

ALDINE INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

## ***COMPASS***

*Campus Of Managing Positives Actions for Student Success*

***DOING IT WITH INTEGRITY!!***

### ***COMPASS MISSION***

**We Are a Five Star Alternative Program  
Showing Students a More EXCELLENT WAY!!**

### ***COMPASS VISION***

**Soaring for EXCELLENCE! Through  
RIGOR, RELEVANCE & RELATIONSHIPS!!!**

### ***COMPASS WAY***

*Take personal accountability for your choices  
Take pride in the way you look  
Treat others as you want them to treat you  
Support all policies and procedures  
Respect and work with teachers and staff on this campus  
Focus on your academics  
Be the best that you can be*



## COMPASS

*James Metcalf*  
*Principal*  
281-985-6685

1617 B Lauder Road  
Houston Texas 77039  
281-985-6685  
281-985-6688 (Fax)

*Donnetta Henderson*  
*Counselor*  
281-985-6685

*Kim Simmons*  
*Curr. Asst. Principal*  
281-985-6264



*Natasha Mosby*  
*Counselor*  
281-985-6264

*Jeff Knox*  
*Asst. Principal*  
281-985-7286

*Ansumanna Davies*  
*Intervention Specialist*  
281-985-6685

**Roosevelt Colvin**  
**Asst. Principal**  
281-985-7357

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**In-Take Date**

*Altenetta Riggins*  
*Intervention Specialist*  
281-985-6264

## COMPASS

(Campus of Managing Positive Actions for Student Success)

**2014 - 2015**

## ORIENTATION

## ORIENTACION

Elementary, Intermediate, and Middle School

Monday-Tuesday-Wednesday-Thursday

Lunes-Martes-Miercoles-Jueves

9:00 AM

High School Orientation

Monday – Tuesday - Wednesday - Thursday

Lunes-Martes-Miercoles-Jueves

3:00PM

*No Orientations on Fridays*

*No Orientacion los Viernes*

## COMPASS PARENT INFORMATION

I am aware that my child must meet the following requirements in order to be permitted to remain in this program. My child will:

- ...participate in the counseling opportunities made available by the Counselor(s) at COMPASS.
- ...take advantage of this educational opportunity by participating in the learning activities.
- ...show respect to him/herself, classmates, and all staff at COMPASS.
- ...exhibit an acceptable level of behavior.
- ...not be on any other Aldine ISD property.

I understand that my support is necessary for my child to make maximum progress in this program. I will support my child in this effort to meet the above requirements by:

- ...***making transportation arrangements for my child to attend school should he/she miss the bus.***
- ...notifying COMPASS by 8:00 a.m. if circumstances prevent my child from attending. I will send with my child a written note of explanation of the absence when my child returns to school.
- ...making immediate arrangements to pick up my child from COMPASS when requested.
- ...participating in parent conferences and programs at COMPASS.
- ...***call by 2:00pm (High School) if I am going to pick my child up and they normally ride the bus.***
- ...supply in written format a change in transportation needs along with proof of address (water bill, utility bill, lease contract, etc.).

I UNDERSTAND THAT FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH THE ABOVE GUIDELINES OF COMPASS MAY RESULT IN MY CHILD'S BEING REMOVED FROM COMPASS.

### **Clinic Procedures**

All Aldine ISD health and medication guidelines are adhered to at COMPASS. Parents must transport medications to and from the clinic. This includes non-prescription medications. All medications must be kept in the clinic. Students are **not** permitted to keep medications with them, including prescription or non-prescription (aspirin, cough drops, nose sprays, allergy/cold, etc.) medicines. Medications must be in the **original** container. Prescription and non-prescription medications must be accompanied by a medication form which is available from the nurse. Phone permission is **not** allowable by law. Female sanitation articles will be provided by the nurse. If a female student does not want to use school provided articles she may bring her own, unopened supply and keep them with the nurse or she may bring one to three items, unopened, which will be checked at time of Intake to insure that nothing has been smuggled in with the item(s). This will be done as inconspicuously as possible but it is necessary due to the imagination and creativity of our students and their ability to hide inappropriate items such as razors, pills, drug paraphernalia, marijuana, pills, candy, gum, make-up, etc.

### **Food Services**

All students in Aldine ISD will receive free breakfast and lunch. Parents and guardians will no longer have to fill out and application for free/reduced meals.

### **COMPASS Grading Policy**

We adhere to all grading procedures outlined in the Parent/Student handbook provided for all parents by the home campus for each grade level. This includes late work policy, make up work policy, homework policy, failing policy, and Special Education requirements. Specific to COMPASS:

- COMPASS will generate progress reports and report cards each grading period.
- These grades are then averaged in with the home campus grades to determine the actual academic performance level of the student for the semester.

Specific to Special Education grading policy:

General education teachers and Special education teachers are required to implement all accommodations and modifications agreed upon by the ARD committee. Should a Special Education student struggle academically several things will occur including, but not limited to, parent contact, opportunity to complete assignments, inclusion support, re-teach, re-assess, positive reinforcement, and student conferences.

