



**Student Handbook**  
**2024-2025**  
**Far North Christian School**  
1110 20<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
Fairbanks, AK 99701  
Office: 907-452-7979

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**School Information**

The school web site is [www.farnorthchristian.org](http://www.farnorthchristian.org) Enrollment forms, school calendars, and other updates are listed there.

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**ORGANIZATIONAL POLICIES**

**Mission Statement**

Our mission is to assist parents in providing a Christ-centered, Bible-based education for their children. We are committed to academic excellence and goal-oriented preparation of students within the framework of a Christian learning environment that enhances a Christian worldview and maximizes their full potential in fulfillment of the Great Commission.

**Declaration of Faith**

We believe:

1. In the verbal inspiration of the Bible and the Bible as the only inspired, infallible, authoritative Word of God.
2. In one God eternally existing in three persons: namely Father, Son, and the Holy Ghost.
3. That Jesus is the only begotten Son of the Father, conceived of the Holy Ghost, and born of the Virgin Mary.
4. That Jesus was crucified, buried, and raised from the dead. That he ascended to heaven and is today at the right hand of the Father as the Intercessor.
5. That all have sinned and come short of the glory of God and that repentance is commanded by God and is necessary for forgiveness of sins.
6. That justification, regeneration, and the new birth come through faith in the blood of Jesus Christ.
7. In sanctification, subsequent to the new birth, through faith in the blood of Christ and wrought by the Holy Spirit.
8. Holiness to be God’s standard of living for His people.
9. In the pre-millennial second coming of Jesus: First, to resurrect the righteous dead and to catch away the living saints to Him in the air; Second, to reign on earth a thousand years.
10. In the bodily resurrection-eternal life for righteous and eternal punishment of the wicked.

### **Philosophy of Education**

God has commanded parents to raise their children in the instruction and training of the Lord. Therefore, we believe that the education of children is the responsibility of the parents. At Far North Christian School, we value the insights of parents to their children. We want parents to feel comfortable in approaching us about anything that would help us team together to accomplish the grand task of educating children. We also believe that you should be sure that what we teach as a school, especially in matters of eternal importance, support and enhance what you hold sacred.

We believe that all truth is centered in Christ; hence, there is no truth in education that rejects or excludes Christ in its philosophy.

Far North Christian School exists for the primary purpose of educating youth in Christian philosophy. In support of this main objective, we pursue the following:

1. Honoring Christ in all that we do.
2. Maintaining academic standards that enable the student to face the challenges of life in an informed and confident way.
3. Making the ultimate aim of our training, a Christian worldview, not adjustment to secular norms.
4. Maintaining a disciplined environment that will lead the student into voluntary self-discipline.
5. Providing an environment that is informed but protected from the hostile and harmful elements of the world until the student can mature and develop sufficient strength to triumph over these evils.
6. Preparing each young person for the time when all shall stand before the Creator to give an account of life.

*Far North Christian School admits students of any race, color, sex, and national or ethnic origin.*

### **Accreditation**

The Far North Christian School strives to maintain a high standard of academic excellence. Students will be tested frequently by nationally standardized tests to ensure the acquisition skills commensurate with their grade level of achievement. All curriculum used is accredited and accepted by ACSI and other accrediting agencies.

### **Confidentiality**

During a student's time at FNCS, he or she will see, hear, and potentially have access to personal and sensitive information about other students, parents, families, staff, administrators, school matters and organizational operations. It is vital that all discussions and interactions, inside and outside of the school, are conducted with care, discernment, and confidentiality. To disclose personal information, without the consent of the individual, is inappropriate, unpermissible, and a breach of confidentiality.

A grievance form will be provided for all students to complete in case of concern or unresolved issue.

## SCHOOL OPERATIONS

### **Attendance Policy**

Regular attendance is a necessity for educational progress. Students should be in the classroom no later than 8:00am for morning classes. After 8:00am, the student will need to stop at the office to receive a tardy slip.

