free School Act</b>  <b>Spray Propellants (tear gas, pepper spray, mace)</b>	AC/RPC Suspension Expulsion Police Notified	-----	-----	-----

**Discipline Limits for Special Education Students** ○ 11+\* Discipline is limited to suspensions of 1-5 days per occurrence or permanent expulsion. The statute does not provide authority for nonpermanent expulsion. (Cumulative suspensions greater than 10 days require hearing). ○ Age 11+ limit for all four categories of misconduct (no exception for possession of a firearm or dangerous weapon). ○ Students with an IEP under age 11 must not be permanently expelled except under extraordinary circumstances.

**Changes to discipline laws for students who receive special education services in accordance with an Individualized Education Program (IEP)**

**Suspension or Expulsion**

- A student with an IEP who is at least 11 years old may be removed from a school, suspended, or expelled only after the district Board of Trustees has reviewed the circumstances and determined that the action is in compliance with the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), except in the case of possession of a firearm or dangerous weapon by a student, which is described below.
- Suspension of a student with an IEP is limited to 1-5 days for each occurrence of misconduct.
- As with general education students, a student with an IEP who is younger than 11 years old must not be permanently expelled except under extraordinary

circumstances, in which case a school may request an exception to this prohibition from the district Board of Trustees.

**Offenses Warranting Law Enforcement Notification (as defined in applicable statutes or ordinances)**

Violations of local, state or federal laws shall be enforced on school properties or at activities sponsored by charter schools.

1. ALCOHOL: The possession of, sales, and furnishing alcoholic beverages.
2. ARSON: The intentional setting of fire.
3. ASSAULT: Physical or verbal threats with the intent and the ability to carry through with same.
4. BATTERY: An unconsented-to touching or application of force to another person.
5. BOMB THREAT/FALSE: Willfully conveying by mail, written notes, telephone, telegraph, radio or any other means of communication, any threat knowing it to be false.
6. BURGLARY: Illegal entry with the intent to commit a crime.
7. DESTRUCTION OF PROPERTY: Willfully and maliciously destroying or injuring real or personal property of another.
8. DISTURBING THE PEACE: Maliciously and willfully disturbing the peace of any person; maliciously and willfully interfering with or disturbing persons in the school.
9. EXPLOSIVE DEVICES: The possession of explosive or incendiary devices.
10. FALSE FIRE ALARMS: False reporting of, or transmission of, signal knowing same to be false.
11. FIREWORKS: The possession of, sales, furnishing, use or discharge of fireworks.
12. INDECENT EXPOSURE: An open indecent or obscene exposure of his person or the person of another.
13. LARCENY: Stealing, taking, carrying away property of another.
14. LIBEL: A malicious defamation expressed to impeach a person's honesty, integrity, virtue or reputation.
15. MARIJUANA: The possession of, sales, or furnishing marijuana.
16. NARCOTICS: The possession of, sales, or furnishing a controlled substance.
17. NARCOTICS PARAPHERNALIA: The possession of, sales, furnishing, or use of.
18. RESISTING OFFICER: Willfully resisting, delaying or obstructing an officer in the performance of duty.
19. ROBBERY: The unlawful taking of personal property from the person of another or in his/her presence, against his/her will, by means of force or violence or fear of injury.
20. ROUT/RIOT: Two or more persons meeting to do an unlawful act/two or more persons actually doing an unlawful act with or without a common cause of quarrel.
21. STOLEN PROPERTY: Receiving or possessing property of another, knowing or under such circumstances as would cause a reasonable person to know they were so obtained.
22. TAMPERING WITH MOTOR VEHICLES: Willfully break, injure, tamper, remove parts, deface a vehicle; without consent of owner, climb into or upon a vehicle with intent to injure; to manipulate any levers while vehicle is at rest or unattended or to set vehicle in motion.



