

1 All decisions related to student behavior are guided by the Board’s educational objective to teach  
2 responsibility and respect for cultural and ideological differences and by the Board’s  
3 commitment to creating safe, orderly and inviting schools. Student behavior policies are  
4 provided in order to establish: (1) expected standards of student behavior; (2) principles to be  
5 followed in managing student behavior; (3) consequences for prohibited behavior or  
6 drug/alcohol policy violations; and (4) required procedures for addressing misbehavior.

7  
8 **A. PRINCIPLES**  
9

10 The reasons for managing student behavior are to (1) create an orderly environment in  
11 which students can learn; (2) teach expected standards of behavior; (3) help students  
12 learn to accept the consequences of their behavior; and, (4) provide students with the  
13 opportunity to develop self-control. The following principles apply in managing student  
14 behavior.

- 15  
16 1. Student behavior management strategies will complement other efforts to create a  
17 safe, orderly and inviting environment.
- 18  
19 2. Positive behavioral interventions will be employed as appropriate to improve  
20 student behavior.
- 21  
22 3. Responsibility, integrity, civility, and other standards of behavior will be  
23 integrated into the curriculum.
- 24  
25 4. Disruptive behavior in the classroom will not be tolerated.
- 26  
27 5. Consequences for unacceptable behavior will be designed to help a student learn  
28 to comply with rules, to be respectful ~~act respectfully~~, to accept responsibility for  
29 his or her behavior, and to develop self-control.
- 30  
31 6. Strategies and consequences will be age and developmentally appropriate.

32  
33 **B. COMMUNICATION OF POLICIES**  
34

35 Board policies related to student behavior are codified herein and in other policies  
36 contained in Section J, “Students.” The Superintendent shall incorporate information  
37 from such policies into a Code of Student Conduct that notifies students of the behavior  
38 expected of them, conduct that may subject them to discipline, and the range of  
39 disciplinary measures that may be used by school officials. At the discretion of the  
40 Superintendent, the Code of Student Conduct may include additional rules needed to  
41 implement the Board’s student behavior policies. Each school shall create a student  
42 behavior management plan that will elaborate further on processes for addressing student  
43 misbehavior and the use of intervention strategies and consequences (see Policy JFDA,

44 “School Plan for Management of Student Behavior”). The Code of Student Conduct  
45 must not impose mandatory long-term suspension or expulsion for specific violations  
46 unless otherwise provided in state or federal law.  
47

48 At the beginning of each school year, principals shall make available to each student and  
49 parent all of the following: (1) the Code of Student Conduct; (2) any Board policies  
50 related to behavior that are not part of the Code of Conduct; (3) any related  
51 administrative procedures; (4) any additional discipline-related information from the  
52 school’s student behavior management plan, including behavior standards, prohibited  
53 conduct or disciplinary measures; and, (5) any other school rules. This information must  
54 be available at other times upon request and must be made available to students enrolling  
55 during the school year and their parents.  
56

### 57 **C. APPLICABILITY**

58  
59 Students must comply with the Code of Student Conduct in the following circumstances:  
60

- 61 1. While in any school building or on any school premises before, during, or after  
62 school hours;
- 63
- 64 2. While on any bus or other vehicle as part of any school activity;
- 65
- 66 3. While waiting at any school bus stop;
- 67
- 68 4. During any school-sponsored activity or extracurricular activity;
- 69
- 70 5. When subject to the authority of school employees; and,
- 71
- 72 6. At any place or time when the student’s behavior has or is reasonably expected to  
73 have a direct and immediate impact on the orderly and efficient operation of the  
74 schools or the safety of individuals in the school environment.  
75

### 76 **D. CONSEQUENCES FOR VIOLATIONS**

77  
78 Violations of the Code of Student Conduct must be dealt with in accordance with the  
79 guidelines established in the school’s behavior management plan (see Policy JFDA,  
80 “School Plan for Management of Student Behavior”).  
81

#### 82 **1. Minor Violations**

83  
84 Minor violations of the Code of Student Conduct are those less severe infractions  
85 involving a lower degree of dangerousness and harm. Examples of minor  
86 violations include the use of inappropriate or disrespectful language,

87 noncompliance with a staff directive, dress code violations, and minor physical  
88 altercations like pushing, shoving, rough-housing, and horseplay that do not  
89 involve a weapon or an injury. Aggravating circumstances, however, may justify  
90 treating an otherwise minor violation as a serious violation.

