

**UNIONVILLE-  
CHADDS FORD  
SCHOOL DISTRICT**

SECTION: PUPILS

TITLE: CODE OF STUDENT  
CONDUCT

ADOPTED: December 15, 2008

REVISED: April 19, 2010

**218. CODE OF STUDENT CONDUCT**

1. Purpose

By this Policy, the Board complies with Chapter 12, Section 12.3(c), of the Rules and Regulations of the State Board of Education, which provides that the Board shall adopt a code of student conduct that includes policies governing student discipline and a listing of students' rights and responsibilities as set forth by Chapter 12.

2. Listing of Student Rights and Responsibilities

The Board hereby adopts as policy the following sections of Chapter 12 of the Rules and Regulations of the State Board of Education; students shall have the following:

**STUDENT RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES**

**§ 12.1. Free education and attendance.**

(a) All persons residing in this Commonwealth between the ages of 6 and 21 years are entitled to a free and full education in the Commonwealth's public schools.

(b) Parents or guardians of all children between the ages of 8 and 17 are required by the compulsory attendance law to ensure that their children attend an approved educational institution, unless legally excused. Students who have not graduated may not be asked to leave school merely because they have reached 17 years of age if they are fulfilling their responsibilities as students. A student may not be excluded from the public schools or from extracurricular activities because:

(1) The student is married.

(2) The student is pregnant.

(3) The student has a disability as identified by Chapter 15 (relating to protected handicapped students).

(4) The student is an eligible student identified under Chapter 14 (relating to special education services and programs).

**§ 12.2. Student responsibilities.**

(a) Student responsibilities include regular school attendance, conscientious effort in

classroom work and homework, and conformance to school rules and regulations. Most of all, students are responsible to share with the administration and faculty a responsibility to develop a climate within the school that is conducive to wholesome learning and living.

(b) No student has the right to interfere with the education of fellow students. It is the responsibility of each student to respect the rights of teachers, students, administrators and all others who are involved in the educational process.

(c) Students should express their ideas and opinions in a respectful manner.

(d) It is the responsibility of the students to conform to the following:

(1) Be aware of all rules and regulations for student behavior and conduct themselves in accordance with them. Students should assume that, until a rule is waived, altered or repealed in writing, it is in effect.

(2) Volunteer information in matters relating to the health, safety and welfare of the school community and the protection of school property.

(3) Dress and groom to meet standards of safety and health, and not to cause substantial disruption to the educational processes.

(4) Assist the school staff in operating a safe school for the students enrolled therein.

(5) Comply with Commonwealth and local laws.

(6) Exercise proper care when using public facilities and equipment.

(7) Attend school daily and be on time at all classes and other school functions.

(8) Make up work when absent from school.

(9) Pursue and attempt to complete satisfactorily the courses of study prescribed by local school authorities.

(10) Report accurately in student media.

(11) Not use obscene language in student media or on school premises.

### **§ 12.3. School rules.**

(a) The governing board has the authority to make reasonable and necessary rules governing the conduct of students in school. The rulemaking power, however, is not unlimited; it must operate within statutory and constitutional restraints. A governing board has only those powers that are enumerated in the statutes of the Commonwealth, or that may reasonably be implied or necessary for the orderly operation of the school.

(b) Governing boards may not make rules that are arbitrary, capricious, discriminatory or outside their grant of authority from the General Assembly. A rule is generally considered reasonable if it uses a rational means of accomplishing some legitimate school purpose.

(c) Each governing board shall adopt a code of student conduct that includes policies governing student discipline and a listing of students' rights and responsibilities as outlined in this chapter. This conduct code shall be published and distributed to students and parents or guardians. Copies of the code shall also be available in each

school library.

**§ 12.4. Discrimination.**

Consistent with the Pennsylvania Human Relations Act (43 P. S. §§ 951--963), a student may not be denied access to a free and full public education, nor may a student be subject to disciplinary action on account of race, sex, color, religion, sexual orientation, national origin or disability.

**§ 12.5. Corporal punishment.**

(a) Corporal punishment is defined as physically punishing a student for an infraction of the discipline policy. Use of corporal punishment is prohibited.

(b) Teachers and school authorities may use reasonable force under the following circumstances:

- (1) To quell a disturbance.
- (2) To obtain possession of weapons or other dangerous objects.
- (3) For the purpose of self-defense.
- (4) For the protection of persons or property.

