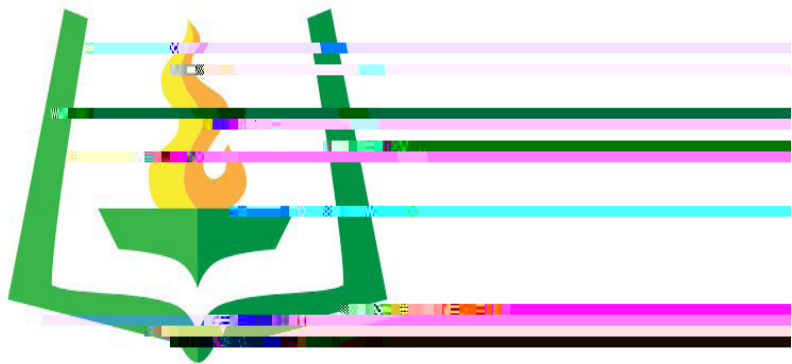


Elementary School Code of Conduct

2023-2024



AIKEN COUNTY

PUBLIC SCHOOLS

2023-2024

THE CONSOLIDATED SCHOOL DISTRICT OF AIKEN COUNTY
CODE OF STUDENT CONDUCT

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INTRODUCTORY MATTERS

@ Philosophy:

The Aiken County Board of Education believes that residents desire the best possible education for

athletic events and other school-related activities; while at, or in the immediate vicinity of, school bus stops and while utilizing school bus transportation for any purpose; and otherwise coming to or going home from school.

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While under school jurisdiction, students are required to conduct themselves at all times in a manner that is in the best interest of the school and community. It is expected that students will:

- A. *Conform to reasonable standards of speech, conduct, and dress and refrain from vulgar, obscene, and disrespectful conduct directed toward staff and other students.*
- B. *Refrain from violating or impairing the rights of others, including physical abuse, sexual harassment, hazing, and conduct considered "bullying" as defined in state law and prohibited under School District policy.*
- C. *Refrain from conduct that deprives other students of an orderly atmosphere for learning.*
- D. *Refrain from knowingly possessing, handling, or transmitting any object that can reasonably be considered a weapon.*
- E.

HEARINGS AND APPEALS

h. *Staff members will exercise*

alternative means of discipline that reflect respect for the dignity of the individual student. However, incidental contact with a student or the use of reasonable force to restrain a student who is fighting with another student, or who is threatening a student or staff member, committing assault against another person, or otherwise displaying aggressive or excessive misbehavior does not constitute corporal punishment.

U. *Typical minor disciplinary actions*

Typical minor disciplinary actions consist of restriction of privileges, work assignments (such as picking up paper, washing desk tops, sweeping floors, etc.), detention, in-school suspension, and out-of-school suspension. It is recognized, however, that situations serious enough to warrant immediate suspension may arise. In such cases, a warning conference prior to suspension is not required.

o. *For any of the offenses listed in O. 10*

Typically starting at Level II of offenses: For any of the offenses listed in O. 10 a student may be suspended (and/or recommended for expulsion in limited instances) by the assistant principal or principal. In making such recommendation, the school administrator will follow the matrix of consequences and will include information as to any extenuating, mitigating, or aggravating circumstances. For recommendations of suspension (or expulsion, if applicable), and for any offenses in which a student is to be suspended from a class or a school, the student's parent or guardian will be notified in writing and informed of the right to discuss the principal's action. This written notice will include the reason and time frame (dates) for the suspension (and/or recommendation for expulsion) and will set a time and place when the administrator will be available for a conference with the parent or guardian. Such conference will be set within three (3) school days of the date of the disciplinary action. After this conference, and prior to (or as part of) any due process hearing, the student – with written parental permission – may be offered voluntary participation in collaborative agency programs, or other interventions in lieu of, or in conjunction with, the continuation of discipline.

U. *For any of the offenses listed in O. 11*

For any of the offenses listed in O. 11 a student may be suspended and recommended for expulsion by the principal. In making such recommendation, the principal will include information as to any extenuating, mitigating, or aggravating circumstances. For expulsion of offenses, and for any offenses in which a student is to be suspended from a class or a school, the student's parent or guardian will be notified in writing and informed of the right to discuss the principal's action. This written notice will include the reason and the time frame (dates) for the suspension and/or recommendation for expulsion and will set a time and place when the administrator will be

advised of the alleged violation of the Code and the proposed consequences, such as restriction

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In certain circumstances, a student may be placed in the alternative setting after an accumulation of level II infractions with a conference and the administration and the parent/guardian. This agreement must be in place prior to the student committing an expellable offense.

