

2024-2025

Ken “Chief” Hill Learning Academy

Junior High School

Student Handbook



290 S. Cooper Rd., Chandler, AZ 85225

480-812-7150

ADMINISTRATION

Luke Hickey – Principal

480-812-7157

Kyle Darr - Assistant Principal

480-812-7167

GOVERNING BOARD

Barb Mozdzen, President

Patti Serrano, Vice President

Jason Olive

Kurt Rohrs

Joel Wirth

SUPERINTENDENT

Frank Narducci

ASSOCIATE SUPERINTENDENT, PRE-K-12 EDUCATIONAL SERVICES

Craig Gilbert

CHANDLER UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

1525 W. Frye Road

Chandler, Arizona 85224

(480) 812-7000

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Dear Parents/Guardians and Students:

It is my pleasure to welcome you to Chief Hill Learning Academy! At HLA, we are dedicated to preparing our students with the academic, social, and emotional skills necessary to achieve their goals, while providing a safe and positive learning environment for all. I believe that to be successful, positive relationships and lines of communication must be built and maintained among students, families, school staff and members of the community. It is an honor and a privilege to be the principal at HLA. I invite you to stop in, call, or email me, so we can begin building relationships!

Sincerely,

Luke Hickey

Principal

Chief Hill Learning Academy

“Hill Learning Academy enriches the community through an accountable, respectful, safe environment that ignites within students a desire to learn, instills honesty and responsibility, and develops compassionate citizens while providing tools vital for academic, vocational, and social success.”

2024 - 2025

Chandler Unified School District No. 80

July - 24

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	H	5
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

JULY

10	Returning Teachers Report
10-16	Teacher Inservice/Workdays
17	First Day of School for Students

AUGUST

21-22	Elementary Parent/Teacher Conferences
27	Jr. High Parent/Teacher Conf-AJHS/BJHS/SJHS/CCHS(7-8)
29	Jr. High Parent/Teacher Conf-ACPMS/PJHS/WJHS/Hill

January - 25

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			H	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	H	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

August - 24

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	E	E	23	24
25	26	J2	28	J1	30	31

SEPTEMBER

2	Labor Day Holiday - No School
20	1st Quarter Ends (47 days)
23-30	1st Intersession

OCTOBER

1-4	1st Intersession continued
7	Teacher Inservice/Workdays - No school

February - 25

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2	3	J2	5	J1	7	8
9	10	11	E	E	14	15
16	H	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	

September - 24

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	H	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	G	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

NOVEMBER

11	Veterans Day Holiday - No School
27	No School
28-29	Thanksgiving Holidays - No School

DECEMBER

18-19	Jr High/High School Early Dismissal
19	2nd Quarter Ends (49 days/96 semester)
20	Teacher Inservice/Workday - No School
23-31	2nd Intersession

March - 25

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	G	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

October - 24

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

JANUARY

1-3	2nd Intersession continued
6	Teacher Inservice/Workday - No School
20	Martin Luther King Day Holiday - No School

FEBRUARY

4	Jr. High Parent/Teacher Conf-AJHS/BJHS/SJHS/CCHS(7-8)
6	Jr. High Parent/Teacher Conf-ACPMS/PJHS/WJHS/Hill
12-13	Elementary Parent/Teacher Conferences
17	Presidents Day Holiday - No School

April - 25

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	H	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

November - 24

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	H	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	NS	H	H	30

MARCH

7	3rd Quarter Ends (42 days)
10-21	3rd Intersession
24	Teacher Inservice/Workday - No School

APRIL

18	Spring Holiday - No School
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MAY

21-22	Jr High/High School Early Dismissal
22	4th Quarter Ends (42 days/84 semester)
22	High School Graduation/Last Day of School (1/2 day)
23	Teacher Inservice/Workday - No School
26	Memorial Day Holiday - No School

May - 25

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	J/H	G/L	23	24
25	H	27	28	29	30	31

December - 24

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	J/H	G	20	21
22	23	24	H	26	27	28
29	30	31				

JUNE

LEGEND

Total Student Days (180)
Teacher Days (190)
Teacher Inservice/Workday
Holidays
First Day of Students
Elementary Early Dismissal
J1 Jr High Early Dismissal - ACP/PJHS/WJHS/Hill
J2 Jr High Early Dismissal - AJHS/BJHS/SJHS/CCHS(7-8)
J/H Jr High/High School Early Dismissal
G Grading Period Ends
I Intersession
NS Day off - No School
L Last Day for All Students - Early Release

