

Student Handbook 2026-2027

Nevada Christian School

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Nevada, Iowa 50201-2534

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nevadaiasdaschool.org

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2025-2026 Staff and School Board

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Mission Statement

The Nevada Christian School exists to provide an educational environment intended to nurture the whole student, by harmoniously developing the mental, physical, social, and spiritual aspects of life.

Vision Statement

The Nevada Christian School endeavors to train students to become life-long learners who strive for academic excellence, develop a personal relationship with Christ, and desire to serve God both here on earth and throughout eternity.

Objectives

Our teachers strive to create a climate for learning which is loving yet firm, accepting yet challenging. They view each child as special, giving individual attention to their unique needs, helping them to learn to be responsible for their own actions and government. The teachers will strive to help the student develop a high degree of academic achievement and a personal relationship with God to prepare them for a life of service.

Accreditation

The Nevada Christian School and its teachers are accredited by the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists.

Nevada Christian School is accredited by the Middle States Association of Colleges and Schools Commissions on Elementary and Secondary Schools.

The State of Iowa allows the Nevada Christian School to operate under Iowa's Competent Private Instruction law. Parents of children who are being educated according to this law are required to file a Competent Private Instruction (CPI) form in duplicate with the school district in which they live for each child who is 6 years old or older on or before September 15th of that school year. A new CPI form is produced by the Iowa Department of Education at the beginning of each school year. It can be obtained by contacting the local school district, or by downloading one from the Iowa Department of Education's website:

<http://www.state.ia.us/educate/ecese/asis/cpi/index.html>

Admission

Minimum Age to be admitted:

4^k students must be at least 4 years of age on or before September 1st of the upcoming school year.

Kindergarten students must be at least 5 years of age on or before September 15th of the upcoming school year.

1st Grade students must be at least 6 years of age on or before September 15th of the upcoming school year.

Application Parents who wish to enroll their children in the Nevada Christian School for the 2026/2027 school year need to fill out the registration application form and apply for Iowa's 2026-27 Students First ESA for accredited nonpublic school by June 30, 2026. All applicants will be considered based on these factors: 1) previous enrollment; 2) longevity of enrollment; 3) order in which pre-registration forms are received and ESA funds applied.

Agreement By registering, the student(s), parent(s), and/or guardian(s) agree to abide by the judgment of the board as it applies to standards of dress and conduct. Registration implies an obligation to meet on time the financial responsibilities that accrue out of tuition, fees, or other applicable charges approved by the school board.

Non-Discrimination Policy The Nevada Christian School admits students of any race, color, gender, national or ethnic origin to all the rights, privileges, programs, and activities generally accorded or made available to students at the school. It does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, gender, national or ethnic origin in the administration of its educational policies, financial policies, extra-curricular or other school administered programs.

Medical

Physical Examinations All new students must have a physical examination before being admitted to the school and forms signed by a doctor need to be on file at the school.

Immunizations Immunizations are required of all students before enrolling in school according to Iowa state law, unless you have an exemption form on file at the school. Immunization records are filed by a Story County health nurse.

Medications We abide by the State of Iowa regulations regarding medications on school premises. Prescription medication must come to school in a container labeled by the pharmacy. Over the counter medications must be in original containers with a written note about the dosage instructions and last time the medication was given. All medications brought to school must be presented to the teacher and the teacher is permitted to dispense the medication according to applicable Iowa law and the instructions on the label.

Emergencies In case of serious emergency, such as injury, accident or sickness, the school will attempt to contact the student's parents or guardian. If these individuals cannot be reached and, in the judgment of the teacher, immediate medical attention is required, the teacher will summon or take the student to receive medical aid.

Student Accident Insurance The school provides limited accident insurance for each student. The insurance covers accidents resulting while students are participating in regular school activities or while in transit to or from school-sponsored activities.

Insurance coverage on the school premises begins fifteen minutes before classes begin and ends fifteen minutes after classes are dismissed.

Attendance

School Hours:

K-2nd grades 8:00am – 1:00/4:00pm Monday →Thursday

3rd - 8th grades 8:00am – 4:00pm Monday →Thursday

***Kindergarten students may be picked up after their class time.**

Attendance/Tardiness Policy Students should arrive and leave within 15 minutes of the scheduled school hours. Please contact the teacher immediately if a problem arises. Students are considered tardy who arrive after 8am. If a student accumulates 5 unexcused tardies in a quarter, a parent/guardian is required to meet with the school board. If a student accumulates 10 tardies within a quarter, the prosecuting County Attorney will be contacted about the truancy issue.