Students may **not** enter the building or be on the school grounds prior to 7:45am unless before-care is scheduled. Students arriving early may be charged a minimum \$5.00 fee for before-care, unless prior arrangements are made. Staff and teachers are preparing for the day and are not able to supervise students outside of the before-care class.

*Tardiness:* Arriving late or failure to be ready for class when it begins constitutes a tardy.

Anything more than 45 minutes late may be counted as an absence. Three tardies in the same quarter can equal a class absence and in this event a letter will be sent home. After the third tardy and parental notification students may be kept in for morning break, or other recess as decided by teachers or principal. If the disruption or distraction of tardiness continues the student may have grade reduction, and or suspension or dismissal.

**In the case of an absence, a parent/guardian must call or write a note stating the reason for the absence. If a student returns without a note or phone call, parents may be contacted to determine the reason for the absence and if it will be excused or unexcused.**

*Unexcused Absences:* If you are more than 45 minutes late for class, you may be counted absent for the day. Parents will be notified after 3 unexcused absences. Fifteen unexcused absences in a semester will result in the loss of credit for the class. Continued unexcused absences may result in suspension or expulsion.

*Excused Absences:* For family vacations, personal days, or other prearranged activities in which school will be missed, you need to make arrangements with your teachers at least one week in advance to make a plan for completing your class work. Failure to enact a plan or to follow the plan can result in grade deductions and credit loss.

*Extended Absences (Illness) (more than 3 days)* may be excused from automatic grade reductions or credit loss if 1) there is a written document from your physician briefly stating the illness and necessity for missing school and 2) a meeting of one or both of your parents with each teacher and the principal to enact an academic plan. If an illness, physical or emotional, affects the ability of the student to complete required work or continue with a class, the administrator will meet with the student and parents to develop a plan to move forward in the best interest of the student and school.

### **Illness Policy**

For the welfare of the student body, it is necessary to have an illness policy. If a student comes to school ill or becomes ill during the day, teachers will notify the administrator and ask office staff to contact parents. Teachers and office staff will care for the child and make him/her as comfortable as possible. If such is necessary, the parents will be contacted, and arrangements made for the student's return home. Vomiting, fever, the appearance of chicken pox, pink-eye or other contagious condition will result in the student's parent being contacted and the student excused until recovery is complete. Pink-eye conditions require 24-hour separation from school after medication is started. If prescription meds are not used the school administrator must approve the student's return to school.

### **Weather Policy.**

In temperatures -40 and below students will be excused if parents choose to keep them home. Far North usually follows the Fairbanks North Star Borough school district for school closing. Often announcements are not made until 5:30am, but you may refer to the website at **k12northstar.org**. Notices may be posted on the school's **Facebook** page and sent out via email/text. If the borough schools are closed due to weather and you do not receive a call stating otherwise, then Far North is closed.

### **Annual Holidays and School Breaks**

Labor Day– No School  
Thanksgiving Day & Following day – No School  
Christmas Break/New Year's Day – No School  
Martin Luther King Jr. Day – Half Day  
Spring Break -- No School  
Good Friday– Half Day

### **Disciplinary System and Rules**

We believe that it is important for students to have respect for self, each other, and authority. Almost all of our rules come under these categories:

1. To respect yourself means that you will keep clean, dress neatly and appropriately, and conduct yourself wisely.
2. Respect for others includes how you speak to them, act toward them, and treat their property.
3. Respect for authority includes respect for God, the teachers and staff, the principal, school rules, and school property.

Here is a list of infractions and penalties that may be assessed for violations:

Unexcused Tardy	1 Demerit
Not in school uniform	1 Demerit
Violating a classroom rule	1 - 2 Demerits (teacher's discretion)
Showing disrespect for others	1 - 3 Demerits (teacher's discretion)
Showing disrespect for authority	1 - 2 Demerits

Inappropriate display of affection*	2 Demerits and note to parents
Failing to complete homework	1 Demerit per assignment
Unsigned Homework slip	1 Demerit
Fighting	10 demerits and/or parents contacted
Leaving campus without permission	Parents and/or police contacted
Inappropriate words/conversation	Warning, Demerits, counseling as

warranted.