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A recommendation for expulsion will be confirmed by the school level Assistant Superintendent. The Assistant Superintendent may require an additional conference with the parent or guardian before confirming a recommendation for expulsion.

A parent or guardian will be advised of the date and time for a hearing before the Hearing Officer, as provided below. u

= \ Such initial hearings shall take place within fifteen (15) days of the date of the written notification of expulsion, unless waived in writing by the parent or student, either completely or for a later date. If the parent or guardian fails to attend the hearing designated, the expulsion recommendation will be forwarded to the Board of Education for ratification. In any hearing, the Hearing Officer, after reviewing the student's previous record, and in light of extenuating

Handwritten signatures and initials are present over the text of the hearing procedure.

level of offense, or a less than suspension of offense if the same violates the terms of the imposed strict probation. Such violation of probation will result in immediate suspension from school and

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Any weapon, look-a-like weapon, or contraband item found on a student, or on property under the possession or control of the student while on school grounds or at any school-sponsored event, will be confiscated immediately from the student by the appropriate administrator, school personnel, or adult in charge. Thereafter, if required by law to be turned over to law enforcement authorities, such weapon or contraband item will be surrendered to law enforcement officials. Some weapons (including all handguns) are mandated by law to be forfeited upon such confiscation and surrendered to law enforcement personnel. Any other item reasonably considered a weapon or inherently dangerous by school administration and confiscated may be held at the discretion of the school administration (with the exception of cell phones) until the end of the then existing school term and turned over to the student's parent after a written request. Other unauthorized devices found in use by a student during instructional time, or otherwise displayed or utilized in a distracting

NOTE: The administration will make the final judgment on the appropriateness of clothing and/or appearance and reserves the right to prohibit students from wearing any article of clothing or other items which lead to or result in the disruption of or interference with the school environment and student safety. In the event the administration determines a student's dress is inappropriate for

12. Computer or Property Violation (minor)	220	CP/WRN	CNF/ISS (1-2)	OSS (1-3)
13. Bite/Pinch/Spit	003	CP/ISS (1-3)	ISS (1-3)	OSS (1-3)
14. Possession of over the counter medication	031	CP	CNF	ISS (1-3)
15. Cell Phone Violation	330	CP/WRN	WRN/LP (1-3)/ ISS (1-3)	WRN/LP (3-5)/ OSS (1-3)

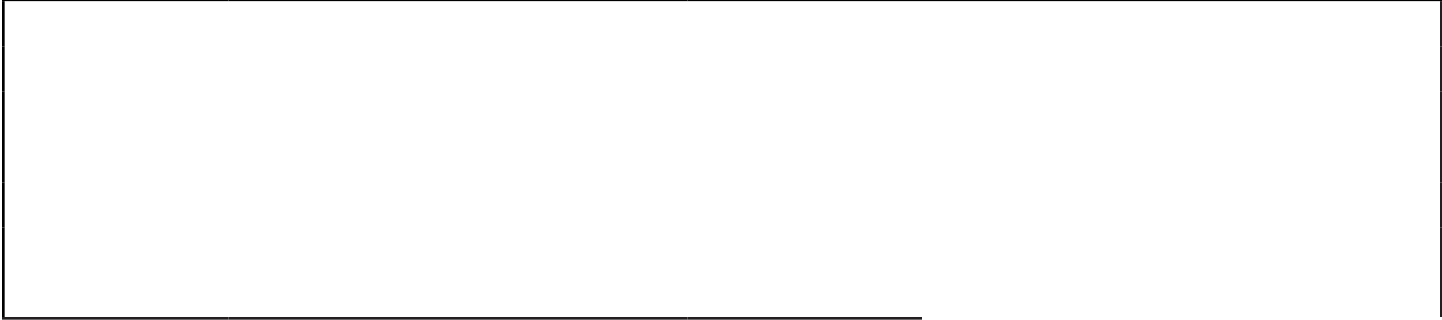
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Disruptive conduct is defined as those activities engaged in by a student which are directed against persons or property, and the consequences of which tend to endanger the health or safety of oneself or others in the school. Some instances of disruptive conduct may overlap certain criminal offenses, justifying both administrative sanctions and court proceedings. Behavioral misconduct (Level I) may be reclassified as disruptive conduct (Level II) if it occurs three or more times. The