Students are considered absent if not here on the appropriate days. In the case of absence, written or verbal notification by a parent or guardian is required to

excuse the student's absence. By law, students registered at Nevada SDA School are required to attend a minimum of 37 days per quarter. If any student does not meet these attendance requirements, the school is obligated to contact the prosecuting County Attorney regarding the truancy issue.

If students are absent three or more days due to health issues supporting documentation, such as a doctor's note, positive covid test, etc. may be requested by the principal.

It is desirable for students to keep up with their school work. Therefore, when a student is gone over an extended period of time, their school work is to be completed before they leave or handed in upon their return.

Locked Door For security reasons all doors will be locked during school hours. There are cameras monitoring all activities outside of the building.

Unscheduled School Closings We will follow Nevada Public Schools winter weather closings and delays including: late starts, early dismissals, and cancelations, due to snowy or icy weather, not cold weather. However, no family should feel the burden to put themselves or their children at risk when the weather is bad even if school is held as scheduled. Therefore, weather related tardies or absences will be excused.

Field Trips Off-campus educational activities are sometimes planned as part of the school program. Written permission will be required for each trip the student takes. All school and classroom rules are in force during any off-campus experience. In addition, rules and regulations specific to the event or activity may be required. Parents are welcome to accompany the students on field trips. Field trips are covered by the fee set at the beginning of the school year.

Finances

Registration Fees & Tuition for the 2026-2027 school year

The registration fee is required for each student to cover the costs of textbooks and supplies and is due at the time of registration. The registration fee for the 2026-2027 school year:

\$300 per student, per year

Arrangements may be made to pay the registration fee on a quarterly or monthly basis as part of a signed financial agreement subject to approval by the school board.

Monthly tuition rates are as follows (based on a 10-month year):

Full-Time Students \$775/month.

Part-Time Students

(Students participating in elective classes or a half-day academic program)

- **\$50/month per class**
- **\$30 insurance fee** (due at registration)
- Part-time students may attend **one-half day each school day**, either **morning or afternoon**.
- Part-time enrollment must be for **every school day of the week**; students may not attend only selected days of the week.
- **ESA Funds:** To participate in the academic program using ESA funds, a student must be enrolled and present for **at least 75% of the school's academic calendar**. Students enrolled for less than 75% of the academic calendar are considered part-time students and are responsible for the applicable tuition and fees.

Students starting after the school year begins will be charged the full registration fee and pro rata (per month, not day) tuition for the remainder of the school year.

Methods of Payment For families not participating in Iowa's Student First ESA Accounts payments may be arranged on a 10-month schedule, August-May. Tuition is due by the 20th of the month. All checks or money orders should be made payable to: Nevada Christian School. Payments may be mailed to the treasurer, the church office, or given to the principal.

Delinquent Accounts It is the parent's responsibility to pay the student's tuition by the 20th of each month. Notices will be mailed on unpaid accounts. A student's acceptance for the following semester is contingent on the account being paid in full or having a signed agreement with the school treasurer.

Financial Assistance It is understandable that on occasion there are circumstances beyond an individual's control which make it very difficult to meet the tuition obligation on time. If there is a problem with finances, please do not wait until it becomes a big problem. Contact the school board chairperson or the treasurer immediately so a plan can be worked out to solve the problem. Each family will

be required to pay a minimum of \$50 toward their bill each month. It is the goal of the school to admit any student who wants to attend, regardless of financial resources.

Discount A 2% discount will be given if the **FULL** tuition is paid in full by August 1st.

General Policies

School Board The school board Chairman and Treasurer is appointed by the Nevada Seventh-day Adventist Church Board. The school board is advised by the Superintendent of Education of the Iowa-Missouri Conference in planning and operating the school program.

School board meetings are normally open meetings and parents, church members, or other interested persons are welcome to attend.

When sensitive or personal items are discussed, attendance may be restricted to members only.

Any person who desires that the committee discuss a certain topic should contact the committee chairperson or principal to have the item put on the agenda for the meeting.

Internet/Computer Use The Nevada Christian School is pleased to offer students access to the school's information technology resources, including the computer and Internet, for educational purposes. To gain access to these resources, the parent/guardian and student must sign and return the technology use form at registration.

Lunches Students will bring their lunch to school each day. Parents are requested to send vegetarian lunches however Biblically clean meats are allowed. A microwave is available for warming food. Students are NOT allowed to bring any **caffeinated beverages** to school. If it is found it will be confiscated and will not be returned.

