THRIVE ACADEMY
SEALY INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT
939 TIGER LANE, SEALY, TEXAS. 77474. PH: (979) 885-3516. FAX: (979) 885-6457. WWW.SEALYISD.COM

DAEP HANDBOOK

2026-2027

Student Name:_____

Start Date:_____

Tentative Review Dates: _____

_____

Tentative Transition Date: _____

Contact DAEP:
979-885-3292 ext. 6030

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Revised on 08/08/2026

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Discipline Alternative Education Program (DAEP)

The Sealy ISD District Alternative Education Program at the THRIVE Academy is governed by all applicable federal, state, and local policies and procedures. The SISD Student Code of Conduct, SISD Student Handbook, and campus Student Handbooks provide additional information regarding rules, regulations, and procedures under which the DAEP operates and adheres. The DAEP Handbook works in conjunction with the aforementioned documents to accommodate the alternative arrangements and application of policy specific to a disciplinary educational setting.

THRIVE Academy Overview

T - **Transcend**: Helping students rise above challenges and limitations.
H - Honor: Cultivating a sense of integrity, responsibility, and self-respect
R - **Resilience**: Building the strength to overcome challenges.
I - **Innovation**: Promoting creative and individualized approaches to learning.
V - **Value**: Recognizing each student's unique potential.
E - **Empowerment**: Equipping students with the tools to succeed.

Program Description

Students ages 6 or older who have been removed from their home campus because of severe or repeated violations of the Sealy ISD Code of Conduct or because of reasons defined in Chapter 37 of the Texas Education Code, are subject to placement in the DAEP program. In deciding to place a student, regardless of the action resulting in a mandatory or discretionary placement, the district/campus will take into consideration the following:

1. Self-defense
2. Act of bullying or history of bullying
3. With regard to intent
4. Prior disciplinary history
5. Results of Threat Assessment
6. Homelessness
7. Child in the custody of the state
8. Student disability which significantly impairs the student's understanding of the conduct's wrongfulness

Enrollment/Placement Process

Once an offense has been committed and a student has been removed from the general classroom setting, the home campus administrator shall schedule a conference with the student and parent/guardian within three school days to notify and explain the reasons for the removal. The student will have an opportunity to respond to the reasons. Following valid attempts to involve all relevant parties, the campus may hold the conference and make a placement decision. Should an MDR be required, campus administration shall notify appropriate parties and comply with established guidelines.

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Placement Order

Once placement in DAEP is determined, the campus administrator will order the placement and notify all appropriate staff members. A copy of the placement order will be provided to the parent/guardian. One of the DAEP Administrators will contact the parent/guardian to schedule the DAEP intake conference. A copy of the DAEP Handbook and all required notifications will be provided to the parent at the time of the intake conference. Mandatory placements (due to criminal process) will be delivered to the juvenile court no later than the 2nd business day following the conference.

Placement Timelines and Reviews

In many cases, students will be assigned to DAEP for the following time periods:

*Elementary students ages 6-9 for mandatory or discretionary placements: 30-day placement with a 15-day review

*Elementary students ages 10-12 for mandatory or discretionary placements: 45-day placement with a 30-day review

*Secondary students in grades 6-12 for mandatory or discretionary placements: 45-day placement with a 30-day review

*Students facing Expulsion are typically placed for one calendar year with no opportunity for review.

The review conference will be held with the student, parents, and administration. Students **may** earn the opportunity to return to their home campus early based on their **attendance, behavior, and academic progress.** Items addressed during the review conference include but are not limited to:

1. Being in attendance for the entirety of the school day
2. Being in dress code
3. Being respectful by using appropriate language and refraining from using profanity
4. Diligently completing assignments
5. Refraining from being disruptive to others in the learning environment
6. Behaving appropriately during non-academic periods such as breakfast, lunch, breaks, & physical activity
7. Participating in school-based community service opportunities

Intake Process

Students assigned to DAEP are required to attend an intake meeting with a DAEP administrator. A parent/guardian is also required to be in attendance. The intake meeting will be scheduled by a DAEP administrator. At this time, the parent/guardian and student will review the expectations, policies, and procedures at DAEP. Students who do not comply with DAEP expectations, guidelines, and procedures are subject to disciplinary consequences, including but not limited to: detention, suspension, a secondary DAEP placement, or expulsion.

