

CODE OF CONDUCT**PROHIBITED STUDENT CONDUCT**

The Board of Education expects all students to conduct themselves in an appropriate and civil manner, with proper regard for the rights and welfare of other students, district personnel and other members of the school community, and for the care of school facilities and equipment. The following discipline code applies to the behavior of all district students while attending school, and/or on school grounds, in school buildings, and/or participating in school sponsored activities, whether on, or off school property.

The best discipline is self-imposed, and students must learn to assume and accept responsibility for their own behavior, as well as the consequences of their misbehavior. District personnel who interact with students are expected to use disciplinary action only when necessary and to place emphasis on educating students so that they may grow in self-discipline.

The Board of Education recognizes the need to make its expectations for student conduct while on school property or engaged in a school function specific and clear. The rules of conduct listed below are intended to do that and focus on safety and respect for the rights and property of others. Students who will not accept responsibility for their own behavior and who violate these school rules will be required to accept the consequences for their conduct. Serious or flagrant violations of the district's code of conduct can result in a hearing with the Superintendent or his/her designee or Board of Education. All violations apply to student behavior in school, on school property, on school buses and at school-sponsored functions.

Students may be subject to disciplinary action, up to and including suspension from school, when they:

- A. Engage in conduct that is disorderly, i.e., intentionally causing public inconvenience, annoyance or alarm, or recklessly creating a risk thereof. Examples of disorderly conduct include but are not limited to:
1. Running in hallways.
 2. Making unreasonable noise.
 3. Using language or gestures that are profane, lewd, vulgar or abusive.
 4. Obstructing vehicular or pedestrian traffic.
 5. Engaging in any willful act which disrupts the normal operation of the school community.
 6. Trespassing. Students are not permitted in any school building, other than the one they regularly attend, without permission from the administrator in charge of the building.

7. Computer/electronic communications misuse, including any unauthorized use of personal electronic devices, computers, software, or internet/intranet account; accessing inappropriate websites; or any other violation of the district's acceptable use policy.
- B. Engage in conduct that is insubordinate. Examples of insubordinate conduct include but are not limited to:
1. Failing to comply with the reasonable directions of teachers, school administrators or other school employees, or otherwise demonstrating disrespect.
 2. Lateness for, missing or leaving school without permission.
 3. Skipping detention.
- C. Engage in conduct that is disruptive. Examples of disruptive conduct include but are not limited to:
1. Failing to comply with the reasonable directions of teachers, school administrators or other school personnel in charge of students.
 2. Inappropriate public sexual contact.
 3. Display or use of personal electronic devices in a manner that is in violation of district policy.
- D. Engage in conduct that is violent. Examples of violent conduct include but are not limited to:
1. Committing an act of violence (such as hitting, kicking, punching, and scratching) upon a teacher, administrator or other school employee or threatening or attempting or threatening to do so.
 2. Committing an act of violence (such as hitting, kicking, punching, and scratching) upon another student or any other person lawfully on school property or attempting or threatening to do so.
 3. Possessing a weapon (as defined in Policy 5300.5). Authorized law enforcement officials are the only persons permitted to have a weapon in their possession while on school property or at a school function. Possession of fireworks or other explosive devices or items meant to resemble fireworks or other explosive devices.
 4. Displaying what appears to be a weapon, or threatening to use any weapon, fireworks or other explosive devices, or items meant to resemble fireworks or other explosive devices.
 5. Intentionally damaging or destroying the personal property of a student, teacher, administrator, other district employee or any person lawfully on school property, including graffiti or arson.
 6. Intentionally damaging or destroying school district property.

