

Sierra View Junior Academy Handbook

2025-2026



*Know Him
Love Him
Share Him*

“Grace Wins”

*“God saved you by His grace when you believed.
And you can not take credit for this;
it is a gift from God.”
Ephesians 2:8 NLT*



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Table of Contents

Mission Statement	1
School Wide Learning Goals	2
School Hours & Supervision	3
Closed Campus & Visitors	4
Admission Information	4
Attendance	6
Academic Information	8
Eligibility Requirements	9
Eighth Grade Requirements	9
Community Service	9
Physical Education	10
Discipline Policy	10-19
Internet/Social Media Policy	19
Sexual Harassment	21
Drug Policy	22
Bus Conduct	22
Playground Rules	23
Pets on Campus	24
Administering Medication	24
Solicitation	25
Dress Code	25-28
Volunteers	28
Foggy Day Schedule	28
Financial Information	29-31
Staff & Faculty	32
Board of Directors & Pastors	32
Calendar	34-36

MISSION STATEMENT



MISSION Sierra View Junior Academy provides a Christ-centered education that nurtures spiritual growth, academic excellence, and personal responsibility, preparing students for a life of service and for Christ's soon return.

VISION Sierra View Junior Academy envisions students who know Christ, love others, and share His message—equipped with strong minds, healthy bodies, and committed hearts to serve God, the Church, and their communities.

KNOW HIM **LOVE HIM** **SHARE HIM**

Our Philosophy

Sierra View Junior Academy is operated by the Seventh-day Adventist Church to provide a spiritually oriented education for children. A belief in the existence of the Creator God is fundamental in the philosophy of Seventh-day Adventist schools. We respect His divine authority and recognize His intervention in human affairs. We believe that true education develops the spiritual, mental, and physical powers of each student; preparing them for the joy of service in this life and for the higher joy of service in the life to come.

HISTORY and ACCREDITATION

Sierra View Junior Academy is a coeducational school serving students in Transitional Kindergarten through the tenth grade.

It is located on a fourteen acre site midway between Exeter and Lindsay.

Sponsored by the Seventh-day Adventist churches in the area, it is an integral part of the largest protestant parochial school system in the world. There are currently approximately 150 similar schools located in the state of California.

Sierra View Junior Academy has been located on its current site since 1953. Before that, it existed at several sites located at various times in Tulare, Lindsay, Porterville and a union school near the northwest corner of Mineral King Ave and Lovers Lane operated by the Visalia, Exeter and Tulare Seventh-day Adventist Churches.

Sierra View Junior Academy is a WASC and AAA accredited school through our affiliation with Armona Union Academy in Armona, California. The school is evaluated regularly by the Office of Education of the Central California Conference and the Pacific Union Conference of Seventh-day Adventists.

Sierra View Junior Academy is operated in harmony with the guidance and direction of the Office of Education, North American Division or the Seventh-Day Adventist Church.

SCHOOL WIDE LEARNING GOALS

The faculty and staff at Sierra View Junior Academy are committed to providing an education that provides opportunities to foster inquisitive minds, instilling in our students a love of learning that will help them achieve success, preparing students for successful living, teaching students ways to become involved and caring citizens, and preparing them for an eternity with God.

SCHOOLWIDE LEARNING OBJECTIVES



Develop a personal relationship with Jesus and live a faith-based, Spirit-led life



Value others, embrace diversity, build positive relationships, and practice Christlike compassion



Strive for academic excellence, critical thinking, and a lifelong commitment to growth in all areas of life



Live with integrity, serve others, care for your body and the environment, and engage in the mission of the SDA Church

Teaching Staff

The carefully chosen teaching staff is made up of qualified men and women who have shown by their lives that they fully support the principles of Christian education as practiced by the Seventh-day Adventist church. Teaching credentials and certification are required.

School Hours and Supervision

Students should be in class and ready to begin when school starts at 8:00a.m. Students will be dismissed at 3:15pm., Monday through Thursday and 12:30 on Friday and minimum days. No before or after school child care is available.

If a student arrives at school late or leaves early, they must check in and out at the office.

Closed Campus

For the protection of the students, the school is a closed campus. The office door will remain locked during school hours. Students are not to leave the campus during school hours for any reason without the consent of the school office. Parents are to check in at the office.

Parents needing to take their student off campus need to go directly to the school office, not to the classroom. Errands and messages will be handled by the school office.

Visitors: Visitors are welcome on campus, but must make advance arrangements at the office. Students from other schools who would like to visit SVJA during class time, **must make arrangements 24 hours prior to the day they wish to visit.** Permission to visit must be granted by the school principal. Any students visiting must dress appropriately for a Christian school and follow school rules.

Admission Information

Non-Discrimination Policy (PUC Ed. Code Section A23-108)

SVJA does not discriminate and admits students of any race, color, national and ethnic origin in the administration of its educational policies, admission policies, scholarship and loan programs, or other school administered programs.

General: The admission committee will be evaluating every student who applies to attend Sierra View Junior Academy.

New applicants:

- New students need to be interviewed by the principal and meet the teacher whose class they will be attending.
- Information from the previous school will be reviewed prior to enrollment.
- Areas of academic concerns will be reviewed.
- All new applicants must have favorable recommendations from the previous school in areas of citizenship and scholastic attainment.