**§ 12.6. Exclusions from school.**

(a) The governing board shall define and publish the types of offenses that would lead to exclusion from school. Exclusions affecting certain students with disabilities shall be governed by

§ 14.143 (relating to disciplinary placements) and 34 CFR 300.519--300.529 (relating to discipline procedures).

(b) Exclusion from school may take the form of suspension or expulsion.

(1) Suspension is exclusion from school for a period of from 1 to 10 consecutive school days.

(i) Suspensions may be given by the principal or person in charge of the public school.

(ii) A student may not be suspended until the student has been informed of the reasons for the suspension and given an opportunity to respond. Prior notice of the intended suspension need not be given when it is clear that the health, safety or welfare of the school community is threatened.

(iii) The parents or guardians and the superintendent of the district shall be notified immediately when the student is suspended. Written notification of the suspension will follow.

(iv) When the suspension exceeds 3 school days, the student and parent shall be given the opportunity for an informal hearing consistent with the requirements in § 12.8(c) (relating to hearings).

(v) Suspensions may not be made to run consecutively beyond the 10 school day period.

(vi) Students shall have the responsibility to make up exams and work missed while being disciplined by suspension and shall be permitted to complete these assignments within guidelines established by the governing board.

(2) Expulsion is exclusion from school by the governing board for a period exceeding 10 school days and may be permanent expulsion from the school rolls. Expulsions require a prior formal hearing under § 12.8.

(c) During the period prior to the hearing and decision of the governing board in an expulsion case, the student shall be placed in his normal class except as set forth in subsection (d).

(d) If it is determined after an informal hearing that a student's presence in his normal class would constitute a threat to the health, safety or welfare of others and it is not possible to hold a formal hearing within the period of a suspension, the student may be excluded from school for more than 10 school days. A student may not be excluded from school for longer than 15 school days without a formal hearing unless mutually agreed upon by both parties. Any student so excluded shall be provided with alternative education, which may include home study.

(e) Students who are under 17 years of age are still subject to the compulsory school attendance law even though expelled and shall be provided an education.

(1) The initial responsibility for providing the required education rests with the student's parents or guardian, through placement in another school, tutorial or correspondence study, or another educational program approved by the district's superintendent.

(2) Within 30 days of action by the governing board, the parents or guardians shall submit to the school district written evidence that the required education is being provided as described in paragraph (1) or that they are unable to do so. If the parents or guardians are unable to provide the required education, the school entity shall, within 10 days of receipt of the notification, make provision for the student's education. A student with a disability shall be provided educational services as required by the Individuals With Disabilities Education Act (20 U.S.C.A. §§ 1400--1482).

(3) If the approved educational program is not complied with, the school entity may take action in accordance with 42 Pa.C.S. Chapter 63 (relating to the Juvenile Act) to ensure that the child will receive a proper education. See § 12.1(b) (relating to free education and attendance).

#### **§ 12.7. Exclusion from classes--in-school suspension.**

(a) A student may not receive an in-school suspension unless the student has been informed of the reasons for the suspension and has been given an opportunity to respond before the suspension becomes effective.

(b) Communication to the parents or guardian shall follow the suspension action taken by the school.

(c) When the in-school suspension exceeds 10 consecutive school days, an informal hearing with the principal shall be offered to the student and the student's parent or

guardian prior to the 11th school day in accordance with the procedures in § 12.8 (relating to hearings).

(d) The student's school entity has the responsibility to make provision for the student's education during the period of the in-school suspension.

### **§ 12.8. Hearings.**

(a) *General.* Education is a statutory right, and students shall be afforded due process if they are to be excluded from school. In a case involving a possible expulsion, the student is entitled to a formal hearing.

(b) *Formal hearings.* A formal hearing is required in all expulsion actions. This hearing may be held before the governing board or an authorized committee of the board, or a qualified hearing examiner appointed by the board. When a committee of the board or a hearing examiner conducts the hearing, a majority vote of the entire governing board is required to expel a student. The following due process requirements shall be observed with regard to the formal hearing:

(1) Notification of the charges shall be sent to the student's parents or guardians by certified mail.

