

Dear Vernonia School District Families,

As a community, I know we value trust, responsibility, and looking out for one another. With that in mind, I am writing to inform you that Vernonia High School will "Officially" operate as an open campus for juniors and seniors who meet established eligibility requirements.

Our students are visible members of the community, and any of our juniors and seniors work, help on family properties, support younger siblings, and represent our town through athletics and activities. Open campus is designed to reflect that level of maturity, giving students the opportunity to practice independence and responsible decision-making in a structured and safe way.

### **Purpose**

Eligible 11th and 12th-grade students may leave campus during the designated lunch period. Open campus is a privilege, not a right, and may be revoked if expectations are not met.

### **Eligibility Requirements**

To participate, students must meet all of the following:

#### **Academic Good Standing**

- Not failing more than one course at any given time.
- Making satisfactory progress toward the 24 credits required for an Oregon Diploma.

Satisfactory progress means earning credits at a pace that keeps a student on track for graduation. Most students earn approximately 6–7 credits per year. A student significantly behind their cohort in credit accumulation may not be considered in good standing.

#### **Behavioral Good Standing**

- No out-of-school suspensions for major violations (including fighting, harassment of any form, substance use, or unsafe behavior).
- No ongoing or repeated discipline referrals resulting in in-school suspension.

#### **Attendance Good Standing**

- No pattern of unexcused absences.
- No excessive tardies.
- No pattern of skipping classes.

#### **Required Documentation**

- Completed and signed open campus permission forms must be on file.

- Students must follow all Oregon Driver License laws, including Provisional License requirements for those under 18.

### **Expectations While on Open Campus**

Students must:

- Leave and return only during the designated lunch period.
- Return to campus on time.
- Follow all school and district expectations while off campus.
- Conduct themselves in a way that reflects positively on Vernonia High School and our community.

Students who do not meet these expectations may have their open campus privileges revoked. The length of revocation will be determined by the High School Principal or Dean of Students. Reinstatement may require a review of academic, behavioral, attendance standing, or parent meeting.

Our intent is to provide opportunities for our juniors and seniors while maintaining a safe, structured learning environment for all students. In a community like ours, partnership between school and family matters. We appreciate your support as we work together to build responsibility, independence, and pride in being a Vernonia student.

If you have questions regarding eligibility or procedures, please contact Vernonia High School administration.

Jim Helmen  
Superintendent  
Vernonia School District