Returning students:

- Returning students will be reviewed by the entire staff. Those students with scholastic or discipline concerns may be put on academic and or behavioral probation. A meeting between parent/guardian and the principal must occur before school starts and all parties will need to agree to and sign the contract.

Admission for Transitional Kindergarten (TK), Kindergarten (K) & New First Graders: All TK, K and new first grade students are required to complete Gesell observation before admission. Placement or acceptance into school will be determined by the readiness of the student in addition to his or her chronological age. Parental input is essential in making the best possible placement decision. The school reserves the right to change the grade placement of any child after testing and counseling with the parents.

Students who turn five between September 2 and December 2 are eligible for enrollment into TK. TK is the first year of a two-year kindergarten program that uses a modified kindergarten curriculum that is age and developmentally appropriate and is aligned to California Kindergarten Standards. Students who turn five on or before September 1 will be enrolled in Kindergarten.

Admission to Students of Other Faiths: Sierra View is open to all persons of good moral character who may or may not be members of the Seventh-day Adventist denomination. All students will respect the standards and ideals of the church, demonstrate reverence, and observe all regulations of the school.

Medical/Immunization Requirements: Immunizations against the following diseases are required for pupils prior to admittance: Poliomyelitis, Diphtheria, Tetanus, Pertussis (TDAP), Measles/Mumps/ Rubella, Hepatitis B, Varicella (Chicken Pox).

The state of California also requires a medical checkup within 18 months prior to the date a child enters the first grade. Proof of compliance with both immunization and medical checkup must be presented to the school at the time of admission since schools are required to exclude students lacking such records. Physical examinations are also required for entering 7th grade. The exam must include a scoliosis check as well as immunizations for Rubella, Mumps and Tdap. Students new to California must provide the same proof of compliance.

Attendance

According to the California State Law, absences are excusable for the following reasons:

- If the student is ill
- A verified medical or dental appointment
- Death in the immediate family

A note or phone call to the school office is necessary for the absences to be excused.

Whenever possible, medical and dental appointments should be made outside school hours. If appointments cannot be made outside school hours, please notify the office in advance. In emergencies when pre-arrangements cannot be

made, a phone call to the school office must be made and a written note, for documentation, must be brought upon return. Fridays and Minimum Days are extremely important instructional days. Please do not plan to have students miss these days.

Pre-arranged Absences: In situations when it is imperative for a student to be absent for more than half a day, all students in grades TK-10 must fill out a pre-arranged absence form. The definition of an excused absence is listed above - all other absences are unexcused, but the pre-arranged absence forms allow teachers to help if possible. **The pre-arranged absence form must be submitted to the office at least (1) one-week in advance and gain clearance for missed work from each teacher. Makeup work is at the discretion of the home-room teacher and their class rules/syllabi. Failure to pre-arrange may result in a low grade or a zero for assignments that are missed.** Even when absences are excused, a student has still missed important academic learning time, grades might still be affected. Forms are available in the office or on the website.

Good attendance helps students succeed. Chronic tardiness means missing worship, preparation for the school day, as well as develops poor habits. An automatic notification will be sent from RenWeb via email for any unexcused tardy or absence. Excessive tardies and absences will affect eligibility for extracurricular activities and result in an appointment with the principal. Extracurricular activities are defined as sports, parties, banquets, and trips, except for required field trips. For grades 7-10, an unexcused tardy to any period class in excess of ten minutes will be counted as an unexcused absence.

Academic Information

The academic school year is divided into four quarters of approximately 9 weeks each. At the end of each quarter, a report card indicating scholastic standing, citizenship, and attendance will be issued to students in grades TK-8. For grades 9-10 the quarter grades are progress reports (midterm grades).

Only the semester grades are recorded on the student's permanent transcript.

The following grading systems are used:

TK - Grade 2:

I = Achieves objectives and performs skills independently.
P = Progressing toward achieving objectives and skills.
NT= Needs more time to develop.

Grades 3-10:

A = Excels in understanding content & applying concepts.
B = Masters most content and skills
C = Demonstrates basic understanding of concepts and skills.
D = Understanding of concepts and skills is limited and incomplete.
F = Shows an unacceptable level of understanding and/or effort.

Academic Performance & Requirements: At SVJA we take academics seriously. Progress reports are sent home weekly for grades 5-10. You may also choose to view your child's grades online using RenWeb. Approximately 4 weeks into the quarter/semester your child's grades will be discussed by the teaching team at SVJA. If a student has fallen behind at this point or is not performing at grade level, a parent meeting will be called in order to work out an academic recovery plan.

Eligibility requirements for holding a student office, participating in sports and extra-curricular activities: The opportunity for students to participate in an organization, a class office, ASB office, the sports program or other special program is a privilege to be earned. To be eligible, the following items will be reviewed by the administration prior to participation.

Students must have and maintain:

1. A progress report that shows no more than one D, and no F's
2. Good attendance and citizenship
3. All financial accounts are current. (accounts are delinquent if 60 days past due)
4. Meet qualifications specified in the organization's constitution, by-laws or regulations, if in addition to the above.

Because student leadership is such an important role at SVJA, it is expected that students will maintain the highest standards of academic, attendance and citizenship while in office or on a team.