June - 25

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

Approved 9/27/2023
Revised 11/2/2023 (Early Release)



Junior High School Bell Schedule

Period 1- 8:10-9:10

Period 2- 9:12-10:12

Period 3- 10:14-11:14

Lunch- 11:14-11:44

Period 4- 11:46-12:46

Period 5- 12:48-1:48

Period 6- 1:50-2:50

Junior High School Finals Bell Schedule

Period 1/4- 8:10-9:10

Period 2/5- 9:12-10:12

Period 3/6- 10:14-11:14

Chandler Unified School District

Mission of the Chandler Unified School District

To empower all students with the knowledge, skills and attitude necessary to excel in college, career and life.

Vision of the Chandler Unified School District

Chandler Unified School District is a safe and productive environment where students and adults are engaged in meaningful learning. Our diverse population is a strength, and a spirit of equity, collaboration and respect permeates our community.

- *Our graduates are prepared for success in the global community and thrive as responsible and ethical citizens.*
- *Our families are confident in the district's commitment to their children's achievement and well-being.*
- *Our employees are respected and valued for their compassion, expertise and professionalism.*
- *Our community takes pride in the Chandler Unified School District as a premier District of choice.*

Core Values

- *Excellence*
- *Collaboration*
- *Equity*
- *Integrity*
- *Efficiency*

Chief Hill Learning Academy

Mission of Chief Hill Learning Academy

Hill Learning Academy enriches the community through an accountable, respectful, safe environment that ignites within students a desire to learn, instills honesty and responsibility, and develops compassionate citizens while providing tools vital for academic, vocational, and social success.

ATTENDANCE

The Hill Learning Academy Attendance Policy shall be as follows:

- Call (480) 812-7150 before 9:00 a.m. on the day of your child's absence. All absences must be excused within 24 hours. Please provide the following information:
 1. Name & relationship to the student
 2. Student's name, ID number and grade
 3. Reason for absence
- Attendance is taken each period. If students are truant to any or all classes during a particular day, they will be reported to administration, and a call may be made to parents/guardians.

It is a student's responsibility to arrange for all make-up work following an excused absence.

- The office will assist in obtaining assignments at parent request.

Any student who is absent 10 consecutive school days will be dropped per district policy unless there are extenuating circumstances.

- **Excused Absences** are as follows:
 - Illness
 - Medical/Dental related, including appointments
 - School-sanctioned activities
 - Absences related to legal system
 - Family Emergency
 - Bereavement/Funeral (immediate family member only)
 - Religious Observances (should be pre-arranged with the Hill Learning Academy Principal)

A student who has excessive absences or tardies may be placed on a contract with requirements to make-up missed time.

- Once the student has made-up the time and fulfilled the contract, he or she will be released from the contract.

Pre-arranged absences

Parents may request a pre-arranged absence from school for up to five (5) days of instruction for such things as medical/dental appointments, court appearances, or emergencies.

Tardies

Tardies are only excused when there is an unusual emergency, **and the school is notified by the parent/guardian.**

PROGRESS REPORTS

Progress reports will be available to view online. We encourage parents to stay in contact with us on a regular basis.

WITHDRAWAL

The following steps must be taken for a student to withdraw from school:

- Return all books and any other checked out materials. **No records will be transferred until all debts to CUSD are paid.**
- Obtain parental approval either through parent conference or phone confirmation with a secretary or administrator.
- Complete forms obtained from office.
- Obtain a withdrawal form and unofficial transcript from office.

CAMPUS BOUNDARIES

Students are required to remain within the building and patio once they have arrived at school. Students may not leave these areas without prior approval, this includes going to the student parking lot. Any student needing to access their vehicle during the school day must request permission and be accompanied by a staff member.

BEHAVIOR AND DISCIPLINE

Student Conduct Philosophy

The philosophy of Hill Learning Academy is that students are young adults in the making who will learn civil, polite and respectful conduct by the example of their teachers and other adults. Consequently, students will be treated with respect and courtesy by the Hill Learning Academy staff and will be expected to treat not only all adults at Hill Learning Academy with such respect, but one another as well.

Hill Learning Academy has the goal of developing not only habits of good scholarship and critical inquiry, but also good character. Students at Hill Learning Academy are expected to exhibit appropriate behavior at all times.