10. Indecent exposure	019	CP/ISS (1-3)/ OSS (1-3)	ISS (3-5)/ OSS (3-5)	OSS (5-10)/RE
11. Possession of Contraband	004	OSS (1-3)/CNF	OSS (2-4)/CNF	OSS (3-5)/RE
12. Defiance/Refusal to Obey	270	ISS (1-3)/ OSS (1-3)	OSS (2-3)	OSS (3-5)
13. Bullying, Harassment, Cyberbullying, and Intimidation	650/651/ 652/012	OSS (1-3)	OSS (3-5)	OSS (5-10)/RE
14. Severe disrespect towards adults with ages 13-17		65	16du	vere di

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Of enses that involve threats or acts against a person or property of another which seriously endanger the health and safety of others. Level III of enses shall be dealt with by the administrat on.



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As a reminder, students may be suspended or recommended for expulsion for first-time offenses or any act which is detrimental to the good order, best interest, and physical safety of the school. The student may be disciplined according to the nature and degree of the offense or act at the discretion of the administration.

WRN	Warning	CP	Contact Parent
CNF	Conference	REST	Restitution
LP	Loss of Privileges/Confiscation	DET	Detention
BC	Behavior Contract		

u h	<i>Use/Possession of tobacco products, including cigaret es, chewing tobacco, snuf , rolling papers, lighters, matches, e-cigaret es, vapors etc.</i>
y y o -	<i>Low-intensity misuse of property; tampering with equipment/impairing its usefulness. Tampering with a computer's set ngs; Using staf copy equipment; using vending machines not allowed for student use.</i>
t	<i>Harming/Taking advantage of another person</i>

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	<i>Aggravated Assault is an unlawful at ack by one person upon another wherein the of ender uses a weapon or displays it in a threatening manner or the vict m suf ers obvious severe or aggravated bodily injury involving apparent broken bones, loss of teeth, possible internal injury, severe lacerat on, or loss of consciousness. This category includes at emptied murder. A weapon can be a commonly known weapon, such as a gun or knife, or any other item, which, although not usually thought of as a weapon, becomes one when used in a manner that could cause severe bodily injury (e.g., baseball bat, metal chain, large st ck). A "severe lacerat on" is one that should receive medical at ent on. A "loss of conscidousness" must be the direct result of force inf icted on the vict m by the of ender.</i>
=	<i>Homicide is the killing of one human being by another. Does not include vehicular manslaughter or at emptied murder as a homicide. Non-negligent manslaughter is def ned as the willful (non-negligent) killing of one human being by another. Negligent manslaughter is def ned as the killing of another person through negligence. This of ense does not include vehicular manslaughter. Just f able homicide - The killing of a perpetrator of a serious criminal of ense by a peace of cer in the line of duty or the killing, during the commission of a serious criminal of ense, of the perpetrator by a private individual.</i>
)) (Drug Usage & Drug Possession)	DrugA

k	<i>Robbery is defined as the taking or attempting to take anything of value under confrontational circumstances from the control, custody, or care of another person by force or threat of force or violence and/or by putting the victim in fear of immediate harm. Because some type of assault is an element of the crime of robbery, an assault should not be reported as a separate crime if it is performed in furtherance of the robbery. If an injury occurring during a robbery results in death, the crime should be listed as a homicide.</i>
o \ 7	<i>A Forcible Sex offense is any sexual act directed against another person, forcibly and/or against that person's will, or not forcibly or against the person's will where the victim is incapable of giving consent. This definition includes forcible rape, forcible sodomy, sexual assault with an object (to use an object or instrument to unlawfully penetrate, however slightly, the genital or anal opening of the body of another person, forcibly and/or against that person's will, or not forcibly or against the person's will where the victim is incapable of giving consent because of his or her youth or because of his or her temporary or permanent mental or physical incapacity), and/or forcible fondling (child molesting).</i>
o	<i>Creating, possessing, or sharing nude, partially nude, or other sexually explicit or suggestive images, videos, or visual representations using non-digital means (e.g., printed materials) or electronic communication, including but not limited to texting, emailing, or posting on social media platforms. These acts are prohibited whether or not the subjects of the images, videos, or visual representations consent to their being created, possessed, or shared.</i>
Weapons \	<i>The violation of laws prohibiting any person, except law enforcement officers or personnel authorized by school officials, to carry on his or her person, while on any elementary or secondary school property, a knife with a blade over two inches long, a blackjack, a metal pipe or pole, firearms, or any other type of weapon, device, or object that may be used to inflict bodily injury or death. This category also includes carrying in a concealed manner a dirk, slingshot, metal knuckles, razor, or other deadly weapon usually used for the infliction of personal injury.</i>

