

General

- 1.1 The Board of Education holds expectations for student conduct and behaviour based on fostering each student's development and respecting themselves, others, and property.
- 1.2 The Board also recognizes the importance of maintaining school environments free of violence, intimidation, harassment, and possession and use of illegal substances.
- 1.3 Every student, without exception, is expected to contribute to making schools safe, caring, and orderly and to adhere to a code of conduct established by their school. This expectation applies not only on school premises but also when students are going to and returning from school and at all school-approved activities and functions, regardless of their location.

School Code of Conduct Development & Dissemination

- 1.4 Each school will establish a code of conduct that meets the requirements of this policy.
- 1.5 Principals will engage in dialogue with employees, parents, and students to maintain the code of conduct.
- 1.6 Each school's code of conduct shall be reviewed annually and amended as needed.
- 1.7 A school's code of conduct must be shared annually with students, provided to all newly enrolled students, distributed to parents and staff providing services at the school, and posted at each site and on each school website, clearly visible to all.

School Code of Conduct Requirements

- 1.8 Each school's code of conduct must contain the following:
 - 1.8.1 The purpose and rationale for the code of conduct, focusing on safe, caring and orderly school environments.

- 1.8.2 Specific references to each of the following prohibited grounds of discrimination: race, colour, ancestry, place of origin, religion, marital status, family status, physical or mental disability, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, and age.
- 1.8.3 Definitions of acceptable behaviour and unacceptable behaviour, including bullying, cyberbullying, harassment, intimidation, threatening or violent behaviours while at school, at a school-related activity or in other circumstances.
- 1.8.4 The requirements of the Board's policy on personal digital devices.
- 1.8.5 A statement of consequences for unacceptable behaviour, and that the consequences will take into account the student's age, maturity and diverse needs.
- 1.8.6 A statement that student conduct that adversely affects the school environment will be addressed, and a list of actions that require immediate intervention, including:
 - 1.8.6.1 Alcohol and Drugs – possession, use, trafficking.
 - 1.8.6.2 Offences to person – assault, bullying, threats, harassment, fighting, prejudiced remarks.
 - 1.8.6.3 Retribution – against a person who has reported an incident(s).
 - 1.8.6.4 Weapons – possession, use causing harm or death, fireworks, explosives.
 - 1.8.6.5 Offences to Property – destruction, defacing, vandalism, and theft of property of others or the Board.
- 1.8.7 A statement that all reasonable steps will be taken to prevent retaliation by a person against a student who has reported a breach of the code of conduct.

Interventions and Consequences

- 1.9 The principal of a school or their designate shall have the authority to use a variety of interventions and consequences, which, wherever possible, should be preventative and restorative.
- 1.10 Consequences may include in-school and out-of-school suspensions for up to five days.

- 1.11 The Board believes that student suspensions should be considered only when there is good reason to believe that a student's continued presence is likely to harm students or that the suspension is designed to assist the student in developing attitudes and behaviours that contribute to a safe and respectful school environment.

Right to Appeal

- 1.12 A decision that significantly affects a student's education, health or welfare may be appealed as per the Board of Education's appeal bylaw.

Authorization

- 1.13 The Superintendent is authorized to establish protocols to ensure this policy is implemented and reflected in schools' codes of conduct.