

CODE OF STUDENT CONDUCT

The items in this Code are applicable to misconduct by a student that occurs 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 pupil that, regardless of where it occurs, is directed at a school 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 school property, within the line of sight of school property, on school transportation, or if the act affects the operation of schools. This code applies to areas surrounding the school as outlined in the "Good Neighbor" policy.

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. **Activity that changes or alters any student or staff records:** activity that changes or alters any student or staff records; both written and electronic.
- B. **Alcoholic beverages:** use, possession, concealment, transmitting, or being under the influence of alcoholic beverages
- C. **Alcoholic beverages or mind altering substances:** the use of, possession of, selling, buying, transmitting or being under the influence of alcoholic beverages or mind altering substances.
- D. **Arson or attempted arson or unauthorized use of fire:** arson or attempted arson and related offenses; unauthorized use of fire.
- E. **Assault, assault and battery:** assault, assault and battery, or threat thereof to any school personnel, other student, or visitor.
- F. **Bullying:** an intentional written, verbal, or physical act directed toward another student; the behavior causes mental, physical, or emotional harm to the other student; prohibited activities include but are not limited to those engaged in via computer and/or electronic communications devices
- G. **Bus Misconduct**
- H. **Cell phones or other electronic devices:** Students are permitted to possess cell phones and other electronic device provided they are in compliance with our BYOT and Acceptable Use Policies. Violators of this policy are reported to the principal, assistant principal, or his or her designee, who confiscates the device and holds it in his/her office. Confiscated devices are subject to search, which includes the device, battery, all interior hardware, and/or data. School officials may require parents to reclaim the confiscated device, or the device may be retained in the office for an extended period of time. The District assumes no liability if these devices are broken, lost or stolen. Electronic devices, including but not limited to cell phones, cameras, and PDAs, are not permitted to be turned on or in use in any locker room and/or dressing area facility. This includes sites at Dover City Schools, as well as sites teams are visiting for any events. Students who need to call or text message parents are required to exit the locker room and/or dressing area prior to using these electronic devices.
- I. **Cheating:** unauthorized use of any information from any source to improve academic performance (plagiarism, cheating, Internet sources/access, falsifying or modifying documents/information).
- J. **Cyber-Bullying:** abusive behavior including but not limited to taunting, threatening, stalking, intimidation, and/or coercing by one or more individuals against other students or staff, perpetuated with computers, cellular phones, internet websites, and/or any other electronic device
- K. **Damage, destruction, defacement or vandalism:** damage, destruction, defacement, or vandalism of school property or private property on school premises; including buses or at any school – any damage to school property, even if accidental, may require the student to reimburse the district for damages.
- L. **Dangerous Ordnance:** violation of Dangerous Ordnance policy and any other policies prohibiting certain conduct.
- M. **Detrimental behavior:** any form of behavior which is detrimental to a proper school and/or school activity atmosphere as prescribed by the Administration or as outlined in the student/parent handbook for the building in which the student is enrolled; this includes persistent misbehavior.
- N. **Disruption of school:** 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. This may also include events that happen outside the school day that disrupt the normal school environment.
- O. **Dress code:** violations of school policies pertaining to dress and appearance.
- P. **Driving and parking:** driving in an unsafe manner on school grounds. Parking in staff, visitor, or assigned parking spaces.
- Q. **Extortion or attempted extortion:** the act of extortion from any person.
- R. **Failure to pay tuition:** failure to pay tuition or other approved charges.
- S. **False alarms:** false alarms including fire and/or bomb threats or other terrorist threats or inducing panic.
- T. **Falsely reporting incidents:** the act of falsely reporting incidents, making accusations, or giving testimony to school personnel.
- U. **Falsifying:** falsifying in writing or verbally the name of another person, times, dates, grades, addresses, or other data on school forms or correspondence directed to the school.
- V. **Fighting:** This shall include inciting and/or encouraging others to fight.