23. **THROWING SUBSTANCE AT VEHICLE:** To throw any stone, rock, missile or any substance at any motorbus, truck or other motor vehicle.
24. **TRESPASS:** To be upon the property of another without permission of the owner and to stay upon same after warning. To be on school property or at a school function while under suspension from school.
25. **DANGEROUS WEAPONS:** "Dangerous weapon" includes, without limitation, a blackjack, slingshot, billy, sand-club, sandbag, metal knuckles, dirk or dagger, a nun chuck, switchblade knife or trefoil, as defined in NRS 202.350, a butterfly knife or any other knife described in NRS 202.350, or any other object which is used, or threatened to be used, in such a manner and under such circumstances as to pose a threat of, or cause, bodily injury to a person. "Firearm" includes, without limitation, any pistol, revolver, shotgun, explosive substance or device, and any other item included within the definition of a "firearm" in 18 U.S.C. § 921, as that section existed on July 1, 1995.
  - a. Brandishing any dangerous weapon or firearm in a rude, angry or threatening manner or to use same in any fight or quarrel.
  - b. Concealed - it is unlawful for any person to carry any dangerous weapon or firearm.
  - c. Possession - it is unlawful for any person to possess any dangerous weapon or firearm.
26. Violation of other federal or state criminal laws or local ordinances at school, at school-sponsored activities or on school-sponsored transportation is prohibited.

### **Charter School Offenses**

The following non-criminal activities may lead to disciplinary action. Generally, these are acts that disrupt and interfere with the educational process or with the rights of other members of the educational community.

1. **DISOBEDIENCE, INSOLENT AND INSUBORDINATION:** Students must obey the instructions of school personnel.
2. **DISRUPTIVE CONDUCT:** Conduct that interferes with the educational process. Serious situations may be handled under criminal sanctions.
3. **FIGHTING:** Other than that which would be considered Battery or Assault.
4. **BULLYING:** Bullying is unwanted, aggressive behavior that involves a real or perceived power imbalance. Bullying includes actions such as making threats, spreading rumors, attacking someone physically or verbally, and excluding someone from a group on purpose.
5. **FORGING OR USING FORGED PASSES, EXCUSES OR OTHER SCHOOL DOCUMENTS.**
6. **HAZING:** Any act that forces another student to undergo a humiliating or abusive ordeal, as in initiations.
7. **GUM CHEWING AND EATING FOOD AT INAPPROPRIATE TIMES OR IN INAPPROPRIATE PLACES AS DETERMINED BY THE ADMINISTRATOR.**
8. **INAPPROPRIATE DRESS AND APPEARANCE:** Dress and appearance must not present potential health or safety problems or cause disruptions.
9. **MISCONDUCT ON SCHOOL VEHICLES:** Any action that creates a safety hazard or distracts the attention of the driver.

10. PLAGIARISM AND CHEATING.
11. POSSESSION AND USE OF TOBACCO, CIGARETTES, CHEW, ETC., ON SCHOOL PROPERTY OR AT A SCHOOL-SPONSORED ACTIVITY.
12. WIRELESS COMMUNICATION DEVICES: Wireless communication devices include two-way communication devices, including cellular phones, mobile phones, beepers, pagers, portable computers, personal organizers, and similar wireless devices. Possessing a wireless communication device is not a violation of the Code of Conduct. However, a student should not disrupt the educational process or interfere with the safety of students by using a wireless communication device. The following rules must be followed regarding the possession, use, and display of wireless communication devices.
  - a. Students may possess, display, and use wireless communication devices before or after the instructional day.
  - b. Students shall avoid classroom disruptions, by not displaying, using, or activating wireless communication devices during the instructional day, unless such use is deemed educational and authorized by the teacher. This includes during class, in the library, during lunch breaks, during class changes, and during any other structured activity.
  - c. Students must ensure that devices are turned off during the instructional day.
  - d. Students shall not use wireless communication devices while being transported on a school bus.
  - e. Students must conceal wireless communication devices in a backpack, pocket, purse, or other container during the instructional day.
  - f. The school is not responsible if a student's wireless communication device is lost or stolen.
13. SEXUAL HARASSMENT: A student should not be sexually harassed, discriminated against, denied a benefit, or excluded from participation in any charter school educational program or activity as guaranteed by Title IX of the Educational Amendments of 1972. Sexual harassment is defined as the verbal or physical conduct of a sexual nature, imposed on the basis of sex, by an employee or agent of the school or by a student of the school. No student shall be denied or limited to the provision of aid, benefits, services or treatment protected under Title IX.
14. SPREADING FALSE OR UNSUBSTANTIATED INFORMATION IN WRITING OR VERBALLY ABOUT A PERSON AND HARMING HIS/HER REPUTATION.
15. TRAFFIC VIOLATIONS ON SCHOOL GROUNDS.
16. TRUANCY: Being absent from school without a valid excuse acceptable to the administrator.
17. PUBLIC DISPLAY OF AFFECTION: Physical contact that displays affection between students is not allowed and will be subject to disciplinary action.
18. GANG ACTIVITY: No student on or about school property or at any school activity:
  - a. Shall wear, possess, use, distribute, or sell any clothing, jewelry, emblem, badge, symbol, tattoo, sign, or other things that are indicators of membership in or affiliation with any gang.
  - b. Shall commit any act or omission, or use any speech, either verbal or non-verbal (gestures, handshakes, etc.) showing membership in or affiliation with a gang.
  - c. Shall place graffiti on or otherwise deface property on school grounds. For purposes of this regulation, the term "graffiti" means any unauthorized inscription, word, figure, or