ATTENDANCE

- *Students are required to bring written documentation for absences within 5 days from the day they return from an absence. Absences may be submitted via email to the school attendance clerk - this method is subject to verification.*
- *The principal shall approve or disapprove absences in excess of 10 (5 for semester classes). A medical note or other documentation will be required after a student accumulates 10 absences (5 for the semester) in order to assist the principal in making that decision.*
- *Absences with no documentation are automatically considered unlawful.*
- *Students who accumulate 3 consecutive unlawful absences or a total of 5 unlawful absences will be considered truant. Parents/guardians and students (12 years and older) will be contacted to develop a written Attendance Intervention Plan. Failure to participate and/or adhere to the plan will result in a referral to the District Attendance Office and/or Family Court.*

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- *The student is ill and attendance at the school would endanger the student's health or the health of others.*
- *There is a death in the student's immediate family. Three absences per occurrence.*
- *There is a serious illness in the student's immediate family. Absences of this nature should not exceed three per year.*

- *Recognized religious holidays of the student's faith.*
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- Doctor or Dentist appointment
- Late bus arrival
- Teacher, Guidance, or Administrator Conference

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- Illness on part of the student without a written medical excuse
- Oversleeping, traffic, carpool trouble, or other "personal reasons"
- Missed Bus
- Car trouble

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Tardy is defined as not being inside the appointed classroom at the beginning of designated class period start time. Students who are late to school shall be marked absent to class when the entire class is missed and marked tardy to the class that is partially missed. Unexcused/Unlawful tardies are considered a violation of the CSAL in that instruction time is missed. Unexcused tardies and unlawful absences from individual classes will be addressed in an Attendance Intervention Plan and may result in a referral to the District Attendance Office or Family Court.

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- Behavioral misconduct on the bus
- Getting on or off the bus at other than the designated stop
- Eating and/or drinking on the bus
- Littering on the bus
- Minor violation of any safety procedures (standing, sitting improperly, etc.)
- Making loud noises (yelling, etc.)
- Pushing, tripping, or general horseplay
- Encouraging misbehavior
- Use of unauthorized electronic device (including earbuds, etc.)

Consequences

1st referral – warning and contact parents

2nd referral – suspended from the bus up to three days and contact parents

3rd referral – suspended from the bus up to five days and contact parents

4th referral – suspended from the bus up to ten days and contact parents

5th referral or more – suspended from the bus for ten or more days

Disruptive Conduct - Disruptive Conduct - Disruptive Conduct

Disruptive conduct is defined as those activities directed against persons or property, which tend to endanger the health or safety of oneself or others on a school vehicle. Disruptive records of

4th referral – suspended from the bus for up to thirty days and parent conference

5th referral – suspended from the bus for the remainder of the school year and parent conference

Transportation Supervisor must be involved in conference for bus suspensions of 30 days or longer

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Criminal Conduct is defined as those activities that result in violence to oneself, another person, or destruction of property. These activities pose a direct and serious threat to the safety of oneself or others on a school vehicle. Criminal conduct usually requires administrative actions, which could result in the immediate removal of the student from school, the intervention of law enforcement authorities, and/or action by the Board of Trustees. Level III violations may lead to a student's immediate removal from the bus at the school or bus transportation office. Acts of criminal conduct may include, but are not limited to the following violations.

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- *Fighting on the bus*
- *Physically abusing or hitting another passenger*
- *Possessing, using, or distributing explosives and/or fireworks*
- *Carrying a weapon or any object that might be used as a weapon*
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A pupil may be suspended from riding the bus for one week for the first of offense, two weeks for the second of offense, three weeks for the third of offense. If, after a third of offense, a pupil persists in uncontrollable conduct while riding a school bus, he/she shall be suspended from riding said bus for the

APPENDIX (A)

Legal Authority for Discipline in South Carolina:

The Code of Laws of South Carolina, 1976, Section 59-19-90, outlines the general powers and duties of school trustees and states that the Board of Trustees shall also (3) Promulgate rules prescribing scholastic standards of achievement and standards of conduct and behavior that must be met by all pupils as a condition to the right of such pupils to attend the public schools of such district. See, also, Opinions of the Attorney General, Number 2051, page 134, 1965-66 as to authority of school superintendents to regulate discipline.