91  
92 Minor violations of the Code of Student Conduct may result in disciplinary  
93 measures or responses up to and including short-term suspension. Further  
94 information regarding the procedures for short-term suspensions is provided in  
95 Policy JGD, "Short-Term Suspension." Other disciplinary measures or responses  
96 may include, but are not limited to, the following:

- 97  
98 a. Parental involvement, such as conferences;  
99 b. Isolation or time-out for short periods of time;  
100 c. Behavior improvement agreements;  
101 d. Instruction in conflict resolution and anger management;  
102 e. Peer mediation;  
103 f. Individual or small group sessions with the school counselor;  
104 g. Academic intervention;  
105 h. In-school suspension;  
106 i. Detention before and/or after school or on Saturday;  
107 j. Community service;  
108 k. Exclusion from graduation ceremonies;  
109 l. Exclusion from extracurricular activities;  
110 m. Suspension from bus privileges; and,  
111 n. Placement in an alternative school.

112  
113 The parent or guardian is responsible for transportation that may be required to  
114 carry out a consequence. With the exception of suspension from bus privileges, if  
115 a parent or guardian is unable to provide transportation, another consequence will  
116 be substituted.

## 117 118 2. **Serious Violations**

119  
120 Serious violations of the Code of Student Conduct may result in any of the  
121 consequences that may be imposed for minor violations. In addition, serious  
122 violations that threaten to substantially disrupt the educational environment may  
123 result in long-term suspension, and serious violations that threaten the safety of  
124 students, school employees, or school visitors may result in long-term suspension  
125 or expulsion. Certain violations involving firearms or explosive devices may  
126 result in a 365-day suspension. Further information regarding the standards and  
127 procedures for long-term suspensions, 365-day suspensions and expulsions is  
128 provided in Policy JGD, "Short-Term Suspension," and Policy JGDA, "Long-  
129 Term Suspension, 365-Day Suspension, and Expulsion."

130  
131  
132  
133  
134  
135  
136  
137  
138  
139  
140  
141  
142  
143  
144  
145  
146  
147  
148  
149  
150  
151  
152  
153  
154  
155  
156  
157  
158  
159  
160  
161  
162  
163  
164  
165  
166  
167  
168  
169  
170  
171  
172

**E. ENFORCEMENT**

The Superintendent is responsible for supervising the enforcement of the Code of Student Conduct to ensure that school disciplinary policies are uniformly and fairly applied throughout the school system.

**PROHIBITED BEHAVIOR**

While the Board recognizes that it is impossible to create and publish an exhaustive list of prohibited behaviors, the following behaviors are expressly prohibited as a particular point of emphasis.

**I. TOBACCO PRODUCTS – STUDENTS**

**A. ~~Prohibition~~ Prohibited Behavior**

Students are prohibited from using or possessing any tobacco product: (1) in any school building, on any school campus, and in or on any other school property owned or operated by the Board, including school vehicles; (2) at any school-related activity, including athletic events; or, (3) at any time when the student is subject to the supervision of school personnel, including during school trips. For purposes of this provision, "tobacco product" means any product that contains or that is made or derived from tobacco and is intended for human consumption, including electronic cigarettes and all lighted and smokeless tobacco products.

Nothing herein prohibits the use or possession of tobacco products for an instructional or research activity conducted in a school building, provided that the activity is conducted or supervised by a faculty member and that the activity does not include smoking, chewing, or otherwise ingesting tobacco.

**B. Consequences**

The Superintendent or designee shall list in the Code of Student Conduct the specific range of consequences that may be imposed on a student for violations of this provision. In determining appropriate consequences for violations of this provision, school officials are encouraged to identify programs or opportunities that will provide students with a greater understanding of the health hazards of tobacco use, the hazards of secondhand smoke, and the impact of tobacco use on efforts to provide a safe, orderly, clean, and inviting school environment.

**C. Notice**

173 Students will be provided with notice of the information in this provision through  
174 the Code of Student Conduct, student handbooks, or other means identified by the  
175 principal. In addition, the principal shall post signs in a manner and at locations  
176 that adequately notify students, school personnel, and visitors about prohibitions  
177 against the use of tobacco products in all school facilities, on all school grounds,  
178 and at all school-sponsored events.  
179

## 180 **II. THEFT, TRESPASS AND DAMAGE TO PROPERTY**

### 181 **A. Prohibited Behavior**

#### 182 **1. Theft**

183 Students are prohibited from stealing or attempting to steal school or  
184 private property and/or from knowingly being in possession of stolen  
185 property.  
186

#### 187 **2. Damage to Property**

188 Students are prohibited from damaging or attempting to damage school or  
189 private property.  
190

#### 191 **3. Trespass**

192 Students are prohibited from trespassing on school property. A student  
193 will be considered a trespasser and may be criminally prosecuted in any of  
194 the following circumstances:  
195

- 196 a. The student is on the campus of a school to which he or she is  
197 not assigned during the school day without the knowledge and  
198 consent of the officials of that school;
- 199 b. The student is loitering at any school after the close of the  
200 school day without any specific need or supervision; or
- 201 c. The student has been suspended from school but is on the  
202 property of any school during the suspension period without  
203 the express permission of the principal.  
204