*\*Far North has a “hands-at-home” policy. We encourage friendly handshakes, quick, appropriate hugs, and necessary contact in sports. No handholding, prolonged hugs, “lounging” on each other, etc. regardless of gender or relationship.*

Teachers and/or the principal reserve the right to modify or increase penalties due to poor or positive attitude, severity of infraction, and/or other factors.

Three Demerits will warrant a loss of break and/or 30 minutes of detention. Students who receive detention will be sent home with a slip explaining the infractions and the detention. Parents must sign the slip and it be returned to school before the detention is served. Students who receive greater than 6 demerits in a day may be required to serve 1 hour of detention. Students who receive more than 9 demerits may be suspended for several days of school depending on the nature of the Demerits.

### **Articles Prohibited at School**

The following are not permitted on campus:

- Tobacco/Cannabis Cigarettes or related products
- Alcoholic beverage
- Illegal drugs and/or unauthorized prescription medications
- Books, magazines, (reading books will be provided at school)
- Screen devices, phone, IPod, iPad, and other similar electronic devices
- Cell Phones (must be turned into the school office)
- Toys (PreK and Kindergarten may bring one small stuffed animal for nap time)
- Pets (Do not allow pets out of car on campus when visiting or during campus activities)
- Laptop computers or tablets (principal may authorize as needed)
- Please do not bring items of value, collectibles, or other items from home that may be lost or create a distraction at school.

Violations of the above will result in the items being held for parents. In the case of illegal drugs, parents will be notified, and police may be notified.

### **Music/Movies/Games/Books**

Do not bring such items from home. Students can request permission to bring books and games. These requests may or may not be approved by the principal at his discretion.

### **Respect for School Property**

An integral part of a Christian's witness is his respect for God, for others and their property, and for himself. Therefore, any misuse, defacement, or destruction of someone else's or school property is prohibited. Any person who defaces school property will be assessed a minimum fine of \$25.00. Any person who destroys property will be charged for the cost of replacement. This includes books, score keys and paces. (Paces may be written in as directed. Other drawings, scribbling etc., will be counted as misuse.)

### **Lost-and-Found**

Any items that are misplaced and found by someone else are usually placed in the lost-and-found. Items left for a lengthy period of time will be donated or thrown away. FNCS is not responsible for any student's loss of personal property or money. Students are advised not to bring large amounts of money to school at any time.

### **Phone Usage**

Personal cell phones must be turned into the school office upon arrival and will be returned at the end of the day when the students leave campus. The office phone is for school use only. In the case of a school, transportation, or medical necessity, the office phone may be used with permission of a teacher, principal, or office staff.

### **Student Drivers**

Students who drive to school are not to leave school until the school day is finished, unless permission is obtained from the principal. All students who drive to school are required to have a completed student driver form on file in the office. Student drivers do not have permission to take home or give rides to other students without written permission from both parents of the driver and rider. This written permission must be turned into the office before leaving.

### **Student Departure/Early Dismissal**

Once a student arrives at school, he or she may not leave during the school day without the permission of the principal or designee. For an early dismissal, a request from the student's parent must be turned into the office. Students are not allowed to leave school with another student or another student's parent without the written or verbal consent of his own parent.

### **Student Pick-ups**

Parents, under normal circumstances, should wait at the vehicle when coming to pick up students. We will have an attendant at the door to call for students. **If you are coming at an unscheduled time, please call/text prior to arriving at school.** If you arrive at the scheduled time and your child does not come out by 2:45pm, you are invited to call/text or come into the office. Please park in front of the school and **not** in the area of staff parking and the dumpster.



### Visitors

Parents or friends are welcome to visit the school. When visiting the school visitors must stop by the office. Homework or lunches can be left at the office to be delivered at an appropriate time. Guests other than immediate family should have prior permission from the principal for any extended visit to the campus.

### Dress For Success

We believe in positive reinforcement of dress code and uniform standards.

