

## Concord School District Policy #540

### Code of Student Conduct

The existence of society is predicated upon the willingness of its members to adhere to established behavioral rules. One purpose of education is to prepare young people to participate productively and responsibly in our society. To do so, students must learn what is appropriate behavior and the consequences for inappropriate behavior.

Furthermore, the mission of Concord School District is to enable every student to acquire and demonstrate the skills, knowledge and attitudes essential to be a responsible world citizen committed to personal, family and community well-being. Among other outcomes, graduates of the Concord schools are expected to be:

**Active self-directed learners** who examine options as they initiate and complete tasks;

**Effective collaborators** who assume various roles to accomplish group or community goals, using self-knowledge, compromise, cooperation and respect;

**Informed decision makers** who consider consequences and make choices which demonstrate intellectual integrity and rigorous evaluation;

**Community participants** who understand and practice our democratic traditions and values, including respect for human dignity, honesty and fairness and who accept the consequence for their actions.

To enable every student to achieve these outcomes, we need to provide a productive, healthy and safe school climate in which every member of the school community understands the rights and responsibilities of being a member of that community.

A productive, healthy and safe school climate can exist only when behavior expectations are clearly stated; when consequences are consistently applied by the school and parents, working together.

The behavior expectations and consequences which follow are intended to create a productive, healthy, and safe school climate.

#### I. Expectations for Students

It is expected that students will demonstrate appropriate behaviors and attitudes including respect, honesty, and fairness necessary to maintain a productive, healthy, and safe school climate.

It is also expected that students will not demonstrate the following behaviors which seriously interfere with teaching and learning and are deemed unacceptable in our schools.

- Use of abusive language or inappropriate gestures;
- Leaving school grounds without legitimate school or parental authority;

- Physical, verbal and/or sexual harassment and bullying;
- Fighting;
- Assault;
- Possession of illegal substances - alcohol, tobacco, and drugs
- Vandalizing or stealing school, staff and/or student property;
- Possession of weapons or weapon-like devices;
- Persistent violations of school and classroom rules;
- Disrespect toward school personnel and other students;
- Any other behavior which seriously disrupts the productive, healthy and safe school climate we value.

All school staffs, primary level through high school, will teach about these behaviors in a consistent manner.

Students are also expected to abide by all federal, state and local laws.

## II. Consequences

Application of these listed consequences will depend on the severity and frequency of the unacceptable behavior in accordance with the building discipline plan:

- Parental/guardian notification
- Teacher/administrative detention
- Restitution
- In-school suspension
- Out-of-school suspension
- Police notification (Safe School Zone requirement)
- Expulsion from school (requires School Board action)

## III. Procedures

When accused of a behavior violation, a student is entitled to due process, including the following:

- The right to be informed of the rules and regulations involved;
- The right to be informed of the charges if a violation occurs;
- A fair hearing;
- Appeal to the Board Communications and Policy Committee for long-term suspension;
- Receive a copy of all rulings regarding the case.
- As required by RSA 193:13(a), educational assignments shall be made available to

the suspended pupil during the period of suspension.

**Legal References:**

RSA 189:15, Regulations

RSA 193:13, Suspension & Expulsion of Pupils

RSA Chapter 193-D

NH Code of Administrative Rules, Section Ed 306.04(a)(3), Discipline

NH Code of Administrative Rules, Section Ed 306.04(f), Student Discipline Policy

NH Code of Administrative Rules, Section Ed 317.04, Suspension and Expulsion of Pupils

Assuring Due Process Disciplinary Procedures

In re Keelin B., 162 N.H. 38, 27 A.3d 689 (2011)

Adopted September 7, 1999. Revised August 6, 2001; September 2, 2014; January 2, 2018

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