Eighth Grade Completion Requirements: All subject areas must be passed with a D average or higher at the end of the school year for successful completion of the eighth grade, as well as the privilege to participate in the graduation ceremony. **Financial responsibilities must also be met before a diploma is given.**

9th & 10th Grade Community Service Requirement

A minimum of *twenty five* (25) clock-hours of community service is required each year that a student is in grades 9 and 10 at Sierra View Junior Academy. More hours are valuable and recommended for college consideration. Students are to submit a Community Service form for each service activity in order to receive credit. Forms are available in the school office or on the website.

Physical Education Requirements

A large percentage of the physical education program involves an attitude of participation rather than an unhealthy competition or achievement levels beyond the capability of some students.

That being the case, the following requirements indicate the minimum participation levels expected of each student:

1. Grades 7-10 are required to be in appropriate P.E. clothing (see dress code and refer to syllabus) during the duration of class.
2. To be excused from P.E., a written note, signed and dated by the parent is required. If an excuse is needed for more than 3 days, a doctor's written excuse indicating the time that the student may return to the original PE program is required. Notes from parents will not be accepted to excuse the student from class after three days.
3. Additional requirements are set forth by the instructor.

Discipline Policy

Sierra View Junior Academy expects its students to strictly comply with the regulations it has adopted and to otherwise be models of Christian behavior, both in relationship to the school and otherwise. The overall goal of Sierra View Junior Academy in this regard is to work with parents in addressing unacceptable behavior and assisting students in correcting problems and achieving success in life with the minimum discipline reasonably necessary.

Grades TK-6: Teachers in grades TK-6 employ varying discipline systems. At the beginning of the school year, each teacher will send home a description of the rules and procedures of their classrooms.

Grades 7-10: All upper grade teachers will cooperate within the established discipline system. Consequences for students who choose not to follow the discipline system may include:

- Lose privilege
- Receive a demerit
- Have a meeting with parent, teacher and principal
- Suspension
- Student asked to withdraw
- Excessive demerits may result in suspension or expulsion

Failure of a student to comply with this standard of behavior will result in the imposition of appropriate discipline. Should any student misconduct persist and/or be serious enough to warrant being sent to the principal's office, and then further disciplinary action may result (ex. suspension, withdrawal, or expulsion of the student). General discipline policy is as follows (seriousness of each offense is at the discretion of the principal) –

First Offense – Student/principal meeting and formal contact with parent. (phone call and/or E-mail).

Second Offense – Removal from the classroom (for the remainder of the day/result – in-school suspension). Mandatory principal/parent/teacher meeting. The student will not be able to return to school or participate in any school activities unless this meeting is established.

Third Offense – Immediate removal from the classroom (result – out of school suspension). Mandatory principal/parent/teacher meeting. The student will not be able to return to school or participate in any school activities unless this meeting is established. The parent will be invited to observe the classroom, and spend at least 45 minutes with their child. Should the parent choose not to observe the classroom, they forfeit ability for understanding should there be any other disciplinary actions with their child.

Fourth Offense – Immediate removal from the classroom and mandatory meeting with principal/parent must be established. Indefinate suspension, withdrawal or transfer from Sierra View (at the discretion of the principal).

Examples of such misconduct include, but are not necessarily limited to the following:

1. Committing an obscene act or engaging in profanity or vulgarity.
2. Committing or attempting to commit robbery, burglary, extortion, or theft, or receiving or attempting to receive any stolen property.
3. Making verbal, written, or representative threats of physical violence against other students or staff, including, but not limited to, threats of perpetrating a school shooting.
4. Engaging in or conspiring to engage in hazing or any act that causes or is likely to cause bodily danger, physical harm, or personal degradation or disgrace resulting in physical or mental harm to any person.
5. Possessing, selling, offering, arranging, negotiating, or otherwise furnishing any firearm (including air or electric powered), knife, explosive, or other dangerous object, or attempting to do so.
6. Possessing, selling, offering, arranging, negotiating, or otherwise furnishing, or being under the influence of alcohol, tobacco or other nicotine containing product, or any controlled substance, without a doctor's prescription, or possessing, selling, arranging, negotiating, or otherwise furnishing drug paraphernalia, or any attempt to do any of the above.
7. Serious or continued sexual or other harassment as defined in this school's harassment policies.

8. Willfully causing or attempting to cause damage to personal property of others.
9. Willfully causing, attempting to cause, or threatening to cause physical injury to another person.
10. Willfully disrupting school activities or otherwise defying the valid authority of administrators, teachers, supervisors, school officials, or other personnel engaged in the performance of their duties.
11. Willfully engaging in the disruption of the school's spiritual environment through negative comments or by negative attitudes.

The foregoing examples and other forms of misconduct will not be tolerated even if the student claims that the student only intended to engage in the misconduct as a joke or prank.

Suspension (*PUC Ed. Code Section A23-148*)

Suspension is removal of a student from classes or school activities for disciplinary reasons. Suspension may be on or off campus at the discretion of the administration. Suspensions will not exceed (10) consecutive school days. A student will not be suspended for a total of more than (20) days during a school year. Suspension may be appealed to the administration for review. Generally, the student will remain suspended until the review is conducted. If the suspension is not upheld, the remainder of the suspension is removed and all records of the suspension shall be removed.

