

SWEET HOME

PANTHERS

Quick Guide for Students 2022-2023

The Sweet Home Way

The student experience at Sweet Home High School is centered upon the Core Values defined in the Sweet Home Way. These 4 Core Values are designed to challenge students to become thoughtful lifelong learners that embrace the growth mindset and strive for continual improvement. It is a framework to help build upon strengths to develop the courage and desire to lead others in a manner that improves the human condition.

Build Yourself, Build Your Team, Build Your Community

The Sweet Home Way starts with being honest with yourself, and looking for ways to learn, grow, and improve each day. Once you can identify your strengths and weaknesses, you can utilize goal setting to target areas to make continual improvements to become the best version of yourself.

As you strengthen your personal characteristics, it is important to build quality relationships with others. Life is filled with social interaction, and learning how to build positive relationships is a critical component of lifelong happiness and success. Quality relationship building also amplifies your ability to have influence and ultimately lead others. Leadership is the ultimate gift to others. Leaders take on life's challenges, and work to inspire others, and focus on work that improves the human condition.

<i>BUILDING SELF</i>	<i>WORKING WITH AND BUILDING OTHERS</i>
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Strength of Mind and Body	Quality Relationships
Accountability	Courage to Lead

Strength of Mind and Body is about taking care of yourself. It is about challenging yourself physically, mentally, socially, and emotionally to develop the strength to take on life's challenges. It starts with forming daily healthy habits that allow you to be at your personal best.

We Model Strength of Mind and Body by:

- Pursuing Wellness
- Focusing on important responsibilities
- Forming healthy habits
- Being disciplined to self-improve
- Doing things that make us happy
- Finding balance in life
- Going into every situation prepared
- Exercising and eating healthy foods
- Getting enough sleep
- Overcoming adversity
- Managing stress

Forming **Quality Relationships** is about building trust with others by being dependable, honest, empathetic and thoughtful. It starts with modeling great character and surrounding yourself with others that challenge you to be at your best.

We form Quality Relationships by:

- Treating everyone with respect
- Trying to understand others
- Being thoughtful of others needs and feelings
- Listening
- Not giving up on people
- Seeking the good in people
- Being empathetic
- Being truthful
- Being trustworthy

Accountability is about controlling the things you can control: your words, your attitude, your actions, and your friend groups. It involves taking ownership of your life direction by making good decisions and solving problems in ways that produce positive outcomes.

We Model Strength of Mind and Body by:

- Taking responsibility for words, actions, attitude, and people we surround ourselves with
- Being a good citizen and paying attention to rules designed to create a respectful and safe environment
- Making good decisions
- Taking control and ownership of your life and your direction
- Being a Role Model
- Having Role Models in our lives that we can learn from and look up to
- Learning how to control your response to create positive outcomes

Having the **Courage to Lead** is about building yourself into the best you can be so that you can use your strengths to show others the way and give back so that we can share in a better society.

We Model Strength of Mind and Body by:

- Motivating others
- Inspiring people to keep trying
- Building others up
- Being service minded in ways that contribute to better situations for others
- Taking on roles that support and help others
- Creating a positive environment
- Developing events that create a sense of togetherness

Student Habits for Success

Attendance (Prompt & Prepared)

Students that develop good habits with daily attendance maximize their opportunity for growth and learning. The willingness to grow and learn is a trait of successful lifelong learners.

Be Prompt- Regular Attendance is an important commitment to ensure that students maximize their abilities to keep up with classroom routines. The difficulties of learning become even more challenging when students miss classes. It is the responsibility of students to be present for school.

Be On Time- The organization of the classroom is maximized when all students are on time for class. Teachers work hard to plan lessons, deliver instruction, and perform meaningful assessments. It is the responsibility of students to be on time for classes to maximize opportunities to grow and learn.

Be Prepared- Preparation leads to efficiency. Prepared students are in a position to make the most of every learning opportunity. Preparation is reading, studying, and having all of the materials required by the instructor. It is the responsibility of students to be prepared for class.

Academics (Productive)

Students that develop good habits in the skills required to learn put themselves in the best position to succeed academically. Making a personal decision to accept the responsibilities of becoming a lifelong learner helps to prepare for challenges of the future.

Be Attentive to instruction- Being focused on instruction, and the explanation of tasks and responsibilities of each class is essential to developing an understanding of the learning goals and expectations. Attentive students are focused on instruction without distraction. (unrelated talk, unrelated use of technology, lack of listening skills)

Be Engaged in the class- Engaged students are fully committed and on task with the learning goal associated with the class. Engaged students are mindful of due dates, and understand the work that needs to be completed for the class. Engaged students ask questions when there is misunderstanding.

Be Energetic & and Develop your Work Ethic- Students that actively participate in the class increase their chances of developing a high level of proficiency and understanding. Displaying positive energy and having a commitment to learn and grow enhance your abilities to succeed.

