

CODE OF STUDENT CONDUCT

The items in this Code are applicable to misconduct by a student that occurs on property owned or controlled by the District and off of property owned or controlled by the District but that is connected to activities or incidents that have occurred on property owned or controlled by the District and misconduct by a student that, regardless of where it occurs, is directed at a District official or employee or the property of such official or employee and all students when properly under the authority of school personnel during a school activity, function, or event whether on property owned, rented, or maintained by the Board of Education or property owned, rented, or maintained by another party. Additionally, the provisions of this Code shall apply to students if the prohibited act(s) takes place while on properties immediately adjacent to school property, within the line of sight of school property, on school transportation, or if the act affects the operation of the schools.

This Code shall also be inclusive for the right to exercise authority and for personal and property protection of administrators, teachers, librarians, or clerks, substitute teachers, teacher aides, monitors, authorized volunteers, tutors, secretaries, cooks, custodians, bus drivers, visitors, or other authorized school personnel.

Violation by a student of any one or more of the following rules of conduct may result in disciplinary action(s), which may include detention, parental contact, referral to legal authorities, emergency removal, disciplinary removal, suspension, expulsion, or permanent exclusion. A student may be suspended pending the outcome of expulsion proceedings.

- A. ASSAULT, ASSAULT AND BATTERY or threat thereof to any school personnel, other student, or visitor.
- B. FALSE ALARMS - including fire and/or bomb threats.
- C. Use, possession, concealment, transmitting, or being under the influence of ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES, or LOW ALCOHOL BEER, that being a brewed or fermented malt product containing either no alcohol or not more than 0.5% of alcohol by volume.
- D. Use, possession, concealment, buying, selling, transmitting, or being under the influence of any substance containing betel nut or NARCOTIC DRUG OR OTHER CONTROLLED SUBSTANCE, including, but not limited to marijuana, hemp and hemp products, as defined in R.C. 928.01, as well as any counterfeit or “look alike” controlled substance or any prescription drug or medication which is not in its original container and prescribed for the student.

- E. DISRUPTION OF SCHOOL by use of violence, force, coercion, threat, harassment, noise, or disorderly conduct. This shall include use of same to incite others toward acts of disruption.
- F. ARSON OR ATTEMPTED ARSON, AND RELATED OFFENSES.
- G. POSSESSION, USE OR THREATENED USE OF FIREWORKS, EXPLOSIVES, OR OTHER SUCH INSTRUMENTS capable of inflicting bodily injury or disrupting the operation of the schools.
- H. POSSESSION, USE, OR THREATENED USE OF WEAPONS, or any object which might be considered a dangerous weapon or instrument of violence, including counterfeit or look-alike weapons.
- I. REPEATED OFFENSES OR FLAGRANT VIOLATIONS of any school rules or accepted standards of school behavior.
- J. VIOLATION OF FEDERAL OR STATE STATUTES on school premises or involving school activities.
- K. VIOLATION OF TERMS OF SUSPENSION EXPULSION, OR OTHER FORMS OF DISCIPLINE.
- L. DAMAGE, DESTRUCTION, DEFACEMENT OR VANDALISM of school property or private property on school premises; (including buses) or at any school.
- M. TOBACCO/NICOTINE. A student shall not possess, use, transmit, or conceal any tobacco product, any alternative nicotine product or device, including electronic, vapor, or other substitute forms of cigarettes, or any tobacco or nicotine cessation product on school premises, during school activities, or events off school grounds.
- N. USE OF PROFANE, INDECENT, OR OBSCENE LANGUAGE written or verbal; directed toward school personnel or students. This shall include use of obscene gestures, pictures, or signs.
- O. INSUBORDINATION AND/OR DISOBEDIENCE in refusing to comply with directions of school personnel.
- P. TRUANCY from school; including study hall, class, or any other assigned activity for class, or any other assigned activity for part or all of a day, without school authorization.
- Q. REPEATED TARDINESS to class or school.

