**Corrales International School: House System**

Students attending Corrales International School are assigned to one of six Houses in the CIS House System. The CIS House system is designed to connect students within and across K-12 grade levels. Houses offer students, parents, and teachers the opportunity to work together. Teachers, parents, and students work together in their respective House assignments to establish connections that transcend grade levels and provide students leadership opportunities. Houses will participate in school wide activities that engage students in meaningful, positive relationships, and build a sense of community.

Through the House activities, students are provided opportunities for growth through leadership, mentoring, competition, and social interaction.  The House structure strengthens friendships among students and provides a platform for a more fun and enriching school environment.  Although competitive in nature, the House System builds team spirit and common bonds between the students.  There are many opportunities for students to build one another up with encouragement as they achieve points together. Students learn to support one another and to lend help when someone on their team is struggling, no matter their age or ability level.

In short, the House System is intended to:

* Develop a sense of belonging & community
* Develop leadership skills and character through participation & involvement
* Encourage academic achievement and daily attendance.

**HOW WILL THE HOUSE SYSTEM WORK?**

**STUDENT ASSIGNMENT**

The majority of the students in grades 7-12 are assigned randomly. Students in grades K-6 are assigned based first on legacy status. Legacy status means that students are assigned to the same House as their older siblings. Legacy status facilitates parent participation in just one House. Students without older siblings are assigned randomly. Approximately 40 to 45 students will be assigned to each House.

**COMMUNICATION**

A House assembly is held for all students each week. A number of House Days are scheduled throughout the year to facilitate House competitions, events and activities. During House Days, students report to their House classrooms instead of their grade level classrooms.

**Parent Role:** Participate in all House meetings and take on leadership role in leading events, activities and competitions. Volunteer to lead our students! Read the weekly newsletter and check the CIS calendar on our cis.org website. Stay connected!

**Teacher Role:** Faculty will meet on a weekly basis to discuss instruction, student needs, and assessment to ensure students are reaching their academic goals. A student improvement plan will be developed for every student not achieving at grade level or whose behavior is affecting learning and the learning of others.

**ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE**

Each House is led and managed by a Head of House supported by House Captains. The House Captains are responsible for organizing community service opportunities, social events, and fund raising activities for the House.

**Head of House (parent) -** presides at House meetings and reports directly to the School Advisory Committee. This individual is a voting member of the SAC. Also collaborates with Activities Captain to organize events and ensure House member participation.

**Assistant Captain (parent/faculty)** - presides at the meetings in the absence of the head of House and ensures that all committees are working together. Also collaborates with Activities Captain to organize events and ensure House member participation.

**Activities Captain** (student and parent) – Is responsible for organizing all events (including forming committees) to ensure participation and success.

**House Historian** (student and parent) - performs the function of a secretary, keeping minutes of all House meetings and is familiar with all the basic House procedures and keeps a record of all the important activities of the House.

**House Treasurer (parent) -** is responsible for the safekeeping of any House funds. All House funds must be reported and delivered to CIS Business Manager within 24 hours of fundraising. This person also keeps and protects all House “relics”: any items such as banners, trophy, crests, gavels, etc.

**House Monitors** (1 parent and 1 faculty) – These individuals establish a phone tree among the House families and ensure that information is shared accurately. A log is also maintained to monitor parent and student participation in House activities.

House Leadership also encourages House representation at athletic and fine arts events. Each House is assigned on a rotating basis the responsibility of organizing, overseeing, and hosting one of the following activities: Harvest Dance (October/November), Thanksgiving Luncheon, Winter Ball (January), Sweet Heart Dance (February), Spring Fling Dance (April), PROM (May for 10th – 12th graders) and one guest speaker for the monthly school assembly.

**POINT SYSTEM**

Students who actively participate and contribute to the success of their House win House points and rewards. The winning House at the end of each grading period earns a field trip and the overall winner receives the School House trophy, engraved with the House name, as well as individual certificates for students in various categories in each House.

Throughout the school year a running total of the House points will be displayed on the bulletin board in main hallway. Once earned, points will not be deducted. Students who are dismissed from an activity/sport for poor behavior cannot receive points from that activity for their House.

Points can be awarded for participation, excellence, good sportsmanship, service, acts of kindness, creativity, leadership, accuracy, speed, and many other student goals.