COMPASS offers a small student-to-teacher ratio. Most students enjoy having additional teacher attention and time for individual help. Students are encouraged to be successful. COMPASS issues progress reports two times each grading period (9 week grading periods) so that parents and students are aware of the student's strengths and areas of opportunity. All academic instruction is directly tied to the district Scope and Sequence.

### **Bus Behavior**

Transportation is not a right it is a privilege. Students are expected to behave appropriately while being transported to and from COMPASS. Inappropriate behavior by students is not acceptable and creates a hazardous condition. Bus drivers must be able to concentrate on executing excellent defensive driving skills. Students who do not respect the importance of keeping the bus safe by being quiet, remaining in their seats, and keeping their hands and arms in the bus will run the risk of being removed from the bus for a time period that could range from one day to permanent removal. District transportation policies will be applied.

### **Length of Placement at COMPASS**

Students at COMPASS serve 45 days and must have 90% of attendance in order to be released to their home campus. Students who do not improve in their behavior while here may be removed from Aldine and placed at a county run alternative campus known as Highpoint East.

## COMPASS FAQS

1. **What are school hours?** For High School students classes begin at 7:10 am and go to 2:45pm.
2. **How does my child get to school?** Your child will be assigned to a bus route that will pick him/her up and bring them home. You must follow the Aldine policy and present proof of current address and any changes.
3. **What should I do when my child is absent?** Parents are required to call COMPASS at (281) 985-6476 whenever their child is absent. Students are responsible for bringing a note signed by the parent or guardian after the absence. *\*\*The TEA form required to obtain or renew a driver's license requires that a student be in attendance for 90% of the semester.*
4. **What should I do if my child is tardy?** There are no excused tardies.
5. **Can my child participate in home school activities?** No. While your child is assigned to COMPASS they must not set foot on their home campus or any other Aldine campus nor are they allowed to participate in extracurricular activities such as sports, concerts, etc. Doing so may place your child in the unfortunate position of receiving a citation for trespassing.
6. **What happens to my child if he/she does not show improvement in their behavior?** Lack of growth in any area of life leads to negative consequences. Students who fail to show a desire to change their behavior, and continue to act in the manner that resulted in their being placed at COMPASS, run the risk of being recommended for HPE.
7. **Why is the Dress Code stricter at COMPASS?** Students placed at COMPASS have made choices to disregard rules and policies. By failing to comply under less strict control they have shown the need to have tighter controls placed upon them. We are also very concerned with gang related behavior. Therefore our Dress Code is more stringent than that of the home campus.
8. **Will my child still receive their education?** COMPASS endeavors to identically match your child's home school schedule. We are not always 100%, but we come very close. All students will continue to take district benchmark tests according to the school calendar. Our teachers follow the district Scope and Sequence to ensure curriculum alignment in all subjects.
9. **What about textbooks?** Textbooks are provided by COMPASS.
10. **Will my child receive counseling?** Intervention Specialists will design a schedule with every student that will insure that each child spends time with their Intervention Specialist.
11. **When does my child use the restroom?** There are 4 designated restroom breaks during the day. Students are escorted to the restroom by a teacher and the restroom is checked after each student comes out to avoid graffiti, littering, abuse of facilities, and other concerns.
12. **What about my student's safety?** Each classroom is equipped, monitored, and videotaped with a camera. COMPASS buses also have cameras. While technology is a wonderful asset it is not always available. Not all incidents that occur on our campus will have video evidence.
13. **What behavior will result in immediate suspension for my child?** We are an alternative campus. We also have a very open campus due to our facility (all temporary buildings). This places us in an uncomfortable position as it is fairly easy to access our campus and to exit our campus. Therefore, it is critical to us that students do exactly as they are told. The following behaviors will result in suspension from our campus:
  - a. Failure to clear intake prior to leaving the cafeteria
  - b. Failure to go directly to first period
  - c. Fighting
  - d. Verbal abuse
  - e. Assault
  - f. Wandering the boardwalk unsupervised
  - g. Failure to go directly to the bus at dismissal
  - h. Gang related activity
  - i. Leaving the campus without permission

## VIDEO CAMERA SYSTEM

In an effort to provide the safest, most effective learning environment for our students and staff we have installed a video camera system. The cameras are strategically placed in random areas on our campus to maintain safety and security.

These cameras, along with metal detectors, are used every day. The ongoing diligence of our staff to supervise the students will continue to make our program as effective and safe as possible.

Parents may watch the video to check for specific incidents that have occurred, which may have been caught on film, and are directly related to their child's involvement in an unacceptable behavior situation.

### **Not every incident will have been recorded on video.**

Cameras are not located everywhere and some do not have angles that pick up all areas of the campus. Students are aware of this and learn to take advantage of these situations whenever possible. That is why high visibility of adults is critical on our campus but not always feasible. Copies of videos are not available through this campus but can be obtained by following district procedures. These procedures will be explained when a request is made for a copy of a video.

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Student Name

I have received the COMPASS Parent/Student Handbook and will review this with my child. I understand that if I have any questions, I will contact the school for an explanation. I also understand that failure of my son/daughter to comply with these guidelines could result in a recommendation for expulsion.

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Student Signature*

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