

CODE OF CONDUCT

INTRODUCTION

Schools are not only charged with the responsibility of providing instruction in the area of academics, but are also expected to prepare students to be successful in a society governed by rules and moral responsibilities. Our first duty is to challenge students with high standards and expectations. A positive approach which emphasizes the benefits of good citizenship should be followed.

However, the duty of schools to provide safe, orderly environments where learning may be achieved also requires that certain minimum standards of conduct be clearly communicated to the school community. There must be a knowing appreciation that real consequences attend both poor judgment and intentional acts of misconduct.

It is the objective of the policy to achieve the following goals: the right of every student to attend school free from fear for personal safety; the prevention of disturbances or interruptions of the educational process; the responsibility of teachers to assist in preserving an orderly learning environment; and, the responsibility of parents in maintaining an atmosphere conducive to learning.

Each school shall maintain and publish a code of conduct which shall include a schedule of offenses, penalties and a description of due process rights and procedures. The Code of Conduct shall also incorporate the productive and safe schools plan developed by the Local School Improvement Council. A copy of the code of conduct shall be posted in each school in a prominent place.

At the commencement of each school year all students and their parents shall be provided with copies of a school's code of conduct. Students who transfer into a school during the course of a school year and their parents shall also be provided with copies of a school's code of conduct. Each year students shall be required to sign a statement acknowledging that they have read the code of conduct or have had it read to them and that they understand the code of conduct.

AUTHORITY OF TEACHERS

(West Virginia State Code 18A-5-1)

The teacher shall stand in the place of the parent or guardian in exercising authority over the school, and shall have control of all pupils enrolled in the school from the time they reach the school until they have returned to their respective homes, except that where transportation of pupils is provided, the driver in charge of the school bus or other mode of transportation shall exercise such authority and control over the children while they are in transit to and from the school.

WHEN AND WHERE THE SCHOOL'S CODE OF CONDUCT APPLIES

(See Kanawha County Board of Education Policy, Series J25, Section 25.05)

All students shall be subject to the provisions of a code of conduct in the following circumstances:

- (a) While on property owned by Kanawha County Schools;
- (b) During time periods when a student is scheduled to attend school or other activities conducted under the auspices of Kanawha County Schools, regardless of whether a student is in actual attendance;
- (c) During any extracurricular activity or trip conducted under the auspices of Kanawha County Schools in which a student elects to participate;
- (d) While a student is in transit to or from school or an extracurricular activity, including transit on a school bus;
- (e) Offenses against employees of Kanawha County Schools, regardless of time or place;
- (f) Bomb threats involving Kanawha County Schools property, regardless of time or place; and,
- (g) The consumption of alcoholic beverages or controlled substances, in any amount, prior to any school related activity, regardless of place.
- (h) While the student is at any school-sponsored activity or event, whether or not it is held on school premises, in a building or other property used or operated by the board of education, RESA or state department of education, or in another facility being used by any of those agencies.

OFFENSES AND PENALTIES

(See Kanawha County Board of Education Policy, Series J25, Section 25.07)

Each school's code of conduct shall contain at least the offenses hereinafter set forth in this Section. Each school is authorized to include any additional offenses which are deemed appropriate for the orderly operation of a school and the health, safety and welfare of staff and students. Elementary schools may establish alternative codes of conduct. However, such alternative codes of conduct must specify offenses, corresponding maximum possible penalties and a description of due process rights and procedures. Except where otherwise indicated, the penalties for each offense shall be determined on a case by case basis taking into account all facts and circumstances of a violation, including the past records of any students who are involved

25.04. Student Code of Conduct.

25.04.1. All students enrolled in Kanawha County Schools shall behave in a manner that promotes a school environment that is nurturing, orderly, safe and conducive to learning and personal-social development.

- 25.04.2. Students will help create an atmosphere free from bullying, intimidation and harassment.
- 25.04.3. Students will demonstrate honesty and trustworthiness.
- 25.04.4. Students will treat others with respect, deal peacefully with anger, use good manners and be considerate of the feelings of others.
- 25.04.5. Students will demonstrate responsibility, use self-control and be self-disciplined.
- 25.04.6. Students will demonstrate fairness, abide by the rules, and will not take advantage of others.
- 25.04.7. Students will demonstrate compassion and caring.
- 25.04.8. Students will demonstrate good citizenship by obeying laws and rules, respecting authority, and by cooperating with others.

Verification of Code of Conduct Training

I have read or have had read to me the KCS Code of Conduct Series J25, Student Behavior, including the sections dealing with weapons and sexual harassment. This training involved a review of the student code of conduct, where and when it applies and the possible school responses to the levels of I, II, III, IV and V Violations.

Level I offenses disrupt the educational process and the orderly operations of the school but do not pose a danger to self or others. Examples: use of cell phones during school, cheating, disruptive/disrespectful conduct, violation of dress code, inappropriate language, tardiness, etc.

Level II violations disrupt the educational process and/or pose potential harm or danger to self or others. The behavior is committed willfully. Examples: habitual violation of school rules, insubordination, leaving school without permission, possession of an imitation weapon, profane language/acts; technology misuse, etc.

Level III violations are willfully committed and are known to be illegal and/or harmful to people or property. Examples: injuring another student, vandalism/defacing school property, false fire alarm, sexting, threat of injury against an employee or student, harassment/bullying/intimidation, sexual/racial/religious harassment, etc.

Level IV violations include battery against a school employee, possession of a gun or deadly weapon, and the sale of narcotics. In these cases the principal must recommend to the Superintendent that the child be expelled.

Student: _____

Date: _____

I have received a copy of the KCS Code of Conduct.

Parent: _____

Date: _____

NOTICE OF NONDISCRIMINATION

Applicants for admission and employment, students, parents, employees, and sources of referral of applicants for admission and employment are hereby notified that the Kanawha County School District does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, sex, age, or disability in admission or access to, or treatment or employment in, its programs and activities. Any person having inquiries concerning the Kanawha County School District's compliance with the regulations implementing Title IX or Section 504 is directed to contact: Title IX: Title IX Coordinator, Kanawha County Board of Education, 200 Elizabeth Street, Charleston, WV 25311-2119, phone 348-1379; Section 504: Section 504 Coordinator, Kanawha County Board of Education, 200 Elizabeth Street, Charleston, WV 25311-2119, phone 348-1366. These persons have been designated by the Kanawha County School District to coordinate efforts to comply with the regulations implementing Title IX and Section 504.