(2) At least 3 days' notice of the time and place of the hearing shall be given. A copy of the expulsion policy, notice that legal counsel may represent the student and hearing procedures shall be included with the hearing notice. A student may request the rescheduling of the hearing when the student demonstrates good cause for an extension.

(3) The hearing shall be held in private unless the student or parent requests a public hearing.

(4) The student may be represented by counsel, at the expense of the parents or guardians, and may have a parent or guardian attend the hearing.

(5) The student has the right to be presented with the names of witnesses against the student, and copies of the statements and affidavits of those witnesses.

(6) The student has the right to request that the witnesses appear in person and answer questions or be cross-examined.

(7) The student has the right to testify and present witnesses on his own behalf.

(8) A written or audio record shall be kept of the hearing. The student is entitled, at the student's expense, to a copy. A copy shall be provided at no cost to a student who is indigent.

(9) The proceeding shall be held within 15 school days of the notification of charges, unless mutually agreed to by both parties. A hearing may be delayed for any of the following reasons, in which case the hearing shall be held as soon as reasonably possible:

(i) Laboratory reports are needed from law enforcement agencies.

(ii) Evaluations or other court or administrative proceedings are pending due to a student invoking his rights under the Individuals With Disabilities Education Act (20

U.S.C.A. §§ 1400--1482).

(iii) In cases in juvenile or criminal court involving sexual assault or serious bodily injury, delay is necessary due to the condition or best interests of the victim.

(10) Notice of a right to appeal the results of the hearing shall be provided to the student with the expulsion decision.

(c) *Informal hearings.* The purpose of the informal hearing is to enable the student to meet with the appropriate school official to explain the circumstances surrounding the event for which the student is being suspended or to show why the student should not be suspended.

(1) The informal hearing is held to bring forth all relevant information regarding the event for which the student may be suspended and for students, their parents or guardians and school officials to discuss ways by which future offenses might be avoided.

(2) The following due process requirements shall be observed in regard to the informal hearing:

(i) Notification of the reasons for the suspension shall be given in writing to the parents or guardians and to the student.

(ii) Sufficient notice of the time and place of the informal hearing shall be given.

(iii) A student has the right to question any witnesses present at the hearing.

(iv) A student has the right to speak and produce witnesses on his own behalf.

(v) The school entity shall offer to hold the informal hearing within the first 5 days of the suspension.

### **§ 12.9. Freedom of expression.**

(a) The right of public school students to freedom of speech is guaranteed by the Constitution of the United States and the Constitution of the Commonwealth.

(b) Students shall have the right to express themselves unless the expression materially and substantially interferes with the educational process, threatens serious harm to the school or community, encourages unlawful activity or interferes with another individual's rights.

(c) Students may use publications, handbills, announcements, assemblies, group meetings, buttons, armbands and any other means of common communication, provided that the use of public school communications facilities shall be in accordance with the regulations of the authority in charge of those facilities.

(1) Students have the responsibility to obey laws governing libel and obscenity and to be aware of the full meaning of their expression.

(2) Students have the responsibility to be aware of the feelings and opinions of others and to give others a fair opportunity to express their views.

(d) Identification of the individual student or at least one responsible person in a

student group may be required on posted or distributed materials.

(e) School officials may require students to submit for prior approval a copy of materials to be displayed, posted or distributed on school property.

(f) Bulletin boards must conform to the following:

(1) School authorities may restrict the use of certain bulletin boards.

(2) Bulletin board space should be provided for the use of students and student organizations.

(3) School officials may require that notices or other communications be officially dated before posting, and that the materials be removed after a prescribed reasonable time to assure full access to the bulletin boards.

(g) School newspapers and publications must conform to the following:

(1) Students have a right and are as free as editors of other newspapers to report the news and to editorialize within the provisions in paragraphs (4) and (5).

(2) School officials shall supervise student newspapers published with school equipment, remove obscene or libelous material and edit other material that would cause a substantial disruption or interference with school activities.

(3) School officials may not censor or restrict material simply because it is critical of the school or its administration.

(4) Prior approval procedures regarding copy for school newspapers must identify the individual to whom the material is to be submitted and establish a limitation on the time required to make a decision. If the prescribed time for approval elapses without a decision, the material shall be considered authorized for distribution.

(5) Students who are not members of the newspaper staff shall have access to its pages. Written criteria for submission of material by non-staff members shall be developed and distributed to all students.