### Uniforms

All students must arrive and leave school in uniform.

### Dress Code/Uniform Policy

Modesty, neatness, and cleanliness are valued and emphasized at FNCS. All students are to follow the uniform dress code at school and at school sponsored activities unless otherwise directed. Students are expected to maintain good personal hygiene by bathing, brushing teeth and wearing clean clothes. Parents will be notified if there are concerns in the area of hygiene. Teachers, office staff and/or the administrator are asked to make any correction to the dress code as needed. It may not be an issue that is spelled out in detail in the handbook or in handouts. Students are asked to cooperate and respond with a positive attitude. Parents and students are encouraged to discuss corrections at a convenient time with the principal.

### **PHILOSOPHY:**

Modesty, neatness and cleanliness are emphasized at FNCS.

The use of uniforms has several significant benefits.

- They promote the mind-set that school is a special place with special expectations and develop school pride.
- Uniforms Project a positive image to the community and eliminate the pressure of “Dress competition.”
- They present considerable financial savings after the initial purchases.

Two uniform polos are provided as part of the enrollment fee. More uniform polo’s can be purchased from the school.

#### **Boys:**

- **Pants** -Khaki or navy pants (no cargo pants). Belts (4<sup>th</sup> grade and up) must be worn, except for P.E.
- **Shirts** – Red or Cobalt Blue Land’s End polo with school logo. Can be purchased through the school at a discounted rate or through the Lands’ end website.
- **No hats are to be worn in class.**

- **Shoes** – Leather or leather-like dress shoes, loafer or lace-up, in tan, brown, or dark brown. Clean athletic shoes may be worn subject to the discretion of the principal.
- **P.E. dress requirements:** 1) athletic shoes, 2) loose-fitting T-shirts, 3) sweatpants or jeans may be worn for P.E. class.
- **Jacket/Vest/Sweater:** Blue, navy, or gray vests, sweaters, or jackets.

#### **Girls:**

- **Skirts and Jumpers** – Skirts and jumpers should be khaki or navy. Skirts and jumpers should come to the knee when standing or sitting. Dark blue or black leggings are recommended. Leggings or tights are required for K3-4<sup>th</sup> grade.
- **Shirts - Red or Cobalt Blue Land's End Polo with school logo. Can be purchased through the school at a discounted rate or through the Lands' end website.**
- **No hats are to be worn in class.**
- **Shoes** – Leather or leather-like dress shoes, loafer or lace-up, in black, navy or brown. Closed toe and heel. Clean Athletic shoes may be worn subject to the discretion of the principal.
- **P.E. dress requirements:** 1) Below the knee athletic skirt/skort, 2) loose fitting T-shirts with sleeves, 3) athletic shoes, 4) shorts as an underlayer or leggings.
- **Jacket/Vest/Sweater:** Blue, navy, or gray vests, sweaters, or jackets.

#### **All Students:**

- **Hair is to be kept clean and combed.**  
**Boys'** hair trimmed off the ears, eyebrows, and collar. No spiked, shaved, or faddish cuts. All facial hair is to be shaved and sideburns no lower than the ear.  
**Girls/young ladies** are asked to keep hair pulled back, away from and out of the face by use of hair ties, pins, barrettes and or hair bands. It is the tradition of Far North for ladies to keep their hair long. No unnatural coloring, head shaving, extreme cuts, or faddish styles are to be worn at FNCS. Students who enroll having an extreme haircut/coloring/style are asked to allow it to grow out.
- It is recommended that each student should have a pair of inside and outside shoes. Shoes should be in good condition.

- No jewelry is to be worn, with exception of necklaces and bracelets worn for medical notification purposes. Students may wear a basic Chasity ring. Flesh toned and basic pink studs may be worn to protect existing piercings.
- A solid color, grey, or navy sweater or pullover may be worn during classes. No logos or designs other than Far North.
- No excessive use of makeup or colored nail polish is permitted. Blemish cover, and/or clear/light flesh toned nail polish is allowed.

