

CODE OF CONDUCT

PUBLIC CONDUCT ON SCHOOL PROPERTY

The district is committed to providing an orderly, respectful environment that is conducive to learning. To create and maintain this kind of an environment, it is necessary to regulate public conduct on school property and at school functions. For purposes of this section of the code, “public” shall mean all persons when on school property or attending a school function including students, teachers and district personnel.

The restrictions on public conduct on school property and at school functions contained in this code are not intended to limit freedom of speech or peaceful assembly. The district recognizes that free inquiry and free expression are indispensable to the objectives of the district. The purpose of this code is to maintain public order and prevent abuse of the rights of others.

All persons on school property or attending a school function shall conduct themselves in a respectful and orderly manner. In addition, all persons on school property or attending a school function are expected to be properly attired for the purpose they are on school property.

A. Prohibited Conduct

No person, either alone or with others, shall:

1. intentionally injure any person or threaten to do so;
2. intentionally damage or destroy school district property or the personal property of a teacher, administrator, other district employee, or any person lawfully on school property, by any means including graffiti or arson;
3. disrupt the orderly conduct of classes, school programs or other school activities;
4. distribute or wear materials on school grounds or at school functions that are obscene, advocate illegal action, appear libelous, obstruct the rights of others, or are disruptive to the school program;
5. intimidate, harass or discriminate against any person on the basis of actual or perceived 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 (including gender identity and expression);
6. enter any portion of the school premises or property without authorization or remain in any building or facility after it is normally closed;
7. obstruct the free movement of any person in any place to which this code applies;

8. violate the traffic laws, parking regulations or other restrictions on vehicles;
9. smoke or otherwise use of any tobacco products to include such devices as electronic cigarettes (i.e., vape), or other tobacco alternatives delivering nicotine or other tobacco alternatives via inhalation or other means on any school grounds, in any school building or on any form of school transportation. Medically indicated “patches” are not intended to be banned by this policy;
10. possess, consume, sell, distribute or exchange alcoholic beverages, controlled substances, or be under the influence of either on school property or at a school function;
11. possess or use weapons in or on school property or at a school function, except in the case of law enforcement officers; or as specifically authorized by the Superintendent of Schools;
12. loiter on or about school property;
13. gamble on school property or at school functions;
14. refuse to comply with any reasonable order of identifiable school district officials performing their duties;
15. willfully incite others to commit any of the acts prohibited by this code;
16. violate any federal or state statute, local ordinance or Board of Education policy while on school property or while at a school function.

B. Penalties

Persons who violate this code shall be subject to the following penalties:

1. visitors - their authorization, if any, to remain on school grounds or at the school function shall be withdrawn and they shall be directed to leave the premises. If they refuse to leave, they shall be subject to legal action, i.e. charges of trespassing. Violations of law while on school premises shall be prosecuted pursuant to New York State Law.
2. students - shall be subject to disciplinary action as the facts may warrant, in accordance with the due process requirements.
3. Faculty and staff shall be subject to disciplinary action as the facts may warrant, in accordance with any legal rights they may have.

C. Enforcement

All instructional staff and security personnel, under the direction of the school administration, shall be responsible for enforcing the conduct required by this code.

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The district shall initiate disciplinary action against any student or staff member, as appropriate, with the "Penalties" section above. In addition, the district reserves its right to pursue a civil or criminal legal action against any person violating the code.

Cross-ref: 1530, Smoking on School Premises
9530, Smoking on School Premises By Staff
0100, Equal Opportunity and Nondiscrimination
0115.1, Student Harassment and Bullying Prevention and Intervention

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