(h) The wearing of buttons, badges or armbands shall be permitted as another form of expression within the restrictions listed in subsection (c).

(i) School officials may set forth the time and place of distribution of materials so that distribution would not materially or substantially interfere with the requirements of appropriate discipline in the operation of the school.

(1) A proper time and place set for distribution is one that would give the students the opportunity to reach fellow students.

(2) The place of the activity may be restricted to permit the normal flow of traffic within the school and at exterior doors.

#### **§ 12.10. Flag Salute and the Pledge of Allegiance.**

It is the responsibility of every citizen to show proper respect for his country and its flag.

(1) Students may decline to recite the Pledge of Allegiance and may refrain from saluting the Flag on the basis of personal belief or religious convictions.

(2) Students who choose to refrain from such participation shall respect the rights and interests of classmates who do wish to participate.

**§ 12.11. Hair and dress.**

(a) The governing board may establish dress codes or require that students wear school uniforms. Policies may apply to individual school buildings or to all school buildings.

(b) Students have the right to govern the length or style of their hair, including facial hair. Any limitation of this right must include evidence that length or style of hair causes disruption of the educational process or constitutes a health or safety hazard. When length or style of the hair presents a health or safety hazard, some types of covering shall be used.

(c) Students may be required to wear certain types of clothing while participating in physical education classes, shops, extracurricular activities or other situations when special attire may be required to insure the health or safety of the student.

(d) Students have the responsibility to keep themselves, their clothes and their hair clean. School officials may impose limitations on student participation in the regular instructional program when there is evidence that the lack of cleanliness constitutes a health hazard.

**§ 12.12. Confidential communications.**

(a) Use of a student's confidential communications to school personnel in legal proceedings is governed by statutes and regulations appropriate to the proceeding. See, for example, 42 Pa.C.S. § 5945 (relating to confidential communications to school personnel).

(b) Information received in confidence from a student may be revealed to the student's parents or guardians, the principal or other appropriate authority when the health, welfare or safety of the student or other persons is clearly in jeopardy.

**§ 12.13. [Reserved].**

**§ 12.14. Searches.**

(a) The governing board of every school entity shall adopt reasonable policies and procedures regarding student searches. The local education agency shall notify students and their parents or guardians of the policies and procedures regarding student searches.

(b) Illegal or prohibited materials seized during a student search may be used as evidence against the student in a school disciplinary proceeding.

(c) Prior to a locker search, students shall be notified and given an opportunity to be present. When school authorities have a reasonable suspicion that the locker contains materials that pose a threat to the health, welfare or safety of students in the school, student lockers may be searched without prior warning.

**§ 12.15. [Reserved].**

**§ 12.16. Definitions.**

The following words and terms, when used in this chapter, have the following meanings, unless the context clearly indicates otherwise:

*Corporal punishment*--A form of physical discipline that is intended to cause pain and fear and in which a student is spanked, paddled or hit on any part of the body with a hand or instrument.

*Governing board*--The Board of School Directors of the Unionville-Chadds Ford School District.

*School entity*—The Unionville-Chadds Ford School District.

*Student assistance program*--A systematic process designed to assist school personnel to identify issues, including alcohol, drugs and others, which pose a barrier to a student's learning and school success. Student assistance is a systematic process using effective and accountable professional techniques to mobilize school resources to remove the barriers to learning, and, when the problem is beyond the scope of the school, to assist the parent and the student with information so they may access services within the community.

3. Student  
Disciplinary Code

The superintendent or designee shall prepare a disciplinary code to include the following areas:

- A. Types of Discipline
- B. Levels of Disciplinary Offenses and Consequences
- C. Violation of Other School Rules and Policies
- D. Probation

The District's administration, teachers, and other authorized staff members will discipline students in accordance with this policy. Any disciplinary intervention MAY include a referral to the U-CF Student Assistance Program at the discretion of the Administration. The discipline policy is sequential and cumulative and it should be noted that in the implementation of the discipline policy, consideration will be given to age, developmental stage and documented exceptionality.