- design that is marked, etched, scratched, drawn, painted on or affixed to the public or private property, real or personal, of another that defaces the property; or
- d. Shall use any speech or commit any act or omission in furtherance of the interests of nay gangs or gang activity, including, but not limited to:
    - i. Soliciting others for membership in any gangs;
    - ii. Requesting any person to pay protection or otherwise intimidating or threatening any person; or,
    - iii. Committing any other illegal act or other violation of charter school rules, regulations, or policies; or,
    - iv. Inciting other students to act with physical violence upon any other person.

### **Bullying**

Our school is committed to a bullying, discrimination and harassment free, working, and learning environment. Bullying, discrimination and harassment adversely affect morale and productivity and interfere with students' ability to learn. Bullying, discrimination and harassment of any person on the basis of that person's actual or perceived race, color, national origin, sex (including nonconformity to gender stereotypes), sexual orientation, age, disability, and/or religious preference is prohibited. Harassing behavior including sexually harassing behavior between members of the same or opposite sex is prohibited. Harassment of individuals who are believed to have a relationship with persons who are protected on the basis of actual or perceived race, color, national origin, sex (including non-conformity to gender stereotypes), sexual orientation, age, disability, and/or religious preference is prohibited. Such behavior is just cause for disciplinary action.

As children develop, they look to us for guidance on conflict resolution. The State makes a distinction between bullying and harassment, as will we, but either one really boils down to how well our children learn to get along. We will always take the most positive approach when dealing with conflicts which does not exclude the possibility that the processes and information below may result in disciplinary action.

### **Bullying defined**

1. Bullying means written, verbal or electronic expressions or physical acts or gestures, or any combination thereof, that are directed at a person or group of persons, or a single severe and willful act or expression that is directed at a person or group of persons, and:
  - a. Have the effect of:
    - i. Physically harming a person or damaging the property of a person; or
    - ii. Placing a person in reasonable fear of physical harm to person or damage to the property of the person; or
  - b. Interfere with the rights of a person by:
    - i. Creating an intimidating or hostile educational environment for the person; or
    - ii. Substantially interfering with the academic performance of a pupil or the ability of the person to participate in or benefit from services, activities or privileges provided by a school; or

- c. Are acts or conduct described in paragraph (a) or (b) and are based upon the:
  - i. Actual or perceived race, color, national origin, ancestry, religion, gender identity or expression, sexual orientation, physical or mental disability of a person, sex or any other distinguishing characteristic or background of a person; or
  - ii. Association of a person with another person having one or more of those actual or perceived characteristics.
- 2. The term includes, without limitation:
  - a. Repeated or pervasive taunting, name-calling, belittling, mocking or use of put-downs or demeaning humor regarding the actual or perceived race, color, national origin, ancestry, religion, gender identity or expression, sexual orientation, physical or mental disability of a person, sex or any other distinguishing characteristic or background of a person;
  - b. Behavior that is intended to harm another person by damaging or manipulating his or her relationships with others by conduct that includes, without limitation, spreading false rumors;
  - c. Repeated or pervasive nonverbal threats or intimidation such as the use of aggressive, menacing or disrespectful gestures;
  - d. Threats of harm to a person, to his or her possessions or to other persons, whether such threats are transmitted verbally, electronically or in writing;
  - e. Blackmail, extortion or demands for protection money or involuntary loans or donations;
  - f. Blocking access to any property or facility of a school;
  - g. Stalking; and
  - h. Physically harmful contact with or injury to another person or his or her property.