Sex Education Sex education will be taught to the 5th, 6th, 7th and 8th graders. It will be age and gender appropriate. A letter will be sent home with the curriculum for parental review before the class is taught.

School Telephone Every telephone call to the school during the school day constitutes an interruption in the school program, so parents are encouraged to call the school only for emergencies.

Student Telephones

All cell phones/watches with the ability to call must be given to the teacher at the beginning of the day and will be returned at school dismissal.

If a student is found with a cell phone/cell watch without the teacher's permission, the teacher will confiscate the cell phone/cell watch and it will ONLY be returned to the student's PARENT.

Visitors To protect the safety of our students and maintain an environment focused on learning, visits to the school during the instructional day are discouraged. Visitors can cause disruptions and distractions that interfere with student academics.

All visitors must receive prior approval from the principal before coming to the school during the school day. Parents and guardians who wish to visit should make arrangements with the school in advance and follow all visitor and safety procedures.

Discipline Policy

The classroom teacher is the authority in the classroom and is responsible for determining appropriate discipline for student misbehavior. For more serious or ongoing discipline issues, a discipline committee consisting of the school board chair, teacher, principal, and pastor may meet to determine appropriate action and support a resolution.

Student Behavior Policy

The Nevada Christian School has a hands-off policy at our school when it comes to hitting and kicking. As a CHRISTIAN school we want our students to live wholesome lives.

The use of profane/lewd language or actions, including the possession of suggestive material will not be tolerated.

We also want to display Christian courtesy to others including **abstaining** from bullying, ridiculing or disgracing others.

If any of these are violated the following actions will take place:

1st offense: The parents will be called and are to pick up their child immediately.

2nd offense: The parents will be called and are to pick up their child immediately. The parents, child, school board chairman and teacher will meet to resolve the conflict.

3rd offense: The parents will be called and are to pick up their child immediately. The discipline committee will meet and determine whether to suspend or expel the child.

Student Appearance

Appearance not only reflects how we present ourselves, but it can also affect how we feel and how we interact with others. Because the school environment is focused on learning, clothing and personal appearance should not distract students or others from the educational process.

Each student should have a neat, clean, modest, simple, and appropriate appearance that is in good taste and fitting for the occasion. Clothing, hairstyles, and accessories should support a safe and respectful learning environment rather than draw undue attention.

Questions regarding specific articles of clothing or appearance will be addressed by the principal or teacher. Recurring concerns will be addressed by the teacher, parent, and school board.

- No inappropriate pictures or writing will be allowed i.e. violence, lewd comments, non-Christian like pictures or words.
- Modest clothing does not include low necklines in front or back, spaghetti-strap shirts or blouses, bare midriffs or sheer materials.
- During hot weather at the beginning and end of the school year, modest length shorts, below the fingertips, are permitted.

Student Responsibilities

- Protect and care for the property of the school, themselves, and others. Damages will be charged accordingly. The student shall immediately report any damages or misuse to the teacher, whether it is accidental or intentional.
- Show respect for others and abstain from bullying, ridiculing or disgracing others.
- Refrain from using tobacco, alcohol and illegal drugs of any kind. Students who fail to abide by this rule will be expelled.
- Practice clean and respectful communication without slang, profane, vulgar or immoral speech.
- Learn and play safely, being careful not to harm others or oneself.
- Help maintain a desirable learning atmosphere in school by not bringing electronic devices, or skateboards, unless permission is obtained in advance from the teacher.
- Display Christian courtesy. Cheating and stealing will not be tolerated.

Parent/Guardian Responsibilities

The success of **students** and the school depends largely upon the full cooperation between parents and teachers. It sometimes happens that students make complaints to their parents concerning school matters, especially when measures of discipline are involved. In such cases, parents are urged to withhold judgment until the teacher is contacted and an investigation of the matter is made. Following this plan can prevent unhappy consequences and misunderstandings.

Parents should discuss school policies, problems, or complaints with the teacher rather than with other parents or members of the community. A parent who has a question regarding something at school should contact the teacher to set up a meeting. No texts or emails will be accepted to resolve issues. Parents can arrange to meet with the teacher from 4:15-5:00 PM Monday-Thursday. If the issue is still not resolved it should be taken to the school board.

Education and **student success** is enhanced when parents are involved in the process by encouraging the students and by helping with homework and other learning projects.