Students are required to turn in a school ID at the time of the intake meeting to be used in the cafeteria. This will be returned to the student at the end of the placement term.

Transition

Upon completion of a student's placement order, a transition plan will be established to ensure all necessary steps have been taken to promote the student's success upon return to his/her home campus.

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NOTICES AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS:

Transportation Acknowledgement

While a student is serving a placement at DAEP, he/she is not allowed to utilize district transportation (unless otherwise determined by the student's ARD committee when applicable). Students should arrive on campus between 7:40 and 7:45 am. Students arriving by car should be transported by a parent/guardian or legal adult. Students may not drive their own vehicles onto school property. Walking or riding a bike to the DAEP campus is considered a privilege, and permission must be obtained during the intake process. It is encouraged that students and parents/guardians have a regular routine for their daily transportation.

Failure to acknowledge and abide by the above guidelines regarding restricted access of district transportation may result in criminal Trespass charges being filed with law enforcement officials.

Criminal Trespass Warning

While a student is serving a placement at DAEP, he/she is prohibited from being on school property and prohibited from attending and/or participating in school-sponsored or school-related activities (on or off campus). This restriction applies and remains in effect until the student has completed his/her DAEP placement order. Should the student leave/withdraw from SISD, the restriction remains in place.

Criminal Trespass Sec. 30.05 Texas Penal Code: A person commits an offense if he/she enters or remains on the property or in a building without effective consent and he/she: 1) had notice that entry was forbidden; 2) received notice to depart, but failed to do so. This section of the SISD DAEP Handbook serves as an official notification and warning that students assigned to DAEP are not to be on school property nor at school-sponsored or school-related events during the period of the official placement order.

Curriculum and Instruction

The District subscribes to a computer-based instructional system for core content delivery in grades 6-12. Children in grades K-5 will receive individualized instructional support from their home campus. All students may continue to receive coursework assignments and instructional notes from their home-campus teachers for core and elective courses. DAEP teachers, home campus administrators, teachers, and counselors will work together to ensure that the student receives the necessary required instructional accommodations and materials so that each student has the opportunity to earn the necessary credits toward graduation or grade promotion. Physical Education and Social Emotional Learning will be taught in person by the DAEP teachers or administration.

Arrival and Dismissal

Any student loitering outside the building before their assigned arrival time may be issued a criminal trespass citation. Junior High students may arrive at 7:45 a.m. and will be dismissed at 2:45 p.m. High School students may arrive at 8:00 a.m. and will be dismissed at 3:00 p.m. Start times for elementary students will vary on a case-by-case basis. Any student loitering around the building after dismissal or walking on the Junior High campus without permission may be issued a criminal trespass citation. Students may be dropped off and picked up only by individuals listed on their approved enrollment forms.

Visitors
Visitors shall report to the main office of the DAEP facility. A valid ID is required upon entry to the building.

Contact Information
Contact information for students' parents/guardians is to be provided at the intake meeting. It is the responsibility of the parent/guardian to keep student information and contact information up-to-date at both the home campus and at THRIVE Academy.

Attendance/Tardies
Attendance will be reported daily. Students are required to bring a written note from a parent/guardian for any absence. The note shall include the date, reason for the absence, and a parent/guardian's signature. Should a student need to see a doctor, a note from the attending physician should be provided as the most appropriate documentation. For court appearances, the judge or his designee shall issue the appropriate documentation.

A student is tardy after 8:00 am and runs the risk of not being able to receive breakfast on campus. In an emergency situation, a student shall bring a note from the parent/guardian when they are late. Excessive tardies will be subject to disciplinary action. Students who are tardy should enter through the front door.

Medication
Authorized employees of the district may administer medication to a student. It is the responsibility of the parent/guardian to provide the appropriate written request for medication to be given. Medication must be in its original container and properly labeled for the student.