- R. Being under the influence of ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES OR MIND ALTERING SUBSTANCES while on school property; (including buses) or at any school-sponsored activities.
- S. THEFT OR UNAUTHORIZED POSSESSION of school property or equipment, of personal property of any school personnel, or of another student or visitor, including property at school-sponsored activities.
- T. FIGHTING OR VERBAL OR PHYSICAL CONFRONTATION among two or more students on school property; (including buses) or at any school-sponsored activity. This shall include inciting and/or encouraging others to fight.
- U. The act of EXTORTION from any person on school property; (including buses) or at any school-sponsored activity.
- V. GAMBLING for money or valuables on school property (including buses) or at any school-sponsored activity.
- W. THE ACT OF FALSELY REPORTING INCIDENTS, making accusations, or giving testimony to school personnel.
- X. FALSIFYING in writing the name of another person, times, dates, grades, addresses, or other data on school forms or correspondence directed to the school.
- Y. CHEATING.
- Z. PLAGIARISM.
- AA. TRESPASSING OR LOITERING.
- BB. HAZING AND INTIMIDATION, subjecting other students to pranks or humiliation causing mental or physical harm.
- CC. POSSESSION OF A FIREARM: Firearm has the same meaning as provided pursuant to the “Gun-Free Schools Act of 1994.” At the time this policy was adopted, the above-referenced statute defined a firearm as any weapon (including a starters gun) which will or is designed to or may readily be converted to expel a projectile by the action of an explosive; including the frame or receiver of any such weapon; and any firearm muffler or silencer; or any destructive device. A firearm does not include: an antique firearm; a rifle that the owner intends to use solely for sporting and recreational or cultural purposes; any device that is neither designed or redesigned for use as a weapon; any device, although originally designed as a weapon, redesigned as a signaling, pyrotechnic, line throwing, safety or like device, surplus ordnance, sold, loaned or given by the

Secretary of the Army or Class C common fireworks. If the definition of a firearm as provided by the “Gun Free Schools Act of 1994” changes, then the definition set forth in this policy shall automatically change to conform to it.

- DD. POSSESSION OF A KNIFE: Knife, for the purposes of this policy, is defined as a cutting instrument consisting of a sharp blade or edge.
- EE. Leaving school property or assigned area prior to specified dismissal time without official permission.
- FF. Open displays of affection between members of the same or opposite sex.
- GG. Unauthorized throwing of any object including, but not limited to, snowballs.
- HH. Commission of an immoral act.
- II. Failure to pay tuition or other approved charges.
- JJ. Violation of state student mandates, including, but not limited to, required immunization.
- KK. Loitering, littering, or causing a disturbance on public or private property adjacent to, across from, or in close proximity to a school site, while either coming to and from school or school activities, or during the school day, or during school activities.
- LL. Violation of school policies pertaining to dress and appearance.
- MM. Misuse of school property.
- NN. Violation of school policy prohibiting pocket pagers and other electronic communications devices.
- OO. The Superintendent may prohibit a student from attending and/or participating in the District’s graduation ceremonies as part of a student’s suspension, expulsion, or removal from school.
- PP. Those acts or violations listed in the permanent exclusion portion of the Board policy on student disciplinary procedures.
- QQ. Violation of policies governing internet usage.
- RR. Driving in an unsafe manner.

- SS. Collusion, complicity, or aiding and abetting anyone in the commission of conduct prohibited by Board policy, or state or federal law.
- TT. Any attempts to engage in conduct prohibited by this policy.
- UU. Any other form of behavior which is detrimental to a proper school and/or school activity atmosphere as prescribed by the Administration and as outlined in the student/parent handbook for the building in which the student is enrolled.
- VV. Gang membership and/or gang activity. For purposes of this policy, a gang is an organization, association, or group of three (3) or more people, using a common name or one or more common identifying signs, symbols, or colors, whose members individually or collectively engage in criminal activity.
- WW. Violation of any Executive Orders or laws, or policies, rules, regulations or directives concerning social distancing, hand washing, wearing of masks, or other health and safety protocols generated by the District in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.
- XX. Use of slurs, epithets, or other derogatory expressions or depictions, commonly understood to convey contempt, hatred, or mockery of a person based on such person's age, ancestry, color, disability, ethnicity, gender, gender identity or expression, national origin, race, religion, sex, sexual orientation, or based upon membership in any protected class under federal law.

LEGAL REFS: O.R.C. §3313.661

Adopted: January 9, 2023