

## CANTON CITY SCHOOLS Student Conduct Code\*

The Canton City Schools Board of Education recognizes that it is important for each student to be educated to the fullest of his/her ability in a safe and healthy environment. The rights of each individual are preserved only by the protection and preservation of the rights of others. A student is responsible for the way rights are exercised and must accept the consequences of actions and recognize the boundaries of rights. To this end, each student is expected to follow exemplary behavior by conforming to the Student Conduct Code. It is the responsibility of all students, parents/guardians, and staff to be knowledgeable about the provisions of the Student Conduct Code.

A violation of any of the following rules, as they appear in the Student Code of Conduct, on school property or at school related functions may result in disciplinary action which may include: corporal punishment, suspension, (in or out of school), expulsion, removal from class, removal from extracurricular activities, or removal from the premises or placement in an alternative educational setting. A student may be expelled for up to one year if he/she commits an act that inflicts serious physical harm to persons or property if it was committed at school, on other school property, or at a school activity, event or program. Furthermore, the Board may seek the permanent exclusion of a student 16 years of age or older who is either convicted in criminal court or adjudicated delinquent by a juvenile court of any of the offenses (listed in Board of Education Policy JEGA) that occur on school grounds or at school functions. Complicity in any of these offenses may be the basis for permanent exclusion. In addition, a violation of the Student Code of Conduct may result in disciplinary action as set forth above, regardless of where or when the misconduct occurs, if it appears likely that the misconduct poses a threat to students, to district employees/officials (and their property), to school property, or to the educational process within the schools.

A violation of any of the following, as they appear in the Student Code of Conduct, will result in a referral for suspension and/or expulsion:

- ❖ Physical assault of a staff member or student.
- ❖ Initiating a false fire alarm or bomb threat.
- ❖ Use or possession of a weapon.
- ❖ Sale or distribution of a weapon.
- ❖ Use or possession of alcohol, drugs, tobacco or look-a-like drugs.
- ❖ Sale or distribution of alcohol, drugs, tobacco or look-a-like drugs.
- ❖ Setting a fire or attempting to set a fire on school property.

Further, a violation of the Student Athlete/Extracurricular Activities Participant Code of Conduct will result in disciplinary action, which may include denial of participation in any school activity for the current season and/or subsequent seasons.

Due process is followed in all cases involving Student Conduct Code violations.. Copies of this Student Conduct Code are made available to students and parents and are posted in a central location within each school.

### TRUANCY

Truancy: A student shall not be truant from school for all or any part of the day. This includes unexcused tardiness and/or absences from any properly assigned activity. The primary responsibility for student attendance rests with parents.

## BEHAVIORAL PROBLEMS

Civil Rights: A student shall not participate in any act which infringes on the civil rights of another or in any way threatens the safety or welfare of another.

Computers: A student shall not be involved with inappropriate or unauthorized use or abuse of computers, on-line systems or services, including violations of the Canton City Schools Internet Acceptable Use Agreement.

Disruption of School: A student shall not commit any act, including but not limited to violence, force, noise, threat, or intimidation, that causes the disruption of any function of the school.

Foul Language Directed Toward Another Person: A student shall not openly defy or use obscene language or gestures toward any school personnel, school guest, or other student.

Disrespect: A student shall not willfully intimidate, insult, or in other manner abuse verbally, electronically, or in writing, any member of the school staff or student body.

Electronic Communications Equipment: Electronic communication devices should not be seen, heard or used by students in the school or used any time during the school day other than as directed by school personnel.

False Reports: A student shall not be involved in the act of falsely reporting incidents, making accusations, or giving false testimony to school personnel which would seriously affect the welfare of others.

Forgery: A student shall not be engaged in the act of falsely using, in writing, the name of another person, or falsifying times, dates, grades, addresses, or other data on school forms or correspondence directed to the school.

Gambling: A student shall not be involved in the act of gambling.

Hazing: A student shall not be involved in any act which compromises the physical/mental health or safety of any student or other person or that subjects a student or other person to substantial mental stress, humiliation, which includes, but is not limited to deprivation of sleep, rest or extended isolation.

Bullying: A student shall not engage in an intentional written, verbal or physical act that a student has exhibited toward another particular student that causes both mental or physical harm to the other student and is sufficiently severe, persistent or pervasive that it creates an intimidating, threatening or abusive educational environment for the other student.

Harassment/Sexual Harassment: A student shall not engage in written, electronic, verbal, or physical behavior which degrades or disgraces another student or employee. These acts include but are not limited to: name calling, physical gestures, physically threatening acts or gestures, verbal comments regarding sex or verbal comments with sexual overtones, vulgar language, inappropriate touching, graffiti, unwelcome sexual advances, or requests for sexual favors.

Insubordination: A student shall not willfully fail to respond to, carry out a reasonable request by authorized school personnel, or refuse to comply with directions of authorized school personnel during any period of time when the student is under the authority of school personnel.

Robbery and/or Panhandling: A student shall not be involved in the act of extortion or borrowing, attempting to borrow any money or thing of value from a person in school, in Board of Education owned vehicles, or in attendance at a Board of Education sponsored and supervised activity, unless both parties enter into the agreement freely and without the presence of either an implied or expressed threat.

Loitering or Trespassing: A student shall not be permitted on school property at unauthorized times.

Frightening, Degrading, or Disgraceful Acts: A student shall not engage in any act which frightens, degrades, disgraces, or tends to frighten, degrade, or disgrace a teacher, school related personnel, school guest, or fellow student by written, electronic, verbal or gestural means.