Leaving Campus
Students are not allowed to leave campus without permission of the campus administrator. Parents/Guardians are required to sign students out before he/she will be allowed to leave during school hours. Once a student is dismissed from campus, he/she must leave immediately. Students are not allowed on school property at any campus or district location at any time outside of the required instructional hours served at the DAEP facility.

Computer Usage
Students are expected to follow all SISD rules and guidelines regarding computer and technology use. Students will be assigned to computers and held liable if found to be responsible for damage. Students found to be using computers in an inappropriate manner may lose computer privileges and are subject to disciplinary action.

Meals
DAEP is a closed campus, and students are NOT permitted to bring outside food, snacks, or drinks to DAEP. Students may purchase breakfast and lunch through the SISD cafeteria services. Meals will be delivered and eaten during the designated times at the DAEP facility. Purchased meals are predetermined by the SISD cafeteria service provider. If a student has a food allergy, proper documentation is to be provided by a doctor. Students will not be allowed to charge a meal. An alternative meal may be provided.

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Breaks

Students will be given scheduled breaks throughout the day and will have an opportunity during the day for a period of physical activity/exercise. A student with a medical condition that may require more frequent breaks will need to provide appropriate documentation from a doctor.

Supplies

Students are not allowed to bring backpacks or purses on campus. Following the intake conference, THRIVE Academy will be responsible for providing all necessary supplies.

Testing

Students will take all required local and state assessments while attending DAEP.

Cell Phones

Cellphones are collected upon arrival and will be returned at dismissal. Devices found on a student during the school day will be taken and the student will be subject to consequences set by their home campus.

Campus Safety and Security

All students should be aware that while attending DAEP, they are subject to searches. Upon entry, all students will go through a daily check-in process which includes being scanned with a hand-held metal detector. Multiple areas of the campus are monitored by video cameras and a district officer is available at all times. Visitors are required to check in and present a valid ID upon entry.

Prohibited Items

In addition to the items indicated in the SISD Code of Conduct, students are not allowed to have/wear the following items while assigned at DAEP:

- Electronic devices of any kind (cell phones will be taken up each morning)
- Backpacks, bags, purses, etc.
- Cosmetics of any kind
- Jewelry of any kind
- Potential weapons (pocket knives, clippers, scissors, etc.)
- Other items, as determined by the building administrator, that distract from the learning process

School-Based Community Service

School-based community service provides students placed in DAEP with a meaningful opportunity to contribute positively to their school environment, fostering a sense of responsibility and accountability for their actions. Examples of service include campus beautification projects like cleaning up school grounds, assisting in organizing materials, washing school vehicles, and helping with organizing food and clothes for students in need. Participation in community service projects can help students develop important life skills such as teamwork, leadership, and empathy. Additionally, engaging in school-based service may lead to an earlier review of a student's placement, potentially reducing the number of days they are required to serve, depending on the nature of their offense.

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Dress Code

Students enter the building in dress code and will adhere to all guidelines of their home campus dress code restrictions and requirements in addition to the guidelines specified below for students at DAEP: Students who arrive out of dress code will not be permitted to enter the building until the issue is corrected. Come prepared to learn and grow!

- Students are to wear a solid black, gray, or white shirt. Students may wear a long-sleeved solid black or white shirt UNDER the shirt.
- The shirt may not have any design other than the brand logo, which must be less than 2x2 inches.
- No hooded sweatshirts. All jackets, coats, sweaters, etc. must be taken off upon entry into the building
- Students are to wear solid black, gray, neutral colored cloth pants with no metal designs or hardware.
- No "sagging" pants. Pants are to be worn around the waistline.
- Shorts will not be permitted.
- Clothing may not be too tight or oversized; it should fit appropriately.
- Students are to wear closed-toed shoes.
- Flip-flops, slides, or house shoes are not allowed.
- Jewelry and headwear (caps, hats, etc.) are not allowed.
- Tattoos may not be visible at any time.
- Hair must be kept clean and well-groomed at all times.
- Students may not have designs, spikes, or Mohawks.
- If an article of clothing is determined to be a potential threat or distraction, it will be prohibited.