### **Fire Drills**

There will be periodic fire drills. When these occur, you are expected to leave the building quietly. There is to be absolutely no running. The teacher is to be the last to leave the classroom. Students and teachers will assemble in the parking lot in front of the flag pole. When the signal is given to re-enter the building, students will do so in an orderly and quiet manner. Any prank played with the fire alarm system or during the drill is considered to be a serious offense and will be addressed accordingly.

## **ACADEMICS**

### **Credit Requirements**

A student must complete 4 credits to be a sophomore, 10 credits to be a junior, and 16 credits to be a senior.

A total of 22.5 credits are required for a General Diploma and 27 credits are required for a College Preparatory Diploma.

# Far North Christian School

## GENERAL DIPLOMA

			Minimum Credits Required		
	<b>Math</b>	Algebra I	1.0	3.0	
		Geometry	1.0		
		Algebra II	1.0		
	<b>English</b>	English I	1.0	4.0	
		English II	1.0		
		English III	1.0		
English IV		1.0			
<b>Social Studies</b>	World Geography	1.0	4.0		
	World History	1.0			
	American or National History	1.0			
	U.S. Civics and Economics	1.0			
<b>Science (Labs Required)</b>	Biology	1.0	3.0		
	Physical Science	1.0			
	Chemistry or Physics	1.0			
<b>Bible</b>	New Testament Survey	1.0	2.0		
	Old Testament Survey	1.0			
	Etymology	1.0	6.5		
	Life of Christ	1.0			
	Alaska State History (Required)	0.5			
	Speech	0.5			
	Music	0.5			
	Foreign Language	2.0			
	Health	0.5			
	Physical Education	1.5			
	Total Required Credits			22.5	

# Far North Christian School

## COLLEGE PREPARATORY DIPLOMA

Minimum  
Credits  
Required

<b>Math</b>	Algebra I	1.0	3.5	
	Geometry	1.0		
	Algebra II	1.0		
	Trigonometry	0.5		
<b>English</b>	English I	1.0	4.0	
	English II	1.0		
	English III	1.0		
	English IV	1.0		
<b>Social Studies</b>	World Geography	1.0	4.0	
	World History	1.0		
	American or National History	1.0		
	U.S. Civics and Economics	1.0		
<b>Science (Labs Required)</b>	Biology	1.0	4.0	
	Physical Science	1.0		
	Chemistry or Physics	1.0		
	Physics	1.0		
<b>Bible</b>	New Testament Survey	1.0	2.0	
	Old Testament Survey	1.0		
<b>Noncore</b>	Etymology	1.0	9.5	
	New Testament Church History	1.0		
	Life of Christ	1.0		
	Business Math	1.0		
	Alaska State History (Required)	0.5		
	Speech	0.5		
	Music	0.5		
	Foreign Language	2.0		
	Health	0.5		
	Physical Education	1.5		
<b>Total Required Credits</b>			<b>27.0</b>	

## Grades

Grades are computed on the following scales:

<u>Kindergarten</u>	<u>1<sup>st</sup> through 2<sup>nd</sup></u>	<u>1<sup>st</sup> through 12<sup>th</sup></u>
S-Satisfactory	98-100 A+	94-100% A
N-Needs Improvement	93-97 A	88-93% B
U-Unsatisfactory	90-92 A-	80-87% C
H-Honors	87-89 B+	Below 80% F
	83-86 B	
	80-82 B-	
	77-79 C+	
	73-76 C	
	70-72 C-	
	67-69 D+	
	60-66 D	
	0-59 F	

For Calculating GPA:

<b>Percent Grade</b>	<b>Letter Grade</b>	<b>4-Point System</b>
98-100	A+	4
96-97	A	4
94-95	A-	4
92-93	B+	3
90-91	B	3
88-89	B-	3
86-87	C+	2
83-85	C	2
80-82	C-	2
74-79	D	1

### **Missing a Test**

If you know you will be absent during a test, please talk to your teacher ahead of time to take it early or reschedule it.