Dismissal/Expulsion of Students (*PUC Ed. Code Section A23-152*)

Attendance at a Seventh-day Adventist school is a privilege as opposed to a right. It is conditioned on acceptance and conformance to the rules of the school.

- A. Expulsion is the discontinuance of a student from enrollment in a school by action of the school board for one or more behavioral reasons including but not limited to those listed in sections B and C.
- B. Expulsion Presumed: The following actions presume the student shall be expelled:
 1. Intentionally causing serious injury to another not in self-defense.

2. Making a threat (in any form) of a school shooting.
3. Possession of a firearm at school or school activities.
4. Possession of a bomb.
5. Sale or distribution of a controlled substance.
6. Robbery (taking property from the person of another by force or fear).
7. Assault or battery upon any school employee.
8. Sexual assault or battery.
9. Brandishing a knife at another person.

Continued admittance of a student who has violated the provisions of this section shall only be done when considering the totality of circumstances including the student's history and amenability to change, the principal or school committee determines that expulsion is inappropriate and does not recommend it.

C. Permissive Causes: The following actions may form the basis for expulsion when the principal or school committee, considering the totality of circumstances including the history of the student, determines the student is not amenable to improving behavior and the student's continued presence constitutes a threat to the safety and/or welfare of the other students or a substantial disruption of the school environment.

1. Major or repeated theft at school.
2. Possession and/or use of controlled substances including alcohol and tobacco, especially continued use after attempts to assist the student has failed.
3. Severe or repeated harassment, sexual or otherwise, of other students. Harassment can be spoken, written, physical and/or distributed through electronic means.
4. Persistently advocating atheism and/or ideas that are destructive of Christian principles or the moral teachings of the Seventh-day Adventist Church.
5. Academic non-performance.
6. Intentionally causing serious damage to school property or other personal property.
7. Committing an obscene act or engaging in habitual profanity or vulgarity.
8. Willfully defying the valid authority of school personnel or willfully violating school policy.

9. Intentionally threatening or intimidating school personnel or students. The threats or intimidation cause reasonable fear of life or well-being or materially disrupts the school environment.
10. Acts disrupting the learning environment and school activities.
11. Sexual misconduct or the encouragement or advocacy of any form of sexual behavior that would undermine the Christian identity or faith mission of the Seventh-day Adventist Church. Pacific Union

D. Expulsion of Student Due to Disruptive Parents (*PUC Ed. Code Section A23-152*):

In addition, a student may be expelled when the principal, appropriate school committee, or school board, considering the totality of circumstances, include the history of parental or guardian conduct, determines: 1) that a parent or guardian's and/or school employee's misconduct is serious enough to constitute a threat to the safety and/or welfare of students, a substantial disruption of the school environment, and/or a serious violation of a generally accepted practice or tenet of the Seventh-day Adventist Church; and 2) the parent or guardian is not amenable to improving behavior.

E. Procedure: The principal or school committee makes a recommendation of expulsion to the school board. The student and parents/legal guardian shall be notified of the following:

1. The fact that expulsion is being recommended.
2. That the parents/legal guardian have a right to a hearing by request.
3. A deadline for the students and parents/legal guardian to submit a written request for a hearing.
4. The factual basis for the expulsion.
5. Any written documents that shall be used by the school board or hearing body in deciding the issue.
6. A copy of this policy.

If a hearing is requested, the time and place of the hearing and the body conducting the hearing shall be forwarded to the student and parents/legal guardian by mail or other reasonable means of communicating likely to give notice, including, but not limited to, email addresses on file. The student is suspended from school during this process.

F. Hearing: If requested in writing a hearing shall be scheduled. The hearing shall be conducted by the school board or a committee authorized by the school board. The body conducting the hearing shall make the final decision. The following procedures shall be used.

1. The hearing is closed. Only members of the board/committee may attend. The parents/legal guardian and student may be present until the conclusion of the evidence. The student may have persons who have relevant evidence speak to the committee. These persons shall be excluded except during testimony. The student or parents/legal guardian may not bring an attorney.
2. At the hearing the principal or a school representative shall present the recommendation for expulsion and the evidence supporting the recommendation.
3. The student and parents/legal guardian may:
 - a. Hear the evidence.
 - b. Ask questions of any witnesses or the school representative.
 - c. Present relevant evidence including witnesses.
 - d. Make a summary statement.
4. The body conducting the hearing shall, at the conclusion of the presentation of evidence and statement on behalf of the student, dismiss the student and parents/legal guardian. No further evidence shall be presented. The body shall deliberate in a closed executive session and reach a conclusion. The decision shall be promptly communicated to the students and parents/legal guardians in writing. Unless otherwise stated in the writing, the decision is final.

Student's Withdrawal from School (PUC Ed. Code Section A23-156)

Following the withdrawal of any student who is required by state law to be enrolled in school, the school principal is to ascertain that the student has entered another school as stipulated by state law. If the student fails to do this, within the required time period, it is the responsibility of the school principal to notify the attendance officer of the local public-school district.

Severance of Students (PUC Ed. Code Section A23-156)

Following the withdrawal or severance of a student who is required by state law to be enrolled in school, the school principal is to ascertain that the student has entered another school as stipulated by state law. If the student fails to do this within the required time period, it is the responsibility of the school principal to notify the attendance officer of the local public school district.