Use of Inappropriate Dress: A student shall not dress in a manner that interferes with the health, welfare and safety of the members of the student body. Any form of dress or grooming which attracts undue attention, prompting a disruption of the learning environment, is subject to disciplinary action. Clothing or accessories, which bear anything (stated or implied), referring to drugs, alcohol, sexual reference, violence, cults or gangs, will not be permitted. Extremes in grooming and clothing that disrupt educational standards as determined by school administrators will not be permitted.

Plagiarism: A student shall not steal and/or use, as his or her own, the ideas or writings of another.

School Bus Rules and Regulations: All students are expected to abide by the rules of conduct established for the use of bus transportation. These rules apply to regularly scheduled bus runs plus extracurricular activities and field trips, including athletic transportation. Disorderly conduct or refusal to submit to the authority of the driver is sufficient reason for refusing transportation services or suspending transportation services to any student once proper procedures are followed.

#### FIGHTING/VIOLENCE

Assault: A student shall not intentionally cause or attempt to cause physical injury or intentionally behave in such a way as could reasonably cause physical injury to another person at school or at a school related function.

Inciting Others to Violence or Disruption: A student shall not by words, acts or deeds directly incite others to commit violence or disrupt the atmosphere of order and discipline necessary for effective learning.

Threats: A student shall not by words, acts, or deeds threaten to commit, or have committed, acts of violence against persons or property. Statements of threat are considered acts of violence with intent to affect the welfare and safety of others. Threats are taken seriously and will not be condoned.

Gangs: A student shall not be involved with a group that initiates, advocates, or promotes activities which threaten the safety or well-being of persons or which is disruptive to the school environment. Wearing, carrying or displaying gang paraphernalia or exhibiting behavior or gestures which symbolize gang membership or causing, and/or participating in activities which intimidate or affect the attendance of another student is subject to disciplinary action.

#### VANDALISM/THEFT

Damage/Destruction or Stealing of Property: A student shall not intentionally cause or attempt to cause damage to property, or steal or attempt to steal property, either on the school grounds or during a school activity, function, or event off school grounds.

#### FALSE ALARMS/BOMB THREATS

False Alarms/Bomb Threats: A student shall not initiate a fire alarm or engage in a report of a fire or any impending bombing or other catastrophe without cause. (Bomb threats are subject to a one-year expulsion.)

#### USE/POSSESSION OF WEAPONS

Dangerous Weapons and Instruments: A student shall not use, possess, or conceal any weapons (as defined in BOE Policy JFCJ) while on school grounds or facilities; at school-sponsored events, in other situations under the authority of the School District or in school-owned or school-approved vehicles. Included in this prohibition, but not limited to, are any look-a-like weapons, laser pointers, explosives, incendiary or poisonous gases, bomb, grenades, rockets having a propellant charge of more than four ounces, missiles having an explosive or incendiary charge of more than one-quarter ounce, mines or devices similar to any of the devices described above. A knife is defined as a cutting instrument having a sharp blade. (Weapons violations are subject to a one-year expulsion.)

#### USE/POSSESSION OF ALCOHOL, DRUGS, TOBACCO, LOOK-A-LIKE DRUGS

Alcohol, Drugs, Tobacco, Look-a-like drugs: A student shall not use, possess, conceal, consume, show evidence of having consumed or used any alcoholic beverages, illegal drugs, unprescribed drugs, look-a-like drugs or any mind-altering substance while on school grounds or facilities; at school-sponsored events; in other situations under the authority of the School District or in school-owned or school-approved vehicles. Included in this prohibition are unauthorized over-the-counter medications, any substances represented as a controlled substance, non-alcoholic beers, steroids, tobacco and tobacco products and drug paraphernalia.

## SALE/DISTRIBUTION OF WEAPONS

Unauthorized Sale or Distribution A student shall not transmit, sell, or offer to sell any weapons (as defined in BOE Policy JFCJ) while on school grounds or facilities; at school-sponsored events; in other situations under the authority of the School District or in school-owned or school-approved vehicles. Included in this prohibition, but not limited to, are any look-a-like weapons, laser pointers, explosives, incendiary or poisonous gases, bombs, grenades, rockets having a propellant charge of more than four ounces, missiles having an explosive or incendiary charge of more than one-quarter ounce, mines or devices similar to any of the devices described above. A knife is defined as a cutting instrument having a sharp blade. (Weapons' violations are subject to a one-year expulsion.)

## SALE/DISTRIBUTION OF ALCOHOL, DRUGS, TOBACCO, "LOOK-A-LIKE" DRUGS

Unauthorized Sale or Distribution: A student shall not transmit, sell or offer to sell alcoholic beverages, illegal drugs, prescribed/unprescribed drugs, look-a-like drugs or any mind-altering substance while on school grounds or facilities; at school-sponsored events; in other situations under the authority of the School District or in school-owned or school-approved vehicles. Included in this prohibition are unauthorized over-the-counter medications, any substances represented as a controlled substance, non-alcoholic beers, steroids, tobacco and tobacco products and drug paraphernalia. Furthermore, no student shall deal or aid and abet in the dealing of drugs at any time, on or off school grounds.

Note: It is to be understood that any other serious infractions not included in the above list, which reach the gravity of persistent disobedience or gross misconduct may also serve as grounds for suspension or expulsion as provided by law. Students who have been suspended or expelled from school shall not be eligible to participate in any school functions for the duration of such disciplinary action.

Canton City School District

\*Board of Education Policy JFC

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