### **Achievement Tests**

Each year student's 3<sup>rd</sup> grade and up will take either Iowa Assessments or the Stanford Achievement Test. Parents may request a copy of this test result. These tests will occur in April. If the student foresees that he will be absent during this time, a testing time must be prearranged.

### **Social Media**

Students are not to post personal information about students, parents, or school affairs on social media without permission. Do not share phone info, physical address, or social media info without parental approval.

## **SOCIAL, HEALTH, & RELATIONSHIPS**

### **Relationships**

One of the great things about Far North is the opportunity to develop healthy, happy relationships in a safe environment. We encourage group activities and discourage paring off and excluding classmates. Friendships and common interests will develop, and this is an exciting part of the positive experience at Far North. When these relationships develop to the point of excluding other friends, please be aware of this and do your best to include those around you. "Dating", expressing boyfriend/girlfriend sentiment will not be allowed while at school. Note exchanges, extended private conversation, extensive planning for after-school contact/activities, are not conducive to a productive school day and are not acceptable on the school grounds, before, during or after school. Any "dating" relationship concerns will be addressed by the principal with students and parents.

### **Gender**

Far North celebrates all aspects of God's awesome creation, including its human inhabitants and the specific biological gender identities that are an integral part of that creation.

### **Genesis :1-2**

**1**This is the book of the generations of Adam. In the day when God created man, He made him in the likeness of God. **2** Male and female created he them; and blessed them, and called their name Adam, in the day when they were created.

These biological identities are sacred and vitally important to the confidence and successful development of healthy and happy men and women. It is understood that there are rare instances of needed medical intervention related to issues of masculine or feminine development. Far North prayerfully supports parents and their doctors in these unique situations.

### **Marriage**

Far North celebrates marriage between one man and one woman according to God's word and His divine plan for humanity and procreation. Teacher-led, Bible-based discussion of this issue is encouraged. Far North does not allow students to continue in attendance who marry or are expecting a child, during the school year. Provisions may be made for home-study in this situation.

### **Self-Harm**

Students are encouraged to communicate all personal concerns to parents, teachers, office staff and/or the principal. If there is self-harm history or ideation that has not been successfully treated, we encourage students to attend a school with available mental health counselors and staff with certified training in this area.

Students who demonstrate self-harm or threaten self-harm will be directed to professional counseling and may need to demonstrate that they are free of this concern prior to returning to Far North.

### **Bullying**

Far North does not tolerate bullying in any form. It is understood that students can bully by ignoring, excluding, as well as other forms of more recognizable intimidation.

Forming cliques and acting in condescending ways towards other students will be considered bullying. Whether an individual or group action, bullying will be addressed and resolved immediately. Physical, emotional, or verbal attacks, direct or indirect, will not be tolerated.

### **Attitude**

Positive student and parent attitudes are critical to progress in the classroom and all areas of our program. Students and families are not expected to understand the details of every standard, tradition, rule, or policy of Far North, or every action of staff and/or teachers dealing with the many situations we face. Thank you for helping us in these situations with a positive attitude as we seek solutions and the best outcomes for the school and students.

Students/parents with ongoing poor attitudes, exhibited by continued complaining, negativity, blaming the school and teachers for lack of progress, will result in the student not being allowed to continue at Far North. Hostility toward teachers or staff by students or parents is not acceptable and will not be allowed. There will be times of great fun and perhaps great frustration on both sides as we learn together. Concerns and complaints will be handled by a grievance form and a solution will be found in a professional and Christ-like manner. The principal will always welcome questions or concerns.

### **Spiritual**

Students at Far North will be taught Bible-based, salvation through faith by grace. It is understood that students come from numerous faith backgrounds and while we encourage expression and growth in relationship with our heavenly Father, we reserve the right and responsibility to counsel and caution if beliefs, practices or preferences distract from the mission of Far North and our teaching. We are Protestant and Wesleyan in our doctrinal beliefs and ask that those in attendance as students, teachers, or volunteers respect that in teaching or counseling. It is the desire and goal of Far North that all students receive Christ and walk in relationship with Him.