House points toward earning the School House trophy will accumulate from the following activities/behaviors:

**House Point Value System**

Academics

* Overall grade point average of all students in House
  + A=4.0, B=3.0, C=2.0, D=1.0
* Honors 5 points per grading period for each student with a grade point average of a 3.0
* High Honors 10 points per grading period for each student with a grade point average of a 4.0 or higher.
* Physical Education Student of the Month (awarded to one student per/month) 5 points

Attendance

* 98% overall attendance
* 10 points per grading period for each student with no absences or tardies or early dismissals
* 5 points per term for students absent no more than 2 times per grading period and has no unexcused tardies or early dismissals

**COMMUNITY SERVICE:** plan and strategize inventive new ways to work as a team to impact our local and global community

### Get involved. Go to <http://www.gysd.org/causes>

### Global Youth Service Day and choose two projects for the year.

### [Health](http://www.gysd.org/health)

### [heart_icon.jpg](http://www.gysd.org/health) [Environmentplant_icon.jpg](http://www.gysd.org/environment) [Community Buildinghouse_icon.jpg](http://www.gysd.org/community_building) [Hungerfood_icon.jpg](http://www.gysd.org/hunger)

### [Educationread_icon.jpg](http://www.gysd.org/education) [Human Rights](http://www.gysd.org/humanrights) [world_icon.jpg](http://www.gysd.org/humanrights)

### 20 points per project with presentation

### 5 points per audience member during presentation

“Caught Doing Good” Points 2 points each throughout the school year

**TUTORING PROJECT**

All students are encouraged to stay for tutoring if they are not understanding class work. All teachers are required to tutor their students at least one day per week. In addition, students within Houses can mentor and tutor each other. Our MYP students are encouraged to set up tutoring sessions with other students to tutor and mentor them in their academics.

5 points per student each time he or she attends tutoring with teacher or student mentor

10 points per student for providing academic mentoring and tutoring (faculty sponsor required)

**OUR BUILDING FUNDRAISER**

Each house will be responsible for organizing at least one fundraiser to contribute to the purchase of our building.

200 points to the House that raises the most funds

100 points to the House that has the most participation from our community

75 points to the House that has the most participation within their House

50 points for the House that has the most innovative fundraiser

**TALENT SHOW**

Students, Parents, and Faculty we know you are talented. Houses plan on competing in our talent competition where you can sing, recite, act, play an instrument, magic trick. Participate and earn 5 points for your house. Points will be awarded for:

5 points per participant

5 points for every audience member your House brings in

100 points for the House of the 1st Place Winner

50 points for the House of the 1st Place Winner

25 points for the House of the 1st Place Winner

**FAMILY FIELD DAY**

Parents, students, and faculty participate in an annual family field day.  Parents students and all family members that can attend participate in athletic competitions including a 50 yard dash, 3-legged race, tug-of-war, sack race, football throw, javelin throw (swimming pool noodle), basketball shoot, stepping stones (where students are paired up and use carpet squares as stepping stones go the length of the race), relay races, egg and spoon races and pie eating contest! House points are awarded to the winning teams for all track and field events.

Earn points by showing:

Full participation: 2 points per participant

Good sportsmanship: 2 points per participant

First Place House 100 points

Second Place House 75 points

Third Place House 50 points

Fourth Place House 25 points

**ATTENDANCE AT SCHOOL EVENTS 5 PTS PER FAMILY:**

Meet and Greet

Meet the Teacher

International Day

IB Parent Nights

PTA Meetings

Science Night

Science Fair

Math. Night

Literacy Night (Meet the Author)

6th Grade Exhibition Project Presentation

10th Grade Personal Project Presentation

**EXTRA‐CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES:**

5 points per student participation in sports team (per team)

5 points per student participation in after school clubs (per semester)

**HOUSE/ GRADE LEVEL EVENTS:**

Planning Committee 5 points per event

Working Sunday Brunch 5 points per brunch

Attendance at a House Event 5 points per event

Fundraising Activities 5 points per event

WHERE DO YOU BEGIN?

1. Attend the scheduled House meeting your family is assigned to.
2. Volunteer
3. Vote for your House Leadership Team
4. Work with the team to develop a logo using the CIS APPLE or Panther to create your House Shirt.
5. Work with the team to develop a Banner for your House to be displayed in the Multi-Purpose Room (MPR) the entire year. Note that the House with the Most Points every week will be hung in a place of Honor in the Middle of the MPR.

Please keep in mind that the House system is for all of us to build a sense of community. It gives us all of us an opportunity to take leadership roles in moving our school forward in our journey to a better education for our students.