EXCEPTATIONS FOR DAY STUDENTS

TRANSPORTATION: Cars or other motorized vehicles may be used only to provide transportation to and from campus. Cars may not be driven on campus during the school day from 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. The expectation is that the car goes directly to the parking lot. During the day, all vehicles must be parked in the designated parking area for day students adjacent to the maintenance building area and beside the security building or in the large parking lot at the north end of the field house and may not be used to go from one building to another. Such vehicles must be registered with the campus Security office and display the appropriate window sticker. Failure to register a vehicle routinely parked on campus may be grounds for suspension of driving privileges.

Day students may not have boarding students ride with them at any time without special permission from the Dean and should never provide their automobile to a boarding student. If these expectations are not met, all students involved (both day and boarding) will be referred to the Conduct Review Committee for unauthorized use of a motor vehicle and risk losing their place in the school. The day student involved in such breach of trust will forfeit his or her privilege of having an automobile at school in the future. These restrictions are applicable on weekends as well as on school days.

DORM ASSOCIATION: Each day student is assigned to one of the seven dormitories. Likewise day students’ advisers either live in or are associated with the dormitory to which the day student is assigned. Day students have a locker in that dormitory to store belongings. Additionally, day students should store athletic gear and equipment in the gymnasium lockers. Day students are encouraged to use the common areas of the dormitory to study and relax.

FREE PERIODS: During free periods in the academic day, day students may go into town but may not drive their cars to do so. Day students are urged to use free periods to study in the library or in the dormitories to which they have been assigned as advisees.

MEALS: Lunch is required Monday through Friday. However, cuts may be taken as stated in the Blue Book. The Head of the Dining Hall should be informed in advance of a lunch cut by sending a request to the Meal Cuts conference. Day students are invited to attend dinner at no extra charge on days when they are involved in activities late in the afternoon or following dinner. Day students on campus during the evening meal should be in the Dining Hall at their assigned table.

EVENING ACTIVITIES: After 8:00 p.m. Sunday through Thursdays, day students in 9th and 10th grades should not be on campus unless they have to attend a school function, have a specific required appointment with a specific adult in charge of that activity, or have a specific assignment to be completed on campus. In any case special permission from the teacher is required. In the evening, cars of day students may be parked near the building where the scheduled activity is taking place (e.g. the Chapel, the gymnasium, the library). At the conclusion of any activity of this kind, all day students are expected to leave campus.

WEEKENDS: On Friday evenings, Saturdays and Sundays day students are welcome on campus for extracurricular activities, interscholastic athletics and entertainment. While on campus, they may take meals in the dining hall. On Fridays and Saturdays they must leave the campus no later than 11:00 p.m. when boarding students are required to return to their dormitories for the night.

OVERNIGHT: When day students stay overnight in a dormitory, they will be governed by all the rules which apply to boarders. In addition, on occasions when extracurricular participation by a student extends into the late evening hours or begins in the early morning, dormitory accommodations may be provided for your son or daughter without charge. This invitation may be extended also at times when weather or unforeseen circumstances produce an emergency. On such occasions day students will be most welcome to spend nights in a campus dormitory. Arrangements should be made through the Office of Student Life or directly with the dormitory dean involved. When a day student wishes to spend a night in the dormitory purely for the student’s personal convenience or that of his or her parents, the student will be charged. The rate will be $25.00 per night.
ILLNESS: When a day student is ill at home, a parent should notify the Health Center before 8:50 a.m. by phoning 717-328-6136. In case of illness during the day, the student should go to the Health Center to be excused from further classes before going home. A student who has been absent from school because of illness should report to the Health Center before returning.

ABSENCE FOR REASONS OTHER THAN ILLNESS: Except in most unusual circumstances, the Academy does not condone absence for reasons other than illness. When circumstances requiring absence do occur, it will be necessary for parents to contact the Office of Student Life, either by mail or by telephone, stating the reason for the requested absence. Whenever possible, requests for special absence should reach the Office of Student Life at least a week in advance of the date on which the absence is expected to occur. Notification of emergency absence, resulting from weather conditions or transportation problems, should be made by telephone to the Office of Student Life as soon as the emergency arises.

MAILBOX: Each day student will be given a mailbox in the student lounge and an email account. Both mailboxes should be checked daily for messages.

SPECIAL EVENTS AND PROGRAMS: Special events, such as occasional evening lectures or programs, appear in the monthly calendar of events which is available on the website at www.mercersburg.edu. These activities are scheduled for all members of the school community oftentimes in the evening. Day students should plan ahead for those required programs. In addition, juniors (ninth graders) are expected to be on campus from 7:00-8:00 p.m. most Thursdays throughout the Fall and Winter terms to participate in the Peer Group programs. Absences will be excused for emergencies only.

USE OF TOBACCO: Boarding students at Mercersburg are not permitted to smoke, use or possess tobacco in any form and face disciplinary action if they do so. Thus, day students as well must abide by this regulation when on campus or in the town of Mercersburg, or in the company of Mercersburg students at any school associated event on or off campus. Naturally, day students should not smoke, use, or possess tobacco in their vehicles anywhere on campus, including the day student parking lot.