Title 59, Chapter 63, Article 3, Discipline (Section 59-63-210, et seq., Code of Laws for South Carolina, 1976). Note: Under authority of state law, certain violations set forth in the Code of Student Conduct may lead to expulsion for the remainder of the school year or even to permanent expulsion.

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APPENDIX (C)

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h To establish the basic structure for promoting the health and welfare of the district's students by maintaining a safe, positive learning environment for students and teaching environment for staff that is free from harassment, intimidation or bullying.

The board prohibits acts of harassment, intimidation or bullying of a student by another student or students, staff or third parties that interfere with or disrupt a student's ability to learn and the school's responsibility to educate its students in a safe and orderly environment whether in a classroom, on school premises, on a school bus or other school-related vehicle, at an official school bus stop, at a school-sponsored activity or event, whether or not it is held on school premises, or at another program or function where the school is responsible for the student.

For purposes of this policy, harassment, intimidation or bullying is defined as a gesture, electronic communication or a written, verbal, physical or sexual act reasonably perceived to have the effect of either of the following:

- harming a student physically or emotionally or damaging a student's property, or placing a student in reasonable fear of personal harm or property damage*
- insulting or demeaning a student or group of students in such a manner as to cause substantial disruption in, or substantial interference with, the orderly operation of the school*

Any student who feels she/she has been subjected to harassment, intimidation or bullying is encouraged to file a complaint with the principal or his/her designee in accordance with procedures established by the superintendent. Complaints will be investigated promptly, thoroughly and confidentially. All school employees are required to report alleged violations of this policy to the principal or his/her designee. Reports by students or employees may be made anonymously, but formal disciplinary

action must not be taken solely on the basis of an anonymous report.

APPENDIX (D)

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Cell phones or paging devices are permitted at school events during non-school hours.

A first unauthorized act with no related infraction will result in a device otherwise permitted under this policy being taken by the school administrator for the remainder of the day and a warning being issued. The student must sign a "Condition for Return" acknowledgement and agreement before being able to bring the cell phone, pager, or electronic device back on the school campus.

A second unauthorized act with no related infraction will result in a device otherwise permitted under this policy being taken by the school administrator for the remainder of the day and a warning being issued. The student must sign a "Condition for Return" acknowledgement and agreement before being able to bring the cell phone, pager, or electronic device back on the school campus.

IMPORTANT - DUPLICATE OF SIGNATURE PAGE

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IMPORTANT NOTICE TO PARENTS AND GUARDIANS:

Maintaining discipline and appropriate student behavior is necessary for the operation of our schools. Invoking disciplinary procedures may at times be stressful and emotional for parents and the students involved. Nevertheless, the Board of Education expects communications and meetings between school personnel and parents to be conducted reasonably, even if there are differences of opinion.

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PHYSICAL ABUSE. ADULTS WHO ABUSE STAFF MEMBERS CAN EXPECT TO HAVE APPROPRIATE LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICIALS SUMMONED AND LEGAL RECOURSE PURSUED, IF NECESSARY.

We, parent/guardian and student, have read the conduct regulations (Code of Student Conduct) which are in effect in the schools of The Consolidated School District of Aiken County during the school year 2023-2024.

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- 1) firearms or other weapons
- 2) alcohol
- 3) drugs
- 4) violent acts, or threats thereof, committed against school staff or students
- 5) conduct involving sexual activity or offenses/offenses against common decency
- 6) arson/damage to property
- 7) major disruptions

The undersigned further acknowledge having read and understood the School District's Internet Acceptable Use policy (Policy IJNDB and Administrative Rule IJNDB-R), which are set forth in their entirety in this pamphlet, and which require student and parental consent and include potential disciplinary infractions covered within the Rule and within this Code of Student Conduct.

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IMPORTANT - DUPLICATE OF SIGNATURE PAGE

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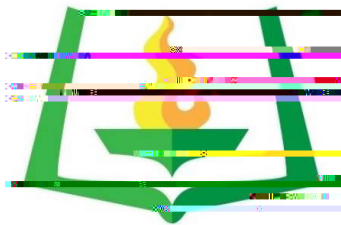
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