Parent/Teacher Conferences

Conferences are scheduled for the parents to meet with the teacher following some grading terms. Good communication between parents and teachers is essential to meet the developmental needs of the students. Parents may contact the teachers to schedule a conference any time they feel the need to discuss the student's progress.

School Volunteers

Volunteers are greatly appreciated and are an important part of our school community. Because the safety and protection of our students is our highest priority, all volunteers are required to complete the school's volunteer screening requirements before volunteering.

Anyone with regular contact with students must complete the required online training through Sterling Volunteers at

<https://www.ncsrisk.org/adventist/index.cfm>

and have a background check completed. Background checks must be completed within the last three years through the Iowa-Missouri Conference office or Sterling Volunteers.

Completion of both the Sterling Volunteers training and required background check is mandatory. No volunteer may work with students until all requirements have been completed and approved.

Volunteers who drive students for field trips or other school activities must also have a valid driver's license and proof of current automobile insurance on file with the school.

Facility – Asbestos Notice

This section of the handbook is the legal annual notification as required by law that our school building does contain asbestos.

Government licensed professionals have examined the affected areas and these areas are being monitored carefully to see that the asbestos does not deteriorate and does not become airborne.

You are welcome to examine the inspection results and our management plan.

Statement on Human Sexuality and Identity

Nevada Christian School is a kindergarten to 8th grade educational institution that is owned and operated by the Iowa-Missouri Conference of Seventh-day Adventists, which is a part of the worldwide Seventh-day Adventist Church. As such, we adhere to the teachings of the Seventh-day Adventist Church and its interpretation and understanding of the scriptures. Therefore, we strive to conduct educational ministry within the world, maintaining our commitment to God as our Creator and Savior, and to fulfill the gospel commission of sharing Jesus Christ and His love with the world. With this foundation, we offer the following:

First, as a Seventh-day Adventist educational institution we neither condone nor promote any behavior outside of the Adventist biblical beliefs. Nevada Christian School's policy on human sexuality and identity are based on the North American Division Statement on Human Sexuality. This statement is based on Seventh-day Adventist understanding of scripture.

Second, our teachings on human sexuality and identity throughout the curriculum are aligned with Seventh-day Adventist biblical beliefs.

As a part of our commitment to Seventh-day Adventist education we have adopted the following guidelines to assist our students, parents, staff, and all other stakeholders:

1. Physical contact between students that would normally be viewed as overly affectionate in nature is not allowed.
2. Students will neither promote nor advocate a lifestyle while enrolled in Nevada Christian School that is not in accordance with the Seventh Day Adventist church's beliefs. (See NAD Statements on Human Sexuality p. 3)
3. Students' birth gender must be stated on their school application.

Nevada Christian School is called to love all people. In this sin-filled world, our goal is to create an environment where all people love and respect each other.

"Therefore, as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience. Bear with each other and forgive one another if any of you has a grievance against someone. Forgive as the Lord forgave you. And over all these virtues put on love, which binds them all together in perfect unity." Colossian 3:12-14



2026-2027 Calendar
Seek First
Journey with Purpose

August 24	First Day of Classes
Sept 7	Labor Day - No School
Sept 11	Friday School (2:00 dismissal)
Sept 14-17	Outdoor School (grades 5-6)
Sept 14-25	MAP Testing
Oct 1	Early Dismissal For Professional Development (3:00)
Oct 11	Fall Festival (12:00-3:00)
Oct 16	End of 1st Quarter
Oct 19	Begin 2nd Quarter
Oct 23	Parent/Teacher Conferences
Nov 25-29	Thanksgiving Break - No School
Dec 17	Early Dismissal for Christmas Program (2:00)
Dec 18	End of 2nd Quarter
Dec 21-Jan 3	Christmas Break
Jan 4	Classes Begin for 2nd Semester
Jan 18-Jan 29	MAP Testing
Jan 30	Education Sabbath
Feb 15	Presidents' Day - No School
Feb 19	Friday School (2:00 dismissal)
Feb 25	Early Dismissal for Professional Development (3:00)
Mar 12	End of 3rd Quarter
Mar 15-19	Spring Break
Mar 22	Begin 4th Quarter
Mar 24-26	Bible Camp (grades 7-8)
Apr 8-10	Music Festival (grades 5-8)
Apr 12-23	MAP Testing
Apr 30	Parent/Teacher Conferences
May 7	Field Day/Friday School (2:00 dismissal)
May 18-19	State Testing (grades 3-8)
May 27	Last Day of School