**Types of Discipline Defined**

- Teacher Detention - Detention during school or after school assigned by a teacher (maximum of 45 minutes).
- Regular Detention - After-school detention assigned by an administrator (45 minutes).
- Extended Detention - After-school detention assigned by an administrator (90 minutes).
- Saturday Detention - Saturday detention assigned by an administrator (4 hours).
- Suspension - Exclusion from school for a period of ~~from~~ one to ten consecutive school days.
- Expulsion - Exclusion from school by the Board of School Directors for a period

exceeding ten school days, which may be permanent expulsion from the school rolls.

### **Disciplinary Offenses Defined**

The following offenses will lead to disciplinary action, which may include a student's exclusion from school by suspension or expulsion.

**Level A Offenses.** A student who commits a Level A Offense will receive a teacher detention.

1. Rough or boisterous behavior, including running, shoving, pushing, and shouting.
2. Causing a disturbance in a classroom (behavior that interferes with teaching and learning).
3. Failure to complete an assignment.
4. Failure to follow a direction by a teacher or other authorized staff member.
5. Lateness to class, study hall, or activity (less than ten minutes).
6. Intimate contact with another student, including kissing and embracing.
7. Violation of UCFSD Dress and Grooming Guidelines.

**Level B Offenses.** A student who commits a Level B Offense will receive one or more regular detention(s) imposed by the administration.

1. Any Level A Offense that a teacher finds necessary to refer to an administrator.
2. Third unexcused lateness to school within a semester.
3. Failure to sign in at the designated attendance office when late to school.
4. Profanity or other abusive language-not directed at administrator, teacher, or other staff member.
5. Causing a disturbance in a hallway, lobby, lavatory, or other common area (including lawns, sidewalks, playgrounds, athletic fields, and parking lots).
6. Unauthorized riding on an elevator or failure to return key. (Discipline will include loss of deposit.)
7. Unauthorized use of radio, tape recorder or player, camera, video camera, computer, disc player, cellular telephone, pagers or beepers other than exceptions allowed by Section 1371.1 of the School Code.
8. Cafeteria misbehavior, including rough or boisterous behavior and causing a disturbance.
9. Loitering in bathrooms, hallways, lobbies, or other common areas.
10. Failure to serve a teacher detention.

**Level C Offenses.** A student who commits a Level C Offense will receive one or more extended detentions.

1. The commission of any Level A or B offense when a student has committed a Level B Offense within a school year.
2. Cutting class (absence from class, study hall, or activity of ten minutes or more); failure to sign into study hall.
3. Throwing food or other objects.
4. Failure to serve a regular detention.
5. Fighting - no punches thrown or no apparent injury.
6. Misbehavior on District transportation (rough or boisterous behavior, causing a disturbance, or violating bus rules). (Discipline may include loss of riding privilege.)
7. Fourth unexcused lateness to school within a semester. (Discipline may include loss of parking privilege.)
8. Vandalism that can be cleaned and requires no expense for replacement or repair.

9. Presence in a lavatory stall with another student or students.
10. Failure to follow driving/parking permit instructions as outlined in application.
11. Leaving class or assigned activity without permission.

**Level D Offenses.** A student who commits a Level D Offense will receive a Saturday detention.

1. The commission of any Level A, B, or C offense when a student has committed a Level C Offense within a school year.
2. Disrespect of an administrator, teacher, or other staff member
3. Vandalism causing damage that can be repaired for \$100 or less. (Discipline will also include student's payment of repair or replacement expenses.)
4. Possession or use of lighters or matches.
5. Fifth unexcused lateness to school within a semester. (Discipline may include loss of parking privilege.)
6. Unexcused lateness to school following second period.
7. Failure to bring a required doctor's note to school.
8. Cutting school, truancy (staying out of school without permission).
9. Leaving building or grounds without permission. (Discipline may include loss of parking privilege.)
10. Forging notes, excuses, early dismissal slips or altering school related documents.
11. Mooning, depantsing, or making obscene gestures.
12. Damaging a person's property or violating a person's right of privacy.
13. Reckless driving on school property. (Discipline may include loss of parking privilege.)
14. Failure to serve an extended detention.
15. Gambling (participating in any game or activity involving chance and the payment of money).
16. Violation of computer use guidelines.
17. Harassment/Bullying, not including physical contact or threats of harm or sexual harassment (see Board Policies Nos. 248 and 249).
18. Violation of academic honesty guidelines (Discipline will also include a grade of 0 (zero) for the assignment; a second violation in the same course may result in failure of the course.)
19. Unauthorized use of school communications systems.