Hill Learning Academy's guiding policy is to be fair, firm, and consistent in the application of discipline for inappropriate behavior. However, the guidelines for discipline are not intended to be exhaustive. The school reserves the right to exercise reasonable judgment as an individual circumstance might dictate.

District policy covers, but is not limited to, tardiness, unexcused absence or ditching, defiance of school personnel's authority, disorderly conduct including profanity and obscene behavior, lying, dress code, automobiles, bus threats, verbal abuse, forgery, gambling, theft, smoking, destruction or defacement of property, trespassing, fighting, alcohol and drugs, physical assault, arson, weapons, extortion, and explosive devices.

Students may be assigned detention, suspension, lose the privilege of participating in extra-curricular activities, or be required to perform some work detail, such as cleaning, depending on the nature and frequency of offenses such as: littering, possession and/or chewing of gum on campus, being late to class, talking out of turn or otherwise disrupting the classroom environment, using disrespectful speech toward other students, violating uniform and dress code policies, and engaging in other inappropriate behaviors as determined by administration.

In the case of more serious misbehavior, such as verbal or physical aggression, theft, willful destruction of property, defiance of authority, disrespect of adults, leaving campus without permission, ditching class, etc., the parent will be contacted, appropriate disciplinary measures will be taken and a follow-up parent/student meeting with administration will take place prior to the student's return to school.

Threats of violence and physical, verbal or sexual harassment are illegal and will result in parent contact and, depending on the nature of the offense, may result in other disciplinary measures, including notification of law enforcement authorities, suspension and expulsion.

Products containing nicotine, marijuana and all other drugs and controlled substances, lighters, matches, knives, weapons of any kind, and sexually explicit materials are also prohibited on campus at all times. Possession of these items will result in immediate disciplinary action and may include a recommendation for long term suspension.

Each teacher has his/her own discipline plan that is distributed at the beginning of each new term. The administration has the authority to suspend a student for 10 days or less. There is no appeal of a short-term suspension. If a student is subject to suspension for more than 10 days, this is considered

a long-term suspension, and a request will be submitted to the district by school administration. A formal hearing shall be held whenever a long-term suspension or expulsion is recommended. Only the Governing Board can expel a student.

Any student engaged in a behavior or action that disrupts the operation of class or school will be immediately removed from the classroom and a parent conference may be scheduled.

One of the most important things students can learn in school is self-discipline, and how to conduct themselves while at school. While it does not appear as a subject, it underlies the whole educational structure. It is the training that develops self-control, character, orderliness, and efficiency. It is the key to good conduct and proper consideration for other people.

Two very important factors in student success are respecting and cooperating with their teachers and other school personnel. If students do this, in addition to the following, history shows they will be successful.

1. Use courteous language and be courteous to at all times.
2. Refrain from public display of affection.
3. Be in your seat when class begins.
4. Do not disturb others or interrupt their learning.
5. Bring all necessary materials to class and do your own work.
6. Comply with the school dress code.
7. Stay seated until dismissed by the teacher.
8. Follow teacher's directions the first time.
9. Adhere to the approved procedures for the use of Electronic Devices including cell phones.

The vast majority of our students respect the rights of others and are not negatively affected by a discipline plan.

******Hill Learning Academy will follow the disciplinary policies as established by the Chandler Unified School District's Governing Board******

BACKPACKS AND PERSONAL ITEMS

All school supplies will be provided by the school. Therefore, it is not necessary for students to bring backpacks to campus. If a student does need to bring a backpack, it will be kept in a locked and safe place during the school day, and will be returned to the student when they dismiss.

FOOD/DRINK/CHEWING GUM

No food or drinks are permitted upstairs or in the classrooms, only bottled water is allowed. All food and drinks other than water must remain downstairs in the cafeteria. If a student brings their lunch, they will turn it in to the office staff upon arrival to school, and will pick it up on their way to lunch. Chewing gum is not allowed on campus.

MISCONDUCT/GENERAL BEHAVIOR

Students must accept the reasonable authority of all teachers, administrators and other staff members to control student conduct at school and school activities. Violations of stated school policies may result in discipline, suspension, or expulsion. Failure to comply with reasonable requests shall be construed as insubordination and cause for disciplinary action. It is the responsibility of the staff and administration to set the tone for the educational progress of the students within the building. Students should be aware that the regulations related to students' dress, expected behavior, or procedures are not necessarily limited to the guidelines in this pamphlet. Extreme fads, or circumstances not covered may be considered and treated as inappropriate by school administration. Students are expected to do their part in maintaining the appropriate school atmosphere and will be required to follow all directions given by any staff member. If students have questions regarding any circumstance not listed, the student should check with an administrator.