Following the withdrawal or severance of any non-resident student enrolled on a student visa, it is the responsibility of school administration to notify the appropriate immigration officials according to current immigration law.

Grievance Procedure

If a student and/or parent has an academic complaint, or believes that he or she has been harmed by an inequitable or inappropriate implementation of the academic regulations and procedures of the academy, the following is the grievance procedure, which is in harmony with the council of Jesus in Matthew 18. The student is our prime concern. The following steps are offered with this in mind. It is recommended that the steps be followed in sequence.

1. The parent-teacher conference should be held in order to identify the problem and isolate the facts. The 1st step should resolve the majority of the problems. Parents should not approach teachers during the school day unless prior arrangements have been made.

2. Should concerns remain unsolved at the first meeting, the 2nd step would be a parent-teacher-principal conference, with the problem area stated in written form. Only firsthand information which is current for this year and which directly affects the individuals concern should be considered.
3. Any unresolved problems should be brought before the Board Chairman, where a parent-teacher-principal-board chairman conference will take place with the written stated problem, gathered evidence, documents, etc.
4. If any of the parties involved still feel that the problem is unresolved, they may request that it be brought before the School Board. This is done by requesting that the matter be placed on the agenda for the School Board.

Vandalism

Students will be charged a \$50 fine, plus replacement costs, labor and materials for willful destruction of school or personal property. When it cannot be determined who is responsible for the vandalism, the appropriate class or classes will be charged. This includes vandalism to textbooks, the bus and anything on campus.

Gangs

We live in a world that is becoming more dangerous. As a result, we must do everything we can to ensure the safety of our students. When it comes to gangs, we want the following provisions clearly understood.

- Known gang members will not be enrolled in school.
- Students who regularly associate with known gang members will not be enrolled in school.
- Students who engage in illegal acts of intimidation and violence will be turned over to the local law enforcement agencies for prosecution.

Gum Chewing, Eating in Class & Littering

No gum chewing at any time on campus, school vehicles, field trips or at performances. No eating in class or littering at any time. Let's keep our environment clean!

Cell Phones & Electronic Devices

Electronics cannot be used at school unless permission is granted by a staff member. If a student's electronics are confiscated at the discretion of the teacher, the parent will have to come to school to get it back from the teacher/principal. Should improper use of electronics persist, further disciplinary actions will take effect.

The school is not responsible for any damage to electronic devices brought on campus. At SVJA, we like to promote a stable learning environment. Please do not distract your students' learning by texting them while they are in class. Parents that need to reach their students during school hours should call the school office.

Social Policy

SVJA does not allow public display of affection on campus or school sponsored activities.

Internet/Social Media Policy

Students who participate in online interactions must remember that their posts reflect on the entire institution and, as such, are subject to the same behavioral standards as set forth in the Sierra View Junior Academy Handbook.

- Students may be held accountable for online interactions such as conversations, pictures, video, and any other forms of communication/activity describing or depicting the use of illegal drugs, alcohol, and/or tobacco products.
- As a result, the administration may inform the proper authorities (e.g. Police and F.B.I) and will follow legal precedent.

- These actions are subject to Sierra View Junior Academy's discipline policy, which may include suspension, and/or expulsion.
- Students may not use social media sites to publish remarks or digital pictures/video recordings about SVJA students, community members, academic contest rivals, etc. that are defamatory or harassing or inappropriate..
- Students who choose to post editorial content to websites or other forms of online media must ensure that their submissions/ posts do not violate student handbook policies, including but not limited to profanity, coercion, threats, intimidation, fear, bullying, gang related activities, etc.
- Students are expected to support the positive Christian reputation of SVJA and its mission and our unity statement, "Know Him, Love Him, Share Him." Students who post defamatory remarks about SVJA, its programs, its staff, etc., may face disciplinary action. Students who have legitimate concerns are encouraged to express themselves in the proper manner to the teachers and/or administration.
- Failure to abide by this policy may result in disciplinary action as described in the Student Handbook, or as determined by school administrators and/or the disciplinary committee.
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Cyberbullying

Sierra View Junior Academy believes that all students have the right to a safe and healthy school environment, reinforced by our school mission, "Know Him, Love Him, Share Him." "Bullying" refers to verbal, physical, or mental acts committed by a student to harass, intimidate, or cause harm to another student.

This also includes online interactions between peers. Examples of cyberbullying include, but are not limited to: harmful or malicious text messages or emails, rumors sent by text, email, or posted on social networking sites, and embarrassing pictures, videos, websites, or fake profiles.

- If a student feels that they are being bullied, they should ask the bully to stop the behavior. If it continues, they should report it immediately to a SVJA staff member or administrator. An investigation will take place and the appropriate disciplinary steps will be taken, which include but are not limited to suspension and possible expulsion.
- SVJA Staff and Administration are expected to immediately intervene when bullying occurs or when it is reported.
- Sierra View Junior Academy also reserves the right to amend these policies in our judgment to address issues that may arise, changes in our operation, or the law.
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Sexual Harassment

Sierra View Junior Academy is committed to providing a school environment free from sexual harassment for all students.