Behavior (Professional)

Positive Behaviors create an environment that promotes learning, understanding, safety, and allows for problems to be solved in productive ways.

Be Respectful- Develop *quality relationships* with your peers and adult professionals. Use *positive words*, display a *positive attitude*, perform *positive actions*, and form *positive associations* with peers and role models that challenge you to be at your best.

Be Responsible- Be accountable and take responsibility for being a good citizen in school and in our school community. Be mindful of rules designed to ensure a high quality learning environment. Make good decisions.

Be Safe- Be accountable and take responsibility for being a good citizen in school and in our school community. Be mindful of rules designed to ensure a high quality learning environment. Make good decisions.

Daily Procedures for Students

Welcome to the 2022-23 School Year! Our school prides itself on having a structured and collaborative environment to maximize the school experience. The following procedures are important to ensure that our school day goes as smoothly as possible every day.

Arrival

1. Transportation

- *Students are expected to be at their bus stop on time so that our drivers can stay on schedule. Proper bus etiquette includes: remaining in your seats, using respectful language at an appropriate volume, and following your drivers instructions.*
- *All buses will drop off students at door 1 (Main Entrance) and door 47 (Athletic Entrance) between 7:15 - 7:30 a.m. where students will enter the building to take breakfast from grab-and-go carts and report to their first period class.*
- *Walkers and Bikers will enter at door 4. Bicycle Racks will be provided at that location for students to secure their bicycles.*
- *Parent Drop-Off will be located at door 4 (Arches).*

2. Entering the Building

- *Walk calmly and quietly into school.*
- *Talk quietly and use respectful language with your friends in the hallway. Guests may be present in the building, and we want them to see and feel the pride we have in ourselves, each other, and our school.*
- *If you come in past 7:30, you must register with the front desk located inside of Door #1.*

3. Breakfast

- *Breakfast will be available on carts as students enter the building.*
- *Food cannot be opened while walking in hallways.*
- *Once students take their breakfast, they will move to the location where their first period class is scheduled to eat.*

4. Period 1 Attendance/Morning Show & Announcements

- *Attendance is an important responsibility of our students which will be accurately recorded and closely monitored on a daily basis.*
- *During 1st Period, attendance will be taken, and attendance reports will be generated to contact families of absent students. Any questions or concerns regarding attendance should be directed to our Attendance Office at 250-1211.*
- *Students must be in attendance for 5 out of their 9 scheduled periods to stay after school for any activities including sports, clubs, and arts or music events.*
- *A block of time will be allotted for our Sweet Home Morning Show and announcements at the start of Period 2.*

Academic Day

1. Hallways/Passing Time

- *Students will have 4 minutes during passing time to get to their next class. Students need to make sure that they are reaching their destination prior to the bell ringing for the period.*
- *To maintain smooth flows of traffic in our hallways, be sure to walk on the right side at all times during passing, and avoid stopping and gathering in the halls.*
- *Bathrooms will be closed during passing time, and will be accessible during lunch, study halls and classes. Please do your best to use the restrooms during lunches and study halls if possible.*

2. Passes

- *Each classroom will be designated 2 lanyard passes for the bathroom. Students who need to visit a teacher, nurse or other area of the school must receive a hard copy yellow pass from your teacher.*
- *Students will get a BLUE LIBRARY PASS that allows them to be released from Study Hall or Lunch. No student may be released from any location to go to the library without a blue library pass in hand. No student will be allowed to enter or stay in the library without a pre-arranged pass. Student attendance (LB) will be noted in PowerSchool.*

3. Classrooms

- *Be in your classroom when the bell rings (**Prompt**).*
- *Be(**prepared**) for class. Make sure you thoughtfully plan on having all the materials you need to perform the classroom tasks (**Productive**).*
- *Know and respect your teacher's routines/ expectations for the start of class (**Professional**).*
- *Maintaining a quiet, calm and respectful school environment is essential for students and teachers to do their jobs.*
- *Your teachers have been asked to keep students in the classroom so that you have the best chance to be successful. If you have an occasional situation in which you need to leave class, politely ask your teacher for permission, which will allow you 4 minutes to take care of personal business. Remember....4 minutes!! If you leave too many classrooms, too often, you will be contacted by one of the administrators.*
- *When students enter their classroom, they should report directly to their seat.*

4. Study Halls (Productive)

- *Study Halls, when used the right way, can be a great opportunity to get organized or catch up on school work. If you are scheduled in a study hall, it is important to respect others around you by using indoor voices and helping to create a space where people can feel comfortable while focusing on their work.*

5. Bathrooms

- *Students will be permitted to use the bathrooms during lunches, study halls, and class when necessary. Bathrooms will be closed during passing time.*
- *Teachers may allow 1 student out of their room at a time, unless there is an emergency, and 3 students maximum will be permitted in the bathroom at any given time.*

