

STUDENT CODE OF CONDUCT

Background

Division staff must help students achieve to the best of their ability individual knowledge, values, skills and competence and learn behavior patterns and practices which will enable them to be responsible, contributing members of the community.

- 1 The following purposes provide the rationale for this student code of conduct:
 - 1.1. to ensure that each student enrolled in a school operated by the District is provided with a welcoming, caring, respectful, and safe learning environment that respects diversity and fosters a sense of belonging;
 - 1.2. to support Catholic Communities of Caring; and
 - 1.3. to support the District's Mission, Value, and Vision Statements:

Mission Statement

We are a Catholic community committed to developing educational opportunities in the context of Gospel values, where students' gifts and talents are celebrated and nurtured through lifelong spiritual and personal experiences.

Our Beliefs

- That Jesus Christ and his teachings are the foundation and core of our Catholic School Division.
- That a quality education is a continuing process that develops the whole person in an environment which encourages success.
- That we live out the Catholic faith through our words, our actions and our interactions.
- That Catholic education is a shared responsibility between the home, the school, the parish and the community.
- That education is a lifelong journey during which excellence is actively pursued.
- That everyone has worth and dignity as a unique creation of God.

Definition

A *welcoming, caring, respectful and safe learning environment that respects diversity* is defined as one which:

- Respects each person's worth and dignity as a unique creation of God;
- Is orderly and purposeful;
- Fosters caring and peaceful relationships;
- Shows understanding and sensitivity individual differences; and
- Is free from the threat of physical and psychological harm.

2 The following behaviours are acceptable:

2.1 all behaviours that contribute to a welcoming, caring, respectful, and safe learning environment that respects diversity and fosters a sense of belonging;

2.2 all behaviours that support Catholic Communities of Caring; and

2.3 all behaviours that support the District's Mission, Value, and Vision Statements.

3 The following behaviours are unacceptable:

Behaviours prohibited by the School Act

3.1 Conduct that does not reasonably comply with the code of conduct under section 12 of the *School Act*, which requires a student to:

3.1.1 be diligent in pursuing the student's studies;

3.1.2 attend school regularly and punctually;

3.1.3 co-operate fully with everyone authorized by the District to provide education programs and other services;

3.1.4 comply with the rules of the school;

3.1.5 account to the student's teachers for the student's conduct;

3.1.6 respect the rights of others;

3.1.7 ensure that the student's conduct contributes to a welcoming, caring, respectful, and safe learning environment that respects diversity and fosters a sense of belonging;

- 3.1.8 refrain from, report, and not tolerate bullying or bullying behaviour directed toward others in the school, whether or not it occurs within the school building, during the school day or by electronic means; and
- 3.1.9 Positively contribute to the student's school and community.
- 3.2 Conduct, whether or not the conduct occurred within the school building or during the school day, that was injurious to the physical or mental well-being of others in the school in contravention of section 24(1)(c) or 24(7)(c) of the *School Act*.
- 3.3 Distribution of an intimate image of another person knowing that the person depicted in the image did not consent to the distribution or being reckless as to whether or not that person consented to the distribution in contravention of section 24(1) (d) or 24(7) (d) of the *School Act*.
- 3.4 Disturbing or interrupting the proceedings of a school or a school, District, or Board of Trustees meeting in contravention of sections 27(1)(a) or (b) of the *School Act*.
- 3.4 Loitering or trespassing in a school building or on property owned by the District in contravention of section 27(1)(c) of the *School Act*.
- 3.6 Canvassing, selling, or offering to sell goods, services, or merchandise to a teacher or a student in a school without the prior approval of the District in contravention of section 27(2) of the *School Act*.

Procedures

1. The Principal shall establish and maintain appropriate programs and procedures focused on nurturing a positive, welcoming, caring, respectful and safe learning environment that respects diversity.
2. Programs and strategies shall address: prevention, intervention and response.
3. Prevention
 - 3.1 Staff shall communicate effectively, reflect a caring attitude, demonstrate courtesy and respect, and allow for individual differences.
 - 3.2 Staff are encouraged to seek opportunities through the curriculum to address the teaching of pro-social behaviors such as listening, problem solving, peaceful conflict resolution and self-control.
 - 3.3 Principals shall implement clearly articulated behavior standards developed through a collaborative process involving the School Council.

- 3.4 Students shall have opportunities to develop and exercise critical decision making and conflict resolution skills.
4. Intervention
 - 4.1 Students and staff shall monitor and report issues and concerns.
 - 4.2 Staff will be given appropriate support to address student conduct concerns within the schools, both for students who engage in inappropriate behaviour and students affected by inappropriate behaviour.
 - 4.3 Consequences of unacceptable behavior must take into account the student's age, maturity, and individual circumstances.
5. Students shall:
 - 5.1 Provide a safe and healthy environment for others by maintaining order and self-discipline; and having consideration for the rights; property and safety of others;
 - 5.2 Assume personal responsibility for personal cleanliness, neatness and attire acceptable to a Catholic school setting;
 - 5.3 Respect other students, staff, visitors, volunteers and fellow citizens of the school community;
 - 5.4 Respect the personal property of others and refrain from causing intentional damage or wear to books, facilities, materials, buildings, grounds and furnishing;
 - 5.5 Refrain from fighting, creating disturbances, using or carrying any weapon or dangerous items during school related activities, intentionally injuring other persons, or acting in a manner that will expose others to risk of danger or injury;
 - 5.6 Refrain from using threats, harassment, or intimidation against other persons;
 - 5.7 Respect the health and safety of others and refrain from using, possessing, transmitting or being under the influence of tobacco, any alcoholic beverage, illegal or prohibited substance or by engaging in extortion, theft, assault, excessive noise, or any other unacceptable or unlawful activity;
 - 5.8 Respect the educational process and learning environment of others by refraining from intentional or habitual tardiness, inexcusable absence, or any activities which diminish the rights of others;
 - 5.9 Be aware of and respect the diversity of Canadian cultures and traditions; and
 - 5.10 Accept the responsibility to make their school a faith community of peace by living out the Gospel Values on a daily basis.

Reference: Section 12, 14, 16, 20, 24, 25, 45, 60, 61, 113 School Act
Occupational Health and Safety Act
Prevention of Youth Tobacco Use Act
Smoke-free Places Act