**Level E Offenses.** A student who commits a Level E Offense will receive a suspension from school for a period of one to three days. Any student who commits a Level E Offense within the last twenty days of school may be subject to loss of the privilege to participate in any school activity prior to the end of the school year (including field trips, proms, senior dinner dance, and commencement).

1. The commission of any Level A, B, C, or D offense when a student has committed a Level D Offense within a school year.
2. Fighting – punches thrown or apparent injury.
3. Possession or use of any tobacco product. (Discipline shall include the issuance of a summary offense citation for violation of the East Marlborough Township Ordinance concerning smoking with or on school facilities).
4. Theft
5. Possession of stolen property.
6. Possession, distribution, or exhibition of sexually provocative materials.
7. Harassment/Bullying involving physical contact or threats of harm or sexual harassment (see Board Policy Nos. 248 and 249).

8. Extortion (obtaining or attempting to obtain something of value from another by force or intimidation or forcing or attempting to force another to take action or not take action).
9. Failure to serve a Saturday detention. (Discipline shall consist of one Saturday detention and a one day suspension).
10. Six or more unexcused latenesses to school within a semester. (Discipline may include loss of parking privileges and will include an informal hearing with a student's parents and the administration).
11. Failure to follow directions of an administrator or dean.
12. Profanity or other abusive language directed at an administrator, teacher or other staff member.

**Level F Offenses.** A student who commits a Level F Offense will be excluded from school, at the minimum by a suspension for a period of four to ten days. Additionally, the administration may seek a student's expulsion (which may be permanent) by the Board of School Directors. Any student who commits a Level F Offense within the last twenty days of school may be subject to loss of the privilege to participate in any school activity prior to the end of the school year (including field trips, proms, senior dinner dance, and commencement). Any F violation discipline procedures may include referral to local authorities.

1. The commission of any Level A, B, C, D, or E offense when a student has committed a Level Offense within a school year.
2. Possession or use of a weapon (Discipline may include at least a one year expulsion).
3. Setting off a false fire alarm, making a false 9-1-1 call, making a bomb threat or a similar terroristic threat.
4. Possession or use of any tobacco product - second offense within a school year (Discipline shall include the issuance of a summary offense citation for violation of the East Marlborough Township Ordinance concerning smoking with or on school facilities).
5. Striking or assaulting a teacher, administrator, or other staff member.
6. Vandalism causing damage in excess of \$100. (Discipline will also include student's payment of repair or replacement expenses).
7. Possession or detonation of fireworks, smoke bombs, stink bombs, and similar devices.
8. Arson or attempted arson.
9. Theft (Second offense).
10. Possession, use, distribution or solicitation to use drugs, drug paraphernalia, or alcohol (see District Policy No. 227 and Administrative Guidelines).\*
11. Criminal behavior (conduct that, if committed by an adult, would constitute a felony or misdemeanor under the prevailing laws of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania).\*
12. Failure to cooperate with a search.

\* Disciplinary intervention will also include referral to U-CFSD Student Assistance Program.

**Violation of Other School Rules and Policies.** The administration may discipline any student who violates school rules or policies, so long as such student has received notice of such rules and policies and the penalties that may be imposed.

**Probation.** After a student has completed a suspension or expulsion, the administration may place such student on probation. The administration shall give written notice of the term and conditions of probation to such student and his/her parents.

4. Incorporation of Policy 249 (Bullying)

As required by Act 61 of 2008 (24 P.S. Sec. 13-1303.1-A(a)), the District hereby incorporates its policy relating to bullying into this Code of Student Conduct as follows:

POLICY NO. 249. BULLYING

1. Purpose. The Board is committed to providing a safe, positive educational experience for District students. The Board recognizes that bullying creates an atmosphere of fear and intimidation, detracts from the environment necessary for student learning, and creates the possibility of additional serious incidents.

2. Prohibition. The Board prohibits bullying by District students in a school setting or outside a school setting, as defined by this Policy.

3. Definitions. "Bullying" - an intentional electronic, written, verbal, or physical act or a series of acts:

- (a) directed at another student or students;
- (b) which occurs in a school setting or outside a school setting;
- (c) that is severe, persistent or pervasive; and
- (d) that has the effect of doing any of the following:
  - (i) substantially interfering with a student's education;
  - (ii) creating a threatening environment; or
  - (iii) substantially disrupting the orderly operation of the school.