6. Lunches

- *Students must stay in their seats.*
- *Lunch will be provided from the lunch lines.*
- *Lunch is a great time to socialize and enjoy the company of others while eating your food. Remember to think of others by speaking at a controlled voice level, and respecting others property including food. If you choose to listen to music, use personal earbuds, or headphones.*

- *Remember to think of the Professionals that work in the cafeteria by being polite and cleaning up after yourself. No garbage or food should be left on the tables when you leave.*
- *Students that need to use the restrooms located in the Physical Education Foyer. No more than 2 students at a time will be allowed to leave.*
- *You will be asked to be in the lunchroom on time, and remain inside until the bell rings.*

7. Dismissal

- *Students should exit the building in a calm respectful manner, and try to maintain a safe distance from others.*

STUDENT DISCIPLINE & EXPECTATIONS

What are the CORE EXPECTATIONS for me as a student?

At Sweet Home, we believe that preparation for the future comes from doing your best in school, and striving to become the best person you can be. Therefore, the professionals at our school will be working with students so they can be successful in the areas of attendance, academics and behavior. Expectations in the classroom and school are clearly communicated, and our students have a responsibility to help create a positive culture and learning environment.

RESPECT, RESPONSIBILITY & SAFETY are at the **CORE** of expectations for student behavior.

1. What will happen if I choose not to meet these expectations?

- *Choosing to display behaviors that go against the expectations for students will come with consequences. In fairness to all students, behaviors that create distractions in school will be clearly communicated, with the goal of making our school great, and to provide students with the best chances for happiness & success.*

2. Are there any really “big things” that will get me in the most trouble?

- *There are some behaviors that are so disrespectful or disruptive to our community. You may not engage in these behaviors under any circumstances. If you engage in any of these behaviors, you can be suspended from school for five days and could possibly receive a Superintendent’s Hearing. At a Superintendent’s Hearing, you could be suspended for longer than five days. The suspension you could get is based on the severity of the incident and your prior disciplinary record.*

THESE BEHAVIORS INCLUDE, BUT ARE NOT LIMITED TO:

- **Fighting**- *If you act aggressively toward another student by pushing, hitting, choking, kicking, wrestling, either as the person who starts the fight, or the person that retaliates, it is considered fighting. You are expected to avoid fighting at all costs.*
- **Bullying/Threats**- *Bullying or using threatening language is a form of violence.*
- **Possession of a Weapon**- *Carrying any weapon in school is strictly prohibited.*
- **Theft/Stealing**- *Taking a person’s or the school’s property without their permission.*
- **Vandalism**- *The destruction of others property, including the property of students, building professionals, and the school.*
- **Using, Possessing, Distributing of Selling Drugs or Alcohol in school**
- **Engaging in any degree of sexual activity in the school building**

PROBLEMS & CONFLICTS

1. What should I do if I am experiencing trouble or a problem and How do I respond to school professionals in the building?

- An important job of the School Professionals in the building is to help monitor student behavior to help maintain a healthy school environment. It is important to seek out a School Professional that you trust so that you can communicate your needs.
- Any School Professional may reasonably ask any student to do something or redirect behaviors that distract the learning environment.
- Do not respond negatively to the reasonable requests of the School Professionals.
- If you have questions about any rules or requests by School Professionals, please see your assigned administrator. The School Professionals have been asked to ensure that the school rules are followed to create a school environment we can all be proud of.

2. Where can I go if I am having a problem with another student?

- The Professionals at Sweet Home are committed to making your experience and school positive and productive. If you are experiencing a problem that is making you uncomfortable, no matter how small, it is important to seek out a School Professional or counselor that you trust. Alerting a Professional is an important first step to trying to work through problems and conflicts. Sometimes, taking time to cool down, or asking a School Professional for advice can help you to rethink the situation, or use problem solving skills. Teachers, Counselors, and Administrators are all people you can reach out to for assistance.

HIGH SCHOOL ADMINISTRATIVE TEAM	
Mr. Derek Baker -Principal	dbaker@sweethomeschools.org
Mr. Ray Bailey -Assistant Principal	rbailey@sweethomeschools.org
Mr. Ben Morton -Assistant Principal	bmorton@sweethomeschools.org
Mr. John Pilato -Assistant Principal	jpilato@sweethomeschools.org
Mr. Timm Slade -Interim Athletic Director	tslade@sweethomeschools.org



HIGH SCHOOL COUNSELING TEAM

Mr. Scott Harriger-11th Grade	sharriger@sweethomeschools.org
Mr. Ty Critelli-12th Grade	tcritelli@sweethomeschools.org
Mrs. Andrea Siwiec-9th Grade	asiwiec@sweethomeschools.org
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