Incidents of harassment should be reported in accordance with these procedures so school authorities may take appropriate action. Students who sexually harass others are subject to discipline up to and including expulsion. Employees who engage in sexual harassment are subject to discipline up to and including termination.

Definition: Sexual harassment is defined as unwelcome sexual advances or requests, and other conduct of sexual nature which is offensive. It can be spoken, written, or physical behavior. It includes computers, offensive pictures, graffiti, jokes and gestures. This includes any inappropriate touching.

Sexual harassment occurs when the offensive behavior or material creates a hostile school environment. If a submission to offensive sexual conduct is made as a condition of academic status, progress, benefits, honors, or activities, it is sexual harassment.

Reporting Procedures: Students who have experienced sexual harassment should report the incident to school authorities as soon as possible. If the harassment is between students, report to a staff member. If the harassment comes from an adult, report directly to the principal or administrative assistant.

Drug Policy

The use of illegal drugs, including alcohol and cigarettes, will not be tolerated at Sierra View Junior Academy. SVJA has the option of random drug testing as we feel necessary. Redwood toxicology labs in Santa Rosa, California will be our provider. Students who possess any illegal substances will be turned over to the local law enforcement agencies for prosecution. In addition, students who are caught experimenting with illegal substances will be suspended. This also includes smoking, alcohol, OTC meds and prescription drugs that are not currently being prescribed by a physician. Additional disciplinary action will be handled on an individual basis.

School Vehicle Conduct

Student conduct while in school vehicles is a serious matter. One misbehaving or uncooperative student can jeopardize the safety and welfare of others. The consequences of misbehavior are compounded by the confined space for students inside the bus and by the dangers inherent in driving through traffic. Unacceptable behaviors include, but are not limited to shouting or loud noises, name calling or hand gestures, turning in the seats or standing up or twisting out of the seatbelts. Students must wear their seat belts at all times. **If students do not comply with the rules, they will not be allowed to ride in school provided transportation.**

Please note: Student pickup is within five minutes of van arrival or the student returns to school. Always call the driver right away if you know you will be late. If pick up or drop off times are often .

Playground Safety Rules

For the safety of students, when on campus, the following rules have been put into place:

General:

1. Children should only be in supervised & designated play areas.
2. No food on the playground.
3. No "play" fighting.
4. Balls are not to be thrown/kicked against buildings.
5. Walking only on sidewalks and barked areas.
6. Chase or tag games on grass areas only.
7. No throwing bark/lemons.

Swings:

1. Only sit on your bottom and swing "back and forth " and stay sitting upright.
2. No jumping off or climbing poles.

Play Structure:

1. Slide down only on your bottom, one at a time.
2. No P.E. equipment on play structure.
3. No sitting on top of the structure.

Pets on Campus

No pets or animals on campus during school hours or at any school activities. Service animals are the exception and are permitted.

Administering Medication

Teachers are not to diagnose a health condition or give any internal medications, including aspirin, except as indicated in the following statement: Any student who is required to take medication during the regular school day as prescribed by a physician may be assisted by the school's designated personnel if the school has on file the following:

- A written statement from the physician detailing the time schedules, amount, and method by which such medication is to be taken.
- A written statement from the parent/guardian of the student indicating the desire that the school assist the student in matters set forth in the physician's statement.

Such medication must be delivered to the school in the original container bearing the pharmacy label.

This label is to contain the name and place of business of the seller, the serial number and the date of such prescription, the name of the person for whom such a drug is prescribed the name of the member of the medical profession who prescribed the drug, and must bear directions for use as prescribed by the member of the medical profession.

All medication must be stored safely and securely. All medications should be returned to the parent at the end of each school year. New medication documentation (as stated above) is required for each school year.

Authorized students may need to carry emergency medication e.g. asthma inhalers, insulin, severe allergic reaction kits, or anticonvulsants. Documentation required for students who are allowed to carry and self-administer medication must include the signed consent of the physician, parent and student. The school office shall maintain a list of all students on medication.

Solicitation

We understand that our students are involved in organizations outside of school. The following guidelines need to be followed to solicit teachers and other students for fundraisers that occur for these organizations. Solicitation for personal or family business is not allowed.

Instruction time during school is not to be interrupted, so please only ask before and after school.

The school is willing to put order forms and other items in the office for staff.

Dress Code

Sierra View Junior Academy approaches a student's appearance from a Biblical perspective.

The practical application of these principles in clothing and appearance is intended to de-emphasize the love of self-display and pre-occupation with conformity to changing fads.

While attending Sierra View, students will follow guidelines that have been chosen with the following Biblical principles as a guide:

- Modesty
- Neatness
- Simplicity
- Cleanliness
- Healthfulness
- Attractiveness

The following are the guidelines of what students should wear to school and school sponsored activities/performances. School personnel will make the final decision regarding appropriate school attire. In matters of opinion, the judgment of teachers and administration will prevail. Repeat offenses are considered in-subordination and the student will be subject to disciplinary action.

Shirts/Tops:

- Polo style is required. A sweater covering a t-shirt is not a substitution for a polo style top.
- Solid color or with a geometric pattern.
- Sierra View Junior Academy T-Shirts may be worn on Fridays and should be worn for field trips.

