

Student Code Of Conduct

Why a Code for Behavior?

In an effort to ensure a safe, orderly and respectful environment, the following code of conduct has been created. It is the responsibility of the student to adhere to school regulations and the responsibility of the teachers and administrators to enforce them. This responsibility extends to student conduct to and from school, in and outside of the school building and during all school related activities. Breaking school rules may result in teacher, lunch, or school detention, or suspension from school. Parents will be notified and a conference held when the situation warrants it.

Appropriate Language

Students are to use acceptable language. Use of profane language or gestures is inappropriate and will not be tolerated.

Assembly Guidelines

- Students will enter the auditorium in an orderly manner and as quickly as possible.
- Students will sit as a class with their teacher in the area designated.
- Students will become silent when the program begins and behave appropriately during the assembly.
- Students will show appreciation by applauding at appropriate times. Whistling or booing are unacceptable.
- Students will remain seated until dismissed in an orderly fashion.

Behavior Off School Grounds

Behavior occurring off school grounds and beyond school hours that negatively affects school climate is subject to school discipline.

Book Bags

Students are not allowed to carry book bags or backpacks during the day.

Bullying

Bullying means any overt acts by a student or a group of students directed against another student with the intent to ridicule humiliate or intimidate the other student while on school grounds or at a school sponsored activity. In order to be defined a “bullying” behavior; the acts must be repeated against the same student over time.

Students who engage in bullying behavior shall be subject to school discipline.

Please refer to Board of Education Policy IC2.4

Cafeteria Rules

- Students are to be polite and courteous while in the cafeteria.
- Students may not throw food or other objects.
- Students must clean the table top and floor area after they finish eating.
- Students are expected to use the bathrooms on the way to and from lunch.
- Students are not to leave the lunchroom during lunchtime.
- Students may eat only in the cafeteria or when weather permits, on the outside picnic tables.
- Students may lose cafeteria privileges for inappropriate behavior.

Cheating/Misrepresentation

Cheating or plagiarism (use of another person’s ideas or writing as one’s own) is unacceptable. Students involved may receive a zero for the assignment or test

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and parents will be notified. Forged notes, signatures, and other forms of misrepresentation are also unacceptable.

Computer Use

Students must submit to the school a properly signed agreement and follow the terms of the agreement in order to have computer network and Internet access during the course of the school year. Students will be asked to sign a new agreement each school year before they are given Internet access. Use of the computer network and Internet is a privilege, not a right. Any student who violates this agreement may have his or her access to the network and Internet terminated. The school may also take other disciplinary actions.

Detention: Teacher & School

Teachers may keep students before or after school for disciplinary reasons. If the student fails to show up for a teacher issued detention, the student may be assigned a school detention by the administration.

For more serious offenses, school detention can be assigned directly by an administrator. Failure to report for school detention or disruptive behavior during detention may result in more detentions or additional consequences.

Discrimination/Harassment

The school takes very seriously any behavior that discriminates against another person because of race, sex, religion, national origin or physical/mental handicap. Harassment or inappropriate behaviors that are perceived as threatening, hurtful, emotionally damaging, or physically harmful, may result in counseling and disciplinary action.

Any staff member in the school who receives a harassment or discrimination complaint from a student is required to follow up on the complaint by referring it to an administrator.

Dress Code

Students are to dress in clothing appropriate for school. Students who are not appropriately dressed may be asked to change clothing or call home.

The following items are prohibited:

- Hats
- Pocket chains of any size or length
- Any apparel advertising alcohol or tobacco, firearms, or otherwise promoting the use of illegal items.
- Apparel with “double meanings” such as concert t-shirts depicting illegal or anti-social behavior and buttons or pins with profane or vulgar words.
- Outerwear jackets.
- Clothing which is brief or provocative such as spaghetti strap and halter tops, shirts that bare the midriff, and skirts and shorts that are deemed “too short” by any adult in the building.

While the dictates of fashion may pressure students to wear certain clothing, these items may in fact be disruptive in a school setting. The school will issue additional directives on inappropriate apparel as the need arises. The school does not wish to be put into a position of monitoring student clothing. Parents are urged to assist the school in monitoring the clothing students wear to school.

Fighting, Assault, Threats

Fighting, physical or verbal threats are serious offenses and will result in

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disciplinary action. If two students are fighting, both students may be suspended regardless of who initiated the fight.

Food, Gum, & Candy in School

To maintain a clean school building, students are expected to consume food (including candy) only in the cafeteria except for special team events. No gum is allowed in school. Food or gum in school will be confiscated.

Hallway Procedures

Our hallways are very crowded, so for safety reasons, students are not permitted to run, push, yell or jump in the halls. Students are expected to follow the instructions of any staff member.

Insubordination

Any student who deliberately refuses to obey a member of the school staff may be removed from the class or activity and subject to school discipline. Insubordination may lead to suspension.

Inspection of Lockers

For maintenance, health, and safety reasons, school authorities may inspect school property at any time. Inspections for the location of drugs, narcotics, liquor, weapons, poisons, and missing properties are matters relating to health and safety and may be regarded as reasonable purposes for inspection by school personnel.

Prohibited Items

The following items are prohibited from school grounds and may be confiscated:

- Laser pointers
- Audio devices
- Video games

Cell phones and cameras should not interfere in any way with the learning process. Cell phones should be “off” during school hours.

The above list is not all-inclusive. The school reserves the right to prohibit and confiscate any items which the administration deems unsafe or inappropriate. Parents may pick up confiscated items from school personnel.

Removal from Class

A student who disrupts learning or negatively affects the safety of others may be removed from class and sent to the main office. Students who are sent from class may receive a school detention.

Sale of Items on School Grounds

The sale of food, candy, materials, tickets, or any other items not sanctioned by the school is prohibited.

Smoking Materials

Smoking is prohibited. Smoking products or smoking paraphernalia (matches, lighters, etc.) will be confiscated. Violations will lead to parent contact and may lead to suspension.

Substitute Teacher Guidelines

Students are expected to give substitute teachers the same respect given to all teachers. When returning to school the classroom teacher will deal with any discipline referrals from a substitute.

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Suspension/Expulsion

See Handbook pages 13-14.

Substance Abuse

Students must not participate, even indirectly, in activities involving smoking, alcohol and other drugs. Student involvement with alcohol or drugs will lead to police involvement and suspension.

Throwing Objects

Throwing snowballs and other objects or shooting projectiles is prohibited and results in detention or suspension.

Truancy

A student deemed illegally absent from school or class is considered truant. Any work missed may not be made up. Consequences for truancy include parent conferences and school consequences.

Vandalism

The parent or guardian of any student who irresponsibly or willfully cuts, defaces or otherwise damages any property, real or personal, belonging to the school district is held liable for damages up to the maximum amount allowed under state law.

Violation of State Law

Student involvement with alcohol, drugs, vandalism, theft, or any other action(s) that may be considered a violation of state law will lead to police involvement and parent contact. School rules require suspension for any incident involving alcohol, drugs, or theft. The state legislature continually reviews the laws on student behavior. Please refer to our school CD (received in the summer packet) for complete and updated policies.

The middle school community is one that promotes learning, social responsibility, and mutual respect. It also recognizes the value of a diverse, positive environment to the overall development of the student. High standards of behavior must be maintained at all times to ensure a safe place for students and their property. This code applies to all students and will be enforced by all staff members. The rules apply to all school sponsored activities, whether or not they occur during school time or on school property. Inappropriate behavior not covered by the guidelines will be dealt with accordingly, at the discretion of the administration.

This student code of conduct exists to protect all students, their rights, and their property.