## **Discrimination**

Discrimination is defined as a failure to treat all persons equally where no reasonable distinction can be found between those favored and those not favored. It is the unfair treatment or denial of normal privileges to persons because of their actual or perceived race, color, national origin, sex (including non-conformity to gender stereotypes), sexual orientation, age, disability, and/or religious preference.

## **Sexual Harassment**

Sexual harassment is generally defined as unwelcome sexual advances, requests for favors, and other verbal, nonverbal, or physical conduct of a sexual or gender-directed nature when:

1. Submission is made either explicitly or implicitly a term or condition of a student's educational progress;
2. Submission to, or rejection of, that conduct or communication by an individual is used as a factor in decisions affecting that student's education; or

3. That conduct or communication has the purpose or effect of substantially or unreasonably interfering with a student's education or of creating an intimidating, hostile, or offensive educational environment.

An "intimidating, hostile, or offensive educational environment" means an environment in which any unwelcome behavior with sexual connotations makes a student feel uncomfortable, humiliated, or embarrassed, or any aggressive, harassing behavior in the educational setting directed toward an individual based on his/her sex and interferes with his/her ability to perform in an educational environment.

### **Retaliation**

Forms of prohibited retaliation include, but are not limited to, adverse educational or employment actions, threats, bribes, unfair treatment or grades, continued harassment, ridicule, pranks, taunting, bullying, malicious spreading of rumors, dissemination of false information, and organized ostracism regarding the student's actual or perceived race, color, national origin, age, sex (including non-conformity to gender stereotypes), sexual orientation, disability, and/or religious preference.

### **Suspension**

The SLAM! Board of Directors has delegated to the school administration the ability to make all disciplinary decisions regarding the suspension of students.

Suspension is the temporary removal of a student from school or from school-sponsored activities. For the purposes of declaring a student a Habitual Disciplinary Problem or for the purpose of escalating to possible expulsion, the suspensions must be no less than three (3) days and require a conference or other communications with the parent/guardian. Students may be suspended for the following reasons:

1. Violation of any state law or local ordinance in a school building, on school grounds, or at a school-sponsored activity.
2. Violation of rules, policies, and procedures established for charter schools as outlined in this manual.
3. Student actions or inactions at school or a school-sponsored activity that disrupt, interfere with, or pose a threat to the educational program, other students, staff, visitors, or the student personally.

The primary purpose of suspension is to give the student, his/her parent(s) or guardian(s), and the school the time needed to resolve a problem. The duration of suspension is related to a course of action designed to resolve the problem.

## **Types of Suspension With Instruction**

1. **Emergency:** The administrator, or his or her designee, may suspend any student whose conduct is determined to be a clear threat to the physical safety of others or to the property interests of others or is so extremely disruptive as to make the student's temporary removal necessary to preserve the right of the other students to pursue an education.
2. **Long-Term:** A student may be suspended from school or from an interscholastic activity for more than ten (10) days by the school's governing body.
3. **Short-Term:** A student may be removed from school and/or from interscholastic activities for no more than ten (10) days by the administrator.
4. **In-School:** A student may be removed from his/her classes and all school activities for no more than ten (10) days and during the term of suspension the student will remain in a separate supervised area of the school.

The primary intention of this action is to gain cooperation with the student's parent(s) or guardian(s) and to isolate the student from all regular academic and social activities. If this action seems warranted after an investigation and after consultation with the parent(s) or guardian(s), the administrator, or his or her designee, shall take action.

## **Special Conditions of Suspension**

1. A student may not participate in extracurricular activities during the term of his/her suspension.
2. Suspensions may be reflected in the student's class citizenship or school citizenship grade.
3. Notations of suspensions from school will be made in the student's cumulative folder.
4. Schoolwork missed as a result of suspensions may be made up through the completion of make-up work as stated in the Parent/Student Handbook. Any work that cannot be made up, or is not made up, may result in the lowering of the academic grade for the grading period, and it may result in loss of credit.