Pants/Jeans/Shorts/Skirts/Skorts:

- Solid color without a pattern.
- Must not be sagging, baggy, too tight, ripped or torn, un-hemmed or have holes.
- If wearing skirts or shorts to class, they should be knee-length.
- No athletic attire may be worn in class including sweat pants, tights, leggings, and athletic shorts/pants except during P.E. class.

Shoes:

- K-6th graders must wear tennis shoes.
- Grades 7-10 must wear closed-toed shoes. No flip-flops, Crocs, open-toes sandals, slippers or slip-ons.
- Tennis shoes are required for P.E. class for grades 7-10.

Outer-Wear:

- Solid color or with a geometric pattern
- No brand logo larger than an adult fist

Hair:

- No unnatural haircuts or colors.
- Must be clean and neatly kept.

7-10 Grade PE Uniforms: shirts and shorts must be purchased through SVJA. We recommend purchasing two sets so there is always a set clean and ready to wear.

- SVJA black shorts (purchased through school)
- SVJA PE shirt (purchased through school)
- Socks and sports tennis shoes
- Black spandex with a minimum of 5 inch inseam to wear under shorts

Accessories:

- Hats, hoods, visors, beanies and sunglasses are not to be worn inside buildings (including the gymnasium).
- No jewelry or unnecessary accessories are allowed; such as items made of rubber, cloth, leather, plastic or metal. Chains on pants shirts or around the neck or limbs are not allowed.

Guidelines for school sponsored activities when school uniform is not required are:

- Midriffs covered at all times.
- Straps must be at least 3 fingers width. No spaghetti straps or strapless attire.
- Modest swimsuits - one piece or tankini. Dark colored t-shirts may be worn over swimsuits.

Consequences: The following consequences will occur if the dress code is not met.

- Notification sent to parents/request to bring change of clothes.
- Student sent to the office to remedy the violation.
- Repeated violations will result in disciplinary action.

Volunteers

We take the safety of our students seriously and want to protect them in any way we can. Any parent or adult that wishes to volunteer on campus or plans to accompany students on a field trip must complete a background check (LiveScan) and take an online mandated reporting course.

Volunteers include drivers or anyone accompanying field trips, lunch helpers, coaches, and any aide. Please contact the school for more information. Allow at least a week for clearance to come through. The school must receive clearance before the adult can volunteer. There is also a Volunteer Handbook that will be given to every volunteer to read.

Drivers: If you are driving students you must complete the necessary driver forms which are available in the school office. This is done on a yearly basis. **Doing these things early in the school year will alleviate any last minute panic.**

Foggy Day Schedule

Due to safety considerations on days when there is intense fog, a "foggy day" schedule might be called by your van driver. School is rarely canceled. SVJA does not always call a foggy day schedule when other schools and/or school districts do.

Parents who feel that the fog makes it unsafe to bring their child to school or to ride school transportation may opt to bring their students when the driver feels it is safe. Call the school and send a note to that effect with your child. The school will excuse tardies for this reason. Information on foggy day schedules will be shared through a parent alert from RenWeb between 6:30-7:00 a.m.

Financial Information

It is the policy of Sierra View Junior Academy to provide a quality Christian education for the lowest possible tuition cost consistent with good business practices. Sierra View Junior Academy operates an effective educational program financed by the monthly tuition fees set by the school board and subsidies from constituent Seventh-day Adventist Churches.

Billing: Sierra View has partnered with FACTS for the processing and collection of our families' tuition and fees. Families will receive an "invite" from FACTS that will get you enrolled into the system.

Tuition Rates (August-May)

Tuition	Constituent Per month x 10	Non Constituent Per month x 10
TK - Kindergarten - Sixth	\$530	\$690
Grades 7-8	\$630	\$820
Grades 9-10	\$770	\$920

Registration Charges (Billed in July)

Application & Registration Fee (includes FACTS fee)	\$250
Textbook/Learning Materials (Gr.TK-6)	\$220
Textbook/Learning Materials (Gr. 7-10)	\$360
Yearbook	\$80
Classroom Supply Fee	\$20

Miscellaneous Charges

Music Uniform Rental (Choir/Band/Handbells)	\$20
Giselle Testing (Kindergarten & New 1st graders)	\$35
8th Graduation Fee (collected 2nd Semester)	\$50

Charges to be Billed Monthly (September-May)

Van Charge (9 months, single rider)	\$150/month
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Past Due Accounts: Any accounts from previous years' expenses at Sierra View Jr. Academy must be paid in full or appropriate financial arrangements made before a student is permitted to enroll for the current school year. Any delinquent account remaining at Sierra View Jr. Academy from siblings who attended must be cleared before another member of the family is admitted as a student.

A late fee of \$40 will be applied to your account if it is not paid in full by the due date each month.

Accounts are considered delinquent when it becomes 60 days past due including, but not limited to tuition, any deferred tuition, fines and special fees. The past due account is considered sufficient cause, until the debt is settled with Sierra View Junior Academy to:

1. Withhold the student from classes, examinations, or any travel involving classes, sports, or school-sponsored activities.
2. Withhold diploma
3. Suspend the student.
4. Report the delinquency to a Credit Bureau /Collection Agency.

Discounts: Cash discounts of two and a half percent (2.5%) will be allowed when a semester's tuition is paid in advance. A five percent (5%) discount will be allowed for a full year's payment in advance.