- E. Engage in any conduct that endangers the safety, morals, physical or mental health or welfare of themselves or others. Examples of such conduct include but are not limited to:
1. Lying to school personnel.
 2. Stealing the property of other students, school personnel or any other person lawfully on school property or attending a school function.
 3. Defamation, which includes making false or unprivileged statements or representations about an individual or identifiable group of individuals that harm the reputation of the person or the identifiable group by demeaning them.
 4. Discrimination, which includes the use of race (including traits historically associated with race, such as hair texture and protective hairstyles like braids, locks, and twists), color, weight, national origin, ethnic group, religion, religious practice, disability, sex, sexual orientation, or gender (identity and expression) to deny rights, equitable treatment or access to facilities available to others.
 5. Harassment, as defined in the “Definitions” section of this Policy but which also includes a sufficiently severe action or persistent, pervasive pattern of actions or statements directed at an identifiable individual or group which are intended to be, or which a reasonable person would perceive as ridiculing or demeaning. (Refer to Board of Education Policy, 0115.1, Student Harassment and Bullying Prevention and Intervention.)
 6. Sexual harassment is prohibited by law. Unwelcome sexual advances, request for sexual favors, or other written, oral or physical conduct of a sexual nature may constitute sexual harassment. Complaints regarding sexual harassment may be made directly to the Title IX Compliance Officer. (Refer to Board of Education Policy 5020.1 Sexual Harassment and Students and Board of Education Policy 9110.2 Sexual Harassment and Staff.)
 7. Intimidation, which includes engaging in actions or statements that put an individual in fear of bodily harm.
 8. Bullying, which may be a hostile activity which harms or induces fear through the threat of further aggression and/or creates terror (Refer to Board of Education Policy 0115.1, Student Harassment and Bullying Prevention and Intervention for a more complete definition.)
 9. Hazing, which includes an induction, initiation or membership process involving harassment. (Refer to Board of Education Policy 0115.1, Student Harassment and Bullying Prevention and Intervention for a more complete definition.)
 10. Selling, using, distributing or possessing obscene material.
 11. Using vulgar or abusive language, cursing or swearing.
 12. Smoking a cigarette, cigar, pipe, using chewing or smokeless tobacco, or smoking/vaping/ingesting cannabis or concentrated cannabis (includes cannabis products) or smoking cannabinoid hemp (except lawful medical cannabis use in compliance with state law and regulation), electronic cigarettes (i.e., vape) or other tobacco alternatives delivering nicotine or other tobacco alternatives via inhalation or other means. Medically indicated “patches” are not intended to be banned by this policy.

13. Possessing, consuming, selling, distributing or exchanging alcoholic beverages, drug paraphernalia or illegal substances, or being under the influence of either. "Illegal substances" include, but are not limited to, inhalants, marijuana, cocaine, LSD, PCP, amphetamines, heroin, steroids, look-alike drugs, and any substances commonly referred to as "designer drugs."
 14. Inappropriately using or sharing prescription and over-the-counter drugs.
 15. Gambling.
 16. Indecent exposure, that is, exposure to sight of the private parts of the body in a lewd or indecent manner.
 17. Initiating a report warning of fire or other catastrophe without valid cause, misuse of 911, or discharging a fire extinguisher.
 18. Bomb threats, intruder or other false reports that would require the building to be cleared or locked down.
 19. Subjecting other students, school personnel or any other person lawfully on school property or attending a school function to danger by recklessly engaging in conduct which creates a substantial risk of physical injury.
- F. Engage in misconduct while on a school bus, contracted charter bus or other vehicles used in district approved and sponsored activities. It is crucial for students to behave appropriately while riding on district buses, to ensure their safety and that of other passengers and to avoid distracting the bus driver. Students are required to conduct themselves on the bus in a manner consistent with established standards for classroom behavior. Excessive noise, pushing, shoving and fighting will not be tolerated. Students should be seated while bus is in motion. Students are expected to follow the directions of the bus driver and/or other supervising adults.
- G. Engage in any form of academic misconduct. Examples of academic misconduct include but are not limited to:
1. Plagiarism.
 2. Cheating, including any conduct which compromises the integrity of the examination.
 3. Copying.
 4. Altering records.
 5. Assisting another student in any of the above actions.
- H. Engage in off-campus misconduct that interferes with, or can reasonably be expected to substantially disrupt the educational process in the school or at a school function. Examples of such misconduct include, but are not limited to:
1. Cyberbullying (i.e., inflicting willful and repeated harm through the use of electronic text).
 2. Threatening or harassing students or school personnel by any means off campus.

3. Using message boards and/or social media to convey threats, derogatory comments or post pornographic pictures of students or school personnel.

Ref: Gun Free Schools Act 18USC §921

Adoption date: January 27, 2003

Revision dates: April 24, 2006; June 18, 2007; Dec. 15, 2008; Oct. 3, 2011

June 18, 2012; Oct. 1, 2012; Sept. 15, 2014, September 27, 2021

Reviewed: October 3, 2022