ELECTRONIC DEVICES/ CELL PHONES

Junior High School students must turn all electronic devices/ cell phones into the front office upon arriving at school each morning. These devices will be stored in a safe place and returned to the students during dismissal.

STUDENT PROPERTY

The school assumes no responsibility for loss to students' personal property. Students are encouraged to use good judgment in what they bring to school. They should not bring items of great value to school. If they do so, they bring them at their own risk. Items that are a distraction to the classroom environment may be confiscated until the end of the day. **Bikes, scooters, skateboards** are not to be ridden on campus. They must be locked up in the bike rack or storage bin available on campus.

7th & 8th grade
DRESS FOR SUCCESS

The 7th and 8th graders at Hill Academy will abide by the following dress code:

- Boys will wear black or khaki pants or shorts along with a solid white, black, navy-blue polo or a Chief Hill Academy t-shirt. A black, navy-blue or white t-shirt may be worn underneath polo; NO OTHER COLORS WILL BE ALLOWED. NO EXCEPTIONS.
- Pants may not sag; they must be belted at the waist.
- Girls will wear black or khaki pants, shorts, capris or skirts. Leggings, yoga pants, spandex pants, are not allowed. All shorts and skirts must be no more than three inches above the knee. This can be determined by placing your arms at your side and making sure that the hem reaches the tip of your middle finger. Girls must also wear a solid white, black, navy-blue polo shirt or a Chief Hill Academy t-shirt. A black, navy-blue or white camisole may be worn underneath polo; NO OTHER COLORS WILL BE ALLOWED. NO EXCEPTIONS.
- Black or white socks
- Jackets will be either solid black, navy blue or white only. They must **NOT** have any insignia on any part of the clothing.
- Court imposed monitoring devices must be covered at all times.
- No hats or sunglasses inside the building.
- No slippers, house shoes or athletic sandals e.g., slides
- No hoods in building
- No spandex pants or shorts
- All students must wear closed toe shoes – No Crocs- (Students will attend Physical Education every day)

*All attire must be school appropriate and not promote drugs, violence, profanity, exploitation, discrimination, gang affiliation or any other inappropriate content for the school setting.

The following form must be read and agreed to, then returned prior to enrollment:

- Internet Activities Agreement
- Student Confinement: Parental Notification and Consent
- Hill Learning Academy Handbook and Policy Agreement page
- Photograph agreement

The Hill Learning Academy handbook will provide important information for students and their families. Please be sure to review the policies and expectations we have set forth for all students attending Hill Learning Academy.

If you have any concerns or questions, please contact the Principal of Hill Learning Academy.

Thank you,
Ken "Chief" Hill Learning Academy

Welcome to Hill Learning Academy

Important site and district policies, programs, and expectations are outlined in the student handbook. It is imperative that students and parents are informed of this information. Please take some time to thoroughly examine this information so that you are familiar with our expectations. All students and parents are required to sign and return the signature form to school indicating receipt of these documents.

STUDENT/PARENT ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF HANDBOOK AND SCHOOL RULES

I, _____ and my parent/guardian, _____, have received a Hill Academy Handbook. We understand and accept the responsibilities outlined therein which includes the following:

- Student Conduct Policy
 - Behavior and Discipline Guidelines
 - Dress Code Policy
 - School Phone Use Policy
 - CUSD Safe Student Transportation Program
 - Electronic Information Services User Agreement
 - Young Adult Literature and Movie Permission
- Our child may participate in Internet Activities. **(Circle one)**
- AGREE DISAGREE
- Our child's photograph may be used for official school publicity, which may include the school newsletter or website. **(Circle one)**

AGREE DISAGREE

- **STUDENT CONFINEMENT - Parental Notification and Consent. (Circle One)**
By signing below, you are acknowledging and verifying that you have read this notification. Please indicate your agreement or disagreement for confinement of your child in the event it becomes necessary for disciplinary purposes if your student poses imminent physical harm to him/herself or others.

AGREE DISAGREE

Parent Signature

E-mail Address

Student Signature

Student ID number

Home School and Grade