The annual and first semester payment is due by the first day of school, August 14, 2024. Advanced payment for the second semester is due by January 6, 2025. Family discounts will be given for three or more children from one's immediate family at a fifteen (15%) discount towards the tuition. The account must remain current for family discounts to apply.

Financial Aid: There is financial aid available through the local Seventh-day Adventist Churches. SVJA also has some scholarship funds available. To apply for scholarships, please contact the school office for an application.

Transfer Students: If a student is transferring to Sierra View Junior Academy from another school, their account must be cleared or in satisfactory standing with their former school before they will be admitted to Sierra View Junior Academy.

Faculty / Staff 2025-2026

Carol Bovee	<i>Principal</i>
Jafet Lara	<i>Custodian</i> <i>Maintenance</i>
Amy Evans	<i>Transitional Kindergarten</i> <i>Kindergarten</i>
Lynn Carrillo	<i>Administrative Assistant</i>
Darcel Ioane	<i>Grades 5 & 6</i>
Rico Balugo	<i>Grades 7 & 8</i>
Shirley Verduzco	<i>Grades 1 & 2</i>
Josh Rivas	<i>Grades 9 & 10</i>
Mirta Robles	<i>Music</i>
David Ruff	<i>Biology/Algebra</i>
Martha Ruggles	<i>Grades 3 & 4</i>

Board of Directors

Chairman	Jonathan Kurts
Vice Chairman	Todd Wesslen
Finance Chairman	Daniel Evans
Secretary	Carol Bovee
Parliamentarian	Traci Follett

Home and School Leaders

Katherine Munsch & Sheby Thomas

Constituent Pastors

Exeter Church	TBA
Lindsay Church	Rob Wilcox
Lindsay Hispanic	Dneiper Vega
Porterville Church	Rob Wilcox
Porterville Hispanic	Dneiper Vega
Tulare & Tulare Mission	Dneiper Vega
Visalia Church	Gary Brady
	Stephanie Elick,
	Barbra Tabura
Visalia Central	Erik Jimenez

School Calendar 2025-2026

*Monthly calendars are sent home monthly and weekly notes
are sent home every Monday.*

The calendar is also posted on the school's website.

1st QUARTER

August 11	Kindergarten Orientation 4-7pm
August 13	First Day of School
August 14	Gr 1-10 Orientation 6-7:30pm
August 25	School Board Meeting 7pm
August 27-29 (?)	Gr. 7-10 Outdoor Education
August 31	JV F'ball Tourn. CVCA
September 1	No School - Labor Day
September 15-19	MAP Testing K-10
September 19	K-10 Family Vespers 7pm
September 22	Picture Day
September 22	School Board Meeting 7pm
September 24	Minimum Day
September 25-27	Leadership Camp Leoni Meadows
September 28	Elem. F'ball Tourn. CVCA
October 10	End of 1st Quarter

2nd QUARTER

October 13	No School - Columbus Day
October 15	Minimum Day - Parent/Teacher Conf.
October 16	No School - Parent/Teacher Conf.
October 18	Choir/Bells at a Church
October 24-26	JV V'ball Tourn. MBA
October 27	School Board Meeting 7pm
October 27-31	Week of Prayer
November 6	Minimum Day
November 6	Fall Festival (evening)
November 7-9	JV V'ball Tourn. CVCA
November 15	Choir/Bells at a Church
November 24-28	Thanksgiving Break
December 4	Bells DownTown Exeter
December 11	Christmas Concert 6:30pm
December 19	End of 2nd Quarter
December 22-January 5	Christmas Break

3rd QUARTER

January 6	Classes Resume
January 12-16	Week of Prayer
January 19	No School - MLKing Day
January 24	Choir/Bells at a Church
January 26-30	MAP Testing K-10
January 26	School Board Meeting 7pm
February 1	Elem. B'ball Tourn. Miramonte
February 5-6	Handbell Festival
February 8	JV B'ball Tourn. CVCA
February 11	Minimum Day
February 13-15	JV B'ball Tourn. FAA
February 16	No School- Presidents Day
February 21	Choir/Bells at a Church
February 22	Elem. B'ball Tourn. CVCA
February 23	School Board Meeting 7pm
February 28	Celebration Sabbath
March 12	Gr. 1-4 Zoo Trip
March 12-14	Music Festival MBA
March 13	End of 3rd Quarter

4th QUARTER

March 18	Minimum Day-Parent/Teacher Conf.
March 19	Minimum Day
March 19	Open House/PreRegistration
March 23-27	Spring Break
March 30	School Board Meeting 7pm
April 1-3	8th Class Trip
April 1-3	9-10th Catalina/Biology Trip
April 11	Choir/Bells at a Church
April 12	JV Softball Tourn. CVCA
April 12	Elem. Soccer Tourn. CVCA
April 20	No School
April 27	Constituency Meeting 7pm
May 1	Step Up Day 8:00-10:30am
May 4-8	MAP Testing K-10

May 14	Spring Concert 6:30pm
May 18	School Board Meeting 7pm
May 21	Piano Recital
May 22	K-10 Picnic Day
May 23	No School - Memorial Day
May 27	Minimum Day
May 28	Minimum Day
May 28	End of 4th Quarter
May 28	8th Graduation 7pm