A pupil may be removed from school immediately for any of the following:

- Posing a continuing danger to persons or property,
- Posing an ongoing threat of disrupting the academic process,
- Selling or distributing any controlled substance, or
- Being found in possession of a dangerous weapon

When a student is removed for any of these reasons the student shall be given an explanation of the reasons for his or her removal. The student shall also be given an explanation of pending proceedings, to be conducted as soon as practicable after removal, for his or her suspension or expulsion. In all other cases involving suspension, the administrator shall:

1. Tell the student you are meeting with him/her to discuss allegations that the student has violated laws, rule(s), state charter school policies, or the school's policies.
2. Tell the student the specific laws, rule(s), or policies that are alleged to have been violated and that, if the evidence supports the allegations, there will be consequences up to and including suspension from school. Ask if he/she understands the allegation(s).

3. Explain to the student the evidence you have regarding the alleged violation(s).
4. Ask the student if he/she admits or denies the allegation(s). If the student admits to violation(s), assign appropriate consequences. If the student denies the allegation(s), give him/her the chance to explain and present his/her side of the story. The administrator will consider the student's explanation and, if the administrator deems it appropriate, may investigate the matter further. (This does not mean that the student can secure counsel, confront, and cross-examine witnesses, or call witnesses on his/her behalf to present his/her case.)
5. After hearing the student's explanation and evidence, the administrator should determine if he/she needs more information and, if so, obtain it before a decision. If not, the administrator should determine what, if any, violations exist and assign appropriate consequences.
6. If the student has a behavior plan, the administrator should review the plan with the student. If the student does not have a behavior plan and the student is subject to the habitual discipline statute then a behavior plan may be written.
7. If suspension is appropriate, the administrator shall notify the student that he/she will be suspended for (number of days) and when it will be commencing (starting date).
8. The administrator shall notify the parents of the suspension as soon as possible by phone or in person and follow up that notification with a letter, which will be placed in the student's file.

### **Expulsion and Long Term Suspension**

When it is determined that a student's behavior seriously interferes with the educational program or the safety or welfare of school personnel or other students, the charter school's governing body may remove the student from further attendance in the charter school.

### **Expulsion and Long Term Suspension Hearings**

If after an investigation it is determined by the administrator that a long term suspension or expulsion is appropriate, the student will be provided a hearing before the school's governing body. The governing body will decide whether or not the student shall be put on a long term suspension or be expelled as recommended by the school administrator.

The hearing shall be closed to the public. The governing body will make a tape recording of the hearing. Upon request the student may obtain a copy of the hearing recording. The student shall have the right to be represented by an advocate of his/her choosing. Both the student and the administrator may call witnesses and present evidence. The hearing officer shall not be required to observe the same rules of evidence observed by the courts. Hearsay testimony of students shall be admissible.

The standard of proof shall be that of a civil action: a preponderance of the evidence. The hearing officer's determination of the appropriate consequences shall be based on the seriousness of the conduct as well as the student's prior disciplinary record insofar as it affects the effectiveness, or ineffectiveness, of forms of discipline previously imposed.

There is an exception for possession of a firearm with the prior approval of the administrator.

**Sports Leadership Arts Management Arizona  
Charter School K-5  
PARENT & STUDENT HANDBOOK**



**AGREEMENT VERIFICATION FORM  
2022-2023**

**Thank you for choosing SLAM! Arizona as your School of Choice! Our Parent & Student Handbook can be found online on our website at [www.slamaz.org](http://www.slamaz.org). Please read and review the handbook with your child. If you are unable to access the internet, please feel free to come to the main office and request a copy.**

**PLEASE READ AND RETURN SIGNED FORM BY Friday, August 5, 2022:**

I have read SLAM! Arizona's *Parent & Student Handbook*, including all of the following sections: General Information, Health Services & Policies, Attendance Policy, Dress Code Policy, Academic Information, Technology Information, Parent Information, and Student Code of Conduct.

As a parent/student, I understand that failure to follow school regulations and policies, may jeopardize the student's eligibility to register for the following academic year, or perhaps may result in dismissal from SLAM! Arizona Charter School by the Governing Body of this institution.



Parent/Guardian Name:

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Student(s) Name(s) and Grade Levels:

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Date:

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