### 205 **B. Consequences**

206 The Superintendent or designee shall list in the Code of Student Conduct the  
207 specific range of consequences that may be imposed on a student for violations of  
208 this provision.  
209

## 210 **III. ASSAULTS, FIGHTING, THREATS, BULLYING, AND HARASSMENT**

216  
217  
218  
219  
220  
221  
222  
223  
224  
225  
226  
227  
228  
229  
230  
231  
232  
233  
234  
235  
236  
237  
238  
239  
240  
241  
242  
243  
244  
245  
246  
247  
248  
249  
250  
251  
252  
253  
254  
255  
256  
257  
258

**A. Prohibited Behavior**

**1. Assault**

Students are prohibited from assaulting, physically injuring, attempting to injure, or intentionally behaving in such a way as could reasonably cause injury to any other person. ~~Assault includes engaging in a fight.~~

**2. Fighting**

Students are prohibited from fighting and/or engaging in physical altercations.

**3. Threatening Acts**

Students are prohibited from directing toward any other person any language that threatens force, violence, or disruption or any sign or act that constitutes a threat of force, violence, or disruption.

Bomb and terrorist threats are also addressed in Policy JGDC, “Weapons, Bomb Threats, Terrorist Threats, and Clear Threats to Safety.”

**4. Bullying and Harassment**

Students are prohibited from engaging in or encouraging any form of harassment, including bullying of students, employees or other individuals on school grounds or at school-related functions. Harassment is unwanted, unwelcome, and uninvited behavior that demeans, threatens, or offends the victim and results in a hostile environment for the victim. The hostile environment may be created through pervasive or persistent misbehavior or a single incident if sufficiently severe.

Harassment and bullying are further defined in Policy ACB, “Interpersonal Human Relations and Student Grievance Procedures.”

**B. Consequences**

The Superintendent or designee shall list in the Code of Student Conduct the specific range of consequences that may be imposed on a student for violations of this provision.

A student who is long-term suspended or reassigned to alternative education services as a result of assaulting or injuring a teacher shall not return to that teacher’s classroom without the teacher’s consent.

**IV. DISRUPTIVE BEHAVIOR**

259  
260  
261  
262  
263  
264  
265  
266  
267  
268  
269  
270  
271  
272  
273  
274  
275  
276  
277  
278  
279  
280  
281  
282  
283  
284  
285  
286  
287  
288  
289  
290  
291  
292  
293  
294  
295  
296  
297  
298  
299  
300  
301

**A. Prohibited Behavior**

Students are prohibited from disrupting teaching, the orderly conduct of school activities, or any other lawful function of the school or school system. The following conduct is illustrative of disruptive behavior and is prohibited:

1. Intentional verbal or physical acts that result or have the potential to result in blocking access to school functions or facilities or preventing the convening or continuation of school-related functions;
2. Appearance or clothing that (1) violates a reasonable dress code adopted and publicized by the school; (2) is substantially disruptive; (3) is provocative or obscene; or, (4) endangers the health or safety of the student or others (see Policy JFCE, “Student Dress Code”);
3. Possessing or distributing literature or illustrations that significantly disrupt the educational process or that are obscene or unlawful;
4. Engaging in behavior that is immoral, indecent, lewd, disreputable, or of an overly sexual nature in the school setting;
5. Failing to observe established safety rules, standards, and regulations, including on buses and in hallways; and,
6. Interfering with the operation of school buses, including delaying the bus schedule, getting off at an unauthorized stop, and willfully trespassing upon a school bus.

**B. Consequences**

The Superintendent or designee shall list in the Code of Student Conduct the specific range of consequences that may be imposed on a student for violations of this provision.

Legal References: U.S. Const. amend. I; N.C. Const. art. I, § 14; Pro-Children Act of 1994, 20 U.S.C. 6081 et seq.; N. C. Gen. Stat. § 14-32, -32.2, -33, -34 through -34.2, -60; -87, 87.1, -132, 132.2, -288.2, -288.4, -313; 115C-47, -276(r), -288, -307, -390.1, -390.2, -390.7, -407

Cross References:

Policy ACB, “Interpersonal Human Relations and Student Grievance Procedures”

- 302 Policy JFCE, "Student Dress Code"
- 303 Policy JFDA, "School Plan for Management of Student Behavior"
- 304 Policy JGD, "Short-Term Suspension"
- 305 Policy JGDA, "Long-Term Suspension, 365-Day Suspension, and Expulsion"
- 306 Policy JGDC, "Weapons, Bomb Threats, Terrorist Threats, and Clear Threats to Safety"
- 307
- 308
- 309
- 310 APPROVED BY BOARD
- 311 AND EFFECTIVE \_\_\_\_\_
- 312

NEW