- W. Firearm:** possession of a firearm and other acts regarding firearms prohibited by Board Policy. Firearm has the same meaning as provided pursuant to the "Guns-Free Schools Act of 1994." At the time this policy was adopted, the above referenced statute defined a firearm as any weapon (including starter's guns) 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 ordinance, 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 "Guns-Free School Act of 1994" changes, then the definition set forth in this policy shall automatically change to conform to it. A firearm may also be anything that is indistinguishable from a firearm. Concealed weapon permit holders may not bring firearms on school property, per Ohio law.
- X. Fireworks, explosives, matches, lighters, or other such instrument:** possession, use or threatened use of fireworks, explosives, matches, lighters, or other such instruments capable of inflicting bodily injury or disrupting the operation of the schools.
- Y. Gambling:** gambling for money, valuables or gain, on school property including buses or at any school-sponsored activity. Students should not bring playing cards, dice or other like items to school.
- Z. Graduation Ceremonies:** the Superintendent or principal 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.
- AA. Harassment:** making explicit or implicit remarks to another student or group of students, including but not limited to comments referencing gender, race, sexual orientation, or religion.
- BB. Hazing and intimidation:** subjecting other students to pranks, harassment, or humiliation causing substantial risk of or mental or physical harm; which includes initiations; prohibited activities include but are not limited to those engaged in via computer and/or electronic communications devices
- CC. Immoral act:** commission of an immoral act.
- DD. Insubordination or disobedience:** insubordination and/or disobedience in refusing to comply with directions or reasonable instructions of school personnel.
- EE. Internet use:** violation of policies governing Internet usage.
- FF. Knife:** possession of a knife and other acts regarding knives prohibited by Board Policy. Knife, for the purposes of this policy, is defined as a cutting instrument consisting of a sharp blade or edge. Knife does not include scissors, wire cutters, or other similar tools determined by the Superintendent to be necessary in the school setting at a particular building or grade level, if used only for their necessary purpose.
- GG. Leaving school property:** leaving school property or assigned area prior to specified dismissal time without official permission.
- HH. Loitering, littering, or causing a disturbance:** 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.
- II. Misuse of school property:** to use equipment, materials, or supplies without permission or in a manner for which the item was not intended.
- JJ. Misconduct toward a district official or employee:** misconduct by a pupil that, regardless of where it occurs, is directed at a district official or employee or the property of such official or employee.
- KK. Multiple students in the same stall or single use restroom:** two or more students occupying the same stall or single use restroom
- LL. Narcotic drugs or other controlled substances:** use, possession, concealment, buying, selling, transmitting, or being under the influence of any narcotic drug or other controlled substance including but not limited to marijuana, as well as counterfeit or "look alike" controlled substances or any prescription drug or medication which is not in its original container and prescribed for the student. This includes drug paraphernalia.
- MM. Permanent Exclusion:** Those acts or violations listed in the permanent exclusion portion of Board Policy or student disciplinary procedures.
- NN. Property of school:** students will not skateboard, rollerblade, bicycle, or ride a scooter on school property. Students are expected to use designated crosswalks when coming to and leaving school grounds.
- OO. Profane, indecent or obscene language or messages:** use of profane, indecent, or obscene language or messages directed toward school personnel or students. This shall include use of obscene gestures, pictures, or signs.
- PP. Public displays of affection:** including but not limited to kissing, hand holding, etc.
- QQ. Repeated offenses or flagrant violations:** repeated offenses or flagrant violations of any school rules or accepted standards of school behavior.
- RR. Sexual harassment:** Unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors, and other inappropriate oral, written or physical conduct of a sexual nature, when made by a member of the school staff or a third party to a student or when made by any student to another student, constitutes sexual harassment.
- SS. Solicitation of non-school sanctioned material:** Students may not post or distribute material without prior permission from the principal or assistant principal.
- TT. Tardiness:** repeated tardiness to class or school.
- UU. Theft:** theft of school property or equipment, of personal property of any school personnel, or of another student or visitor, including property at school-sponsored activities.
- VV. Throwing of an object:** unauthorized throwing of any object including, but not limited to, snowballs, water balloons, etc.

WW. Tobacco: a student shall not possess, use, transmit, or conceal any tobacco products on school premises, during school activities, or events off school grounds. No student shall smoke on school property or surrounding school properties as described in the "Respect for Private Property" policy. Holding a lighted or unlighted cigarette, electronic cigarette, or look alike is interpreted as smoking. The Ohio Tobacco Law will also be enforced with violators being reported to the police.

XX. Trespassing/Unauthorized use of school or private property: Being present in any Board-owned facility when it is closed to the public or when the student does not have the authorization to be there, or unauthorized presence in a Board-owned vehicle; or unauthorized access or activity in a Board-owned computer, into district, school or staff computer files, into a school or district file server, or into the Network.

YY. Truancy: 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.

ZZ. Unauthorized touching: unauthorized or inappropriate touching including hitting, grabbing, pushing, pinching and etc.

AB. Violation of Federal or State Statutes: on school premises or involving school activities.

AC. Violation of terms of suspension, expulsion, or other forms of discipline

AD. Violation of state student mandates: including but not limited to required immunizations.

AE. Weapons: 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.