"Outside a school setting" – This definition shall pertain to acts that do not occur in a school, on school grounds, in school vehicles, at a designated bus stop, or at any activity sponsored, supervised, or sanctioned by the District or a school, but which have the effect of substantial disruption or interference with the operation of a school or with another student's rights.

"School setting" – This definition shall pertain to acts that occur in a school, on school grounds, in school vehicles, at a designated bus stop, or at any activity sponsored, supervised, or sanctioned by the District or a school.

4. Reports of Bullying. The Board encourages students who have been bullied to promptly report such incidents to the building principals, guidance counselors, teachers, bus drivers, or any District employee. Any District employee who receives a

report of bullying shall notify the Superintendent.

The Board directs that reports of bullying be investigated promptly and corrective action taken if such reports are verified. The District shall maintain the confidentiality of all parties, as consistent with legal and investigative obligations. No reprisals or retaliation shall occur as a result of good faith reports of bullying.

5. Discipline. A student who violates this Policy shall be subject to appropriate disciplinary action, which may include:

(a) Parental conference.

(b) Counseling within a school.

(c) Counseling outside of school.

(d) Loss of school privileges and exclusion from school-sponsored activities.

(e) Transfer to another school building or alternative setting, classroom, or school bus.

(f) Detention.

(g) Suspension.

(h) Expulsion.

(i) Referral to law enforcement officials.

6. Notice and Availability of Policy. The District shall make this Policy available on the District's website and in every classroom and shall post a copy of the Policy at a prominent location within each school building where such notices are usually posted. The District shall insure that this Policy and the procedures for reporting bullying incidents will be reviewed with students within 90 days of the adoption of this Policy and thereafter at least once each school year.

7. Incorporation of Policy into Code of Student Conduct. This Policy shall be incorporated into the District's Code of Student Conduct as set forth by Policy 218.

8. Implementation. The Board authorizes the Superintendent to develop procedures to implement this Policy, including prevention, intervention, and education programs concerning bullying.

9. Report to Office of Safe Schools. The District shall annually provide the Office of Safe Schools with a copy of this Policy and information related to the development and implementation of any bullying prevention, intervention, and education programs. The information required under this section shall be attached to or made part of the annual report required by 24 P.S. Sec. 13-1303-A(b).

10. Review of Policy by District. The District shall review this Policy every three years.

<p>5. <u>Enforcement.</u></p>	<p>The Board authorizes the Superintendent, principals, and assistant principals to enforce this Code of Student Conduct. Teachers and other school employees having authority over students may take such reasonable actions as necessary to control the disorderly conduct of students in all situations and in all places when such students are within the jurisdiction of the Board and when such conduct interferes with the educational program of a school or threatens the health or safety of others.</p> <p><u>Searches.</u> To aid in enforcement of this Code of Student Conduct, the Board authorizes the principals and assistant principals, or their designees, to conduct reasonable searches of students and their personal property, including their lockers and vehicles. Prior to conducting a search, an administrator must have a reasonable suspicion that the search will result in the discovery of illegal or prohibited materials or evidence relevant to the commission of an offense. Prior to any search of a student's locker, vehicle, or other personal property, such student shall be notified and given an opportunity to be present. However, when an administrator has a reasonable suspicion that a student's locker, vehicle, or other personal property contains materials that pose a threat to the health, safety, and welfare of students, such property may be searched without prior warning.</p>
<p>6. <u>Referral to Law Enforcement or Social Service Agents.</u></p>	<p>As legally required or as otherwise appropriate, the administration will report a student's violation of this Code to law enforcement, court, and/or social service departments and agencies. Any action taken by a department or agency shall be deemed apart from and in addition to a student's discipline under this Code.</p>
<p>7. <u>Application of Code</u></p>	<p>The Code of Student Conduct shall apply to students not only while on District premises, going to and from school, on school vehicles, or at school-sponsored events and activities, but also off school premises when such conduct has the effect of substantial disruption or interference with the operation of a school or with a student's or employee's rights.</p>
<p>8. <u>Authority</u></p>	<p>22 Pa. Code §12.1 <i>et seq.</i>  SC 1303.1-A(a)  SC 1317</p>