

CODE OF STUDENT CONDUCT

The items in this Code are applicable to 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 Cuyahoga Falls City 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 conduct takes place while on property immediately adjacent to school property, within the line of sight of school property, on school transportation, or off of property owned or controlled by the district, but that is connected to an activity that occurred on property owned or controlled by the district, and misconduct that, regardless of where it occurs, is directed at a district official or employee, or the property of such official or employee, or that affects the operation of the schools.

Violation on the part of students of any one or more of the following rules of conduct may result in disciplinary action, including, but not limited to, parental contact, detention, remuneration, confiscation of items, attendance at awareness programs, removal from a course, Friday school, Saturday School, In School Restriction (ISR), emergency removal, school suspension (OSS), possible criminal prosecution, or expulsion from school.

- A. **Disruption Of School** – A student shall not by use of violence, force, coercion, threat, harassment, insubordination, or by other means cause disruption passively or aggressively to the educational process. This includes the incitement of others towards acts of disruption. This also includes false alarms and bomb threats.
- B. **Damage To Property/Vandalism** – A student shall not cause or attempt to cause damage, destruction, or defacement to school or private property on school premises or at any school activity.
- C. **Degrading Acts** – A student shall not engage in any act which does, or may frighten, degrade, disgrace, threaten, intimidate or cause injury to any person within the school system.
- D. **Disrespectful/Defiant Behavior** – A student shall not through his/her actions, show, engage or behave in such a way which demonstrates insolent, disrespectful or defiant behavior to school personnel.
- E. **Fighting, Assault, Battery** – A student shall not fight, physically touch or behave in such a way as could cause physical harm to another party, nor shall a student engage in any act or threatened act of physical violence or force causing, attempting to cause, or threatening to cause physical harm to another. Any student involved in fighting will be emergency removed for the remainder of the school day.
- F. **Profane/Inappropriate Language or Gestures** – Students shall not use profane or vulgar language or gestures. **Note:** The term language in these guidelines is intended to cover the use of profane, indecent, inappropriate or obscene language, including racial, sexual or ethnic slurs, in written or verbal communication. This shall include the use of obscene gestures, pictures, signs or clothing.

- G. **Disobedience/Insubordination** – A student shall not fail to comply with reasonable directions from teachers or other school personnel at any time while under the jurisdiction of the school. Examples of disobedience – insubordination are, but not limited to: refusal to identify oneself and/or to go to the office upon request; refusal to serve Friday School and refusal to serve In School Restriction.
- H. **Dangerous Weapons Or Instruments** – A student shall not possess, handle, transmit, conceal, or threaten to use any object, which might be considered a dangerous weapon or instrument. Some examples are, but not limited to, fireworks, explosives, guns, knives, look-alike weapon, or chemical spray. This offense is a violation of O.R.C. §2923.122. A violation of this rule is considered a major offense and will result in student suspension/expulsion from school.
- I. **Arson/Attempted Arson** – A student shall not burn or attempt to burn any property, whether public or private, within the grounds of the school system or while under the jurisdiction of school personnel.
- J. **Emergency Alarms and Equipment** – A student shall not discharge or use emergency alarms or equipment without just cause. A student shall not give false alarm of fire, bomb or other hazard.
- K. **Theft/Possession of Stolen Items** – A student shall not cause or attempt to take into possession the public property or equipment of the school district or the personal property of another student, teacher, visitor or employee of the school district.
- L. **Leaving School Without Permission/Truancy** – A student upon arrival at school may not leave the school without parental notification, a pass from the office and administrative approval. A student will be considered truant if he/she misses a class, lunch or study hall without official permission.
- M. **Tobacco/Nicotine** – A student shall not possess, use, transmit, conceal, smoke, smell of, or otherwise make use of tobacco or related products (including lighters or matches), any alternative nicotine product, including electronic, vapor, or other substitute forms of cigarettes, cigars, cigarillos, or pipes or any tobacco or nicotine cessation products.
- Note:** It is prohibited by Ohio law for a minor to use, consume, or possess cigarettes, other tobacco products, papers used to roll cigarettes, or alternative nicotine products. It is also now prohibited for a minor to assist, pay for or share in the cost of such products. Even though there are some exceptions to this new law, those exceptions would not apply to use or possession of these products at school or school activities.
- N. **Forgery** – Students shall not give false statements, make false accusations, and/or interfere with staff investigations, shall not forge the writing of another or falsely use the name of another person or falsify times, dates, grades, signatures, addresses, or other data

on school forms or school related correspondence. Failure to comply could be due cause of suspension.

Cheating – Students shall not engage in any act of cheating, plagiarism or academic dishonesty. This includes any unauthorized use of instructional materials, fraudulent use of supplementary aids, or other intentional misrepresentation or deception.