Guest Speakers or Demonstrator Activities

Guest speaker or demonstrator activities are a vital part of the DAEP experience, providing students with real-world perspectives on important issues such as legal consequences, substance abuse, and decision-making. Speakers may include police officers, probation or parole officers, or other professionals who can offer insight into the realities of arrests, incarceration, drug-related offenses, and the legal system. These presentations are crucial in helping students understand the long-term effects of their choices and the legal avenues available to them. These sessions also offer students the opportunity to ask questions and receive guidance from individuals with extensive knowledge and experience in these areas.

Special Education

If a parent makes a written request for an initial evaluation for special education services to the director of special education services or to a district administrative employee of the school district, the district must respond no later than 15 school days after receiving the request. At that time, the district must give the parent prior written notice of whether it agrees or refuses to evaluate the student, along with a copy of the Notice of Procedural Safeguards. If the district agrees to evaluate the student, it must also give the parent the opportunity to give written consent for the evaluation.

Note: A request for a special education evaluation may be made verbally. Districts must still comply with all federal prior written notice and procedural safeguard requirements as well as the requirements for identifying, locating, and evaluating children who are suspected of having a disability and in need of special education. However, a verbal request does not require the district to respond within the 15-school-day timeline.

If the district decides to evaluate the student, it must complete the student's initial evaluation and evaluation report no later than 45 school days from the day it receives a parent's written consent. However, if the student is absent from school during the evaluation period for three or more school days, the evaluation period will be

extended by the number of school days equal to the number of school days that the student is absent. There is an exception to the 45-school-day timeline. If the district receives a parent's consent for the initial evaluation at least 35 but less than 45 school days before the last instructional day of the school year, it must complete the written report and provide a copy of the report to the parent by June 30 of that year. However, if the student is absent from school for three or more days during the evaluation period, the June 30 due date no longer applies. Instead, the general timeline of 45 school days plus extensions for absences of three or more days will apply. Upon completing the evaluation, the district must give the parent a copy of the evaluation report at no cost. Additional information regarding special education is available from the school district in a companion document titled Parent's Guide to the Admission, Review, and Dismissal Process published on the Sealy ISD website.

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IN-TAKE MEETING & ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS DOCUMENTATION

The student and parent/guardian are required to attend an orientation/intake meeting prior to the first day of placement in the SISD Disciplinary Alternative Education Program (DAEP). Upon conclusion of participation in the intake meeting, the statements below should be certified with the parent/guardian's initials:

____ Parent/Guardian and student have participated in an intake meeting and had the opportunity to ask questions and voice concerns.

____ Parent/Guardian and student have been informed of the method for curriculum delivery.

____ Parent/Guardian and student have received **Notice of Trespass**.

____ Parent/Guardian and student have received **Notice of Transportation**.

____ Parent/Guardian and student have received and reviewed the **DAEP Handbook**.

____ Parent/ Guardian understands my child will be offered **School-Based Community Service Opportunities**

____ Parent/ Guardian understands that guest speakers or demonstrations may take place while my child is placed at DAEP.

____Parent/Guardian and student understand the right to request a **Special Education Referral.**

____Parent/Guardian understands that my child has the opportunity for counseling through **TCHATT**

____Parent/Guardian understands that my child has the opportunity for mentoring through **FAYS**

____Parent/Guardian understands that students will participate in daily intake procedures which include non-intrusive search procedures.

We acknowledge that we have participated in the Orientation/Intake Conference at DAEP. We are aware of the procedures and policies set forth by SISD and the DAEP Handbook. We have received the above-mentioned documents. We understand that our child will be held accountable for his/her actions and restitution will be made for damage caused to equipment, facilities, and materials. Failure to comply with procedures and policies may result in consequences per the SISD Student Code of Conduct and the SISD DAEP Handbook.

_____ _____
STUDENT SIGNATURE DATE

_____ _____
PARENT/GUARDIAN'S SIGNATURE DATE

_____ _____
PARENT/GUARDIAN'S EMAIL ADDRESS PHONE NUMBER

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