

Code of Conduct

Policy No. 301.5R

REGULATIONS

HANDOUT: 301.5H – District Code of Conduct for Students Handout

1. Roles and Responsibilities for School Codes of Conduct:

- The Superintendent of Schools will ensure that each school establishes a Code of Conduct that is consistent with the District Code of Conduct for Students.
- The Principal/Vice Principal(s) shall develop and implement a School Code of Conduct based on Provincial and District policies, procedures and regulations.
- The School Code of Conduct will be posted for general display in the main office and be available on school websites.
- Employees of the Board who are assigned to schools or work with students will be provided with a School Code of Conduct in either electronic or paper form.
- Each school staff member is responsible for the implementation of the District and School Code of Conduct.
- School Codes of Conduct are to be reviewed at least annually by schools with staff, stakeholders, rightsholders and where age appropriate, with student input.
- All School Codes of Conduct must contain statements that reflect provincial and District policy/regulations regarding student use and restrictions for “Personal Digital Devices,” as described in Policy 401.1 and 401.1R. - District Technology, Consent and Privacy.

2. District Code of Conduct for Students:

Each student* in the district is required to adhere to the District Code of Conduct for Students and Codes of Conduct established at the school level.

It is expected that students will:

1. Respect the rights of others within the school community including peers, staff, parents and guests;
2. Work to the best of their abilities with the goal of continuous improvement;
3. Follow the directions of staff, recognizing the right to have decisions reviewed that affect them;
4. Respect the school's physical school facilities, equipment and the property of fellow students. Students (or their parents) may be held financially responsible for repairs or replacement of property willfully damaged;
5. Respect the diversity of our school community and the *BC Human Rights Code* which prohibits discrimination on race, national or ethnic origin, colour, religion, sex, age, mental or physical disability, gender identification/expression, sexual orientation or sexual orientation as perceived by others.
6. Conduct themselves in a safe and responsible manner at all times;
7. Not threaten, harass, bully, intimidate or assault, in any way, any person within the school community. This includes cyber bullying;
8. Not be in possession of any object that, in the opinion of the Principal/ Vice Principal, is potentially dangerous. This includes any weapons, legal or illegal, including replicas/imitations.
9. Not be in possession or under the influence of drugs, alcohol, or other prohibited items.
10. Not be in possession of or use tobacco, drugs or vape type products in school buildings, on school trips or on school property; and,
11. Adhere to the regulations of student conduct on school buses.
(See *Policy and Regulations 406.1 - Student Transportation to and from School*).

* *Special considerations apply to students who are unable to comply with the Codes of Conduct due to having a disability/condition of an intellectual, physical, medical, sensory, emotional or behavioural nature.*

3. District schools' jurisdiction over its students include:

- 3.1. Any activity occurring during a regular school day on school premises (building and grounds) or any activity that is sponsored by, or organized by the school/district, regardless of time or place;
- 3.2. Student conduct occurring outside the regular school day and on school premises (building and grounds), if in the opinion of the Principal/Vice Principal circumstances warrant;
- 3.3. Student conduct while traveling to school and returning home from school, if in the opinion of the Principal/Vice Principal circumstances warrant; and,
- 3.4. Student conduct on school buses or transportation arranged by a school or district;
- 3.5. While the District does not assume responsibility for student behaviour outside the school's jurisdiction, it may respond in circumstances where misconduct has or can reasonably be expected to have an impact on the school environment.
- 3.6. The school may report to and cooperate with the RCMP in cases where there may have been a breach of the law.

4. The District further expects that:

- 4.1. Appropriate behaviour is consistently encouraged and acknowledged by staff, thereby increasing student self-awareness and personal growth.
- 4.2. On-going communication occurs between staff and parents that encourages positive relationships to support their children's education.
- 4.3. Investigations and any outcomes will occur in a timely, fair, and responsible manner taking into account the student's age, maturity, and specific intellectual, physical, medical, sensory, or emotional needs.
- 4.4. Corrective responses may include restorative approaches, counselling, program supports, suspension, or other similar appropriate measures determined by staff.
- 4.5. Serious breaches of conduct, including threatening or violent behaviours, will be referred directly to district staff for the possibility of a Violent Threat Risk Assessment (VTRA).
- 4.6. The school and district will take all reasonable steps to prevent retaliation by a person against a student who has made a complaint of a breach of the Codes of Conduct.

5. Students over the age of 16

Where a student* 16 years of age or older repeatedly fails to comply with the Codes of Conduct, rules and policies of the school, or has failed to apply themselves at their studies as set out in Section 85 of the *School Act*, the Board is empowered to refuse further school service to the student.

6. Appeals/Decision Reviews

Please see *Policy 302.16 Appeals Procedure* for more information on how to seek a possible review of staff decisions.