- O. **Throwing Objects** – Students shall not throw objects on school property. This includes snowballs or throwing of food/liquids in the cafeteria.
- P. **Public Display of Affection** – Students should not engage in an overt display of affection or sexual act on school grounds that presents an embarrassing appearance to fellow students, staff and school guests.
- Q. **Alcohol, Drugs, Narcotics** – A student shall not possess, use, transmit, sell, conceal or give evidence of having consumed any alcoholic beverages, dangerous drugs, narcotic or mind-altering substance, counterfeit or look-a-like controlled substance, or over-the-counter drugs on school grounds or at school sponsored activities. Possession by a student of any type of drug paraphernalia is also prohibited.
- R. **Tardiness** – All students are expected to be on time for school and for each class. Students more than five (5) minutes late without a pass will receive a Friday School. Students habitually tardy will lose parking privileges, as well as other privileges at the high school such as attendance at extracurricular events.
- S. **Inappropriate Use of Technology** – The use of computer technology and/or the Internet is a privilege and not a right. Inappropriate use includes, but is not limited to, vandalism to equipment, uploading or creating of computer viruses, harassment, sending of unwanted mail, wasting materials, initiating access to inappropriate material, and hacking.
- T. **Electronic Devices** – Electronic devices are to be off and out of sight during the school day (7:45am – 2:40pm) unless used for instructional purposes and with teacher authorization and supervision.

The item will be confiscated in its entirety without putting a block onto the electronic device. A parent/guardian or designee that is listed on the EMA Form will be required to pick up the item. A proper identification and signature will also be required before the item is released.

- U. **Harassment** – No student shall intimidate, insult, or in any manner abuse or harass, sexually or otherwise, another student, staff or other person. This prohibition of harassment also includes any act of intimidation or threat that causes mental or physical harm or discomfort to another student or staff. Any incident should be reported to a staff member or building administrator.

1. Cyber Bullying or Telecommunications Harassment. The use of modern communication technologies to embarrass, humiliate, threaten, or harm a victim(s) is prohibited. Any oral, written, and/or electronic action or behavior towards any staff and/or student that is a declaration of intent to punish or hurt will not be tolerated and will be subject to disciplinary action.
 2. Libel is a written or oral defamatory statement or representation that conveys an unjustly unfavorable impression; a statement or representation published without just cause and tending to expose another to public contempt.
 3. Students and parents should be cautioned that creating fraudulent web pages (e.g.: My Space, Facebook, or other similar web sites) under another person's identity is considered a crime under the Ohio Revised Code. (Identify theft and fraud: O.R.C. §2913.29), (Libel: O.R.C. §2739). Consequences for this infraction may include disciplinary consequences as outlined in the student handbook as well as criminal and civil charges under Ohio law. Please be advised that identity theft is considered a felony in the State of Ohio.
 4. Dating violence is considered a form of bullying and aggressive behavior. Dating violence is defined as a pattern of behavior where a person uses or threatens physical, sexual, verbal, or emotional abuse to control the person's dating partner.
 5. Sexual harassment may include, but is not limited to:
 - Sexual flirtation, touching, advances, or propositions
 - Verbal or physical abuse of a sexual nature
 - Graphic or suggestive comments about an individual's dress or body
 - The use of sexually degrading words to describe an individual
 - Displaying sexually aggressive objects or photographs
 - Sexually explicit or obscene jokes
- V. **Inappropriate Dress or Appearance** – All students are to dress in a manner that is consistent with the Student Dress Code. Students in violation of the Dress Code will be given the opportunity, with parent contact if necessary, to immediately remedy the inappropriate dress or will be assigned to the in-school restriction room for the rest of the school day. Those in continued violation of the dress code will be subject to disciplinary measures.
- W. **Multiple Code Violation** – A student who accumulates 10 or more days of suspensions in the course of the school year may be recommended for expulsion from school. Serious

violations of the student conduct code could result in a recommendation for expulsion before the accumulation of 10 days of suspension.

- X. **Possession or Distribution of Inappropriate Materials** – A student shall not possess or distribute images or materials that are deemed inappropriate nor distribute or sell unauthorized materials on school property. This includes, but is not limited to, displays of violence, sexual materials, or drug and alcohol related images.
- Y. **Loitering/Trespassing** – The school day for students ends at 2:40 PM. Students not involved in supervised after-school activities should exit the building as soon as possible but not later than 3:00 PM. Unsupervised students in the school building could face disciplinary action/or trespassing charges.
- Z. **Gambling** – A student shall not engage in any gambling activities, such as playing or gambling for money or other stakes.
- AA. 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.