



NEW ROCHELLE SCHOOL DISTRICT

Summary of Code of Conduct for Elementary Students

The Code of Conduct of the City School District of New Rochelle has been developed by the Board of Education with the input from of the New Rochelle community. The Code of Conduct is designed to maintain and enforce order on school property and at school functions. The Code of Conduct is written to include a number of school district policies as well as the required New York State and federal laws.

This is a summary of the School District's Code of Conduct which has been re-written to make it easier to understand for younger students. A copy of the complete Code of Conduct with all definitions, essential partners, and complete disciplinary and suspension procedures can be obtained from the Main Office of any school and the District web site, www.nred.org.

The Code of Conduct is written to:

1. Explain what behavior we expect from you on school property and during school activities;
2. Identify the possible corrections or consequences for unacceptable behavior; and
3. Be sure that discipline actions or corrections, when needed, are fair and delivered soon after the unacceptable behavior.

Student Rights and Responsibilities

*People should treat other people the way they would like to be treated.
You have a right to feel safe in school.*

1. Every student has the right to attend school and to learn in a safe, healthy, and orderly school.
2. Every student should be able to see the school rules and ask for the rules to be explained by school staff.
3. Every student has the right to present his/her version of what happened to school staff when discipline is delivered.
4. It is wrong to make anyone else feel unsafe or threatened.
5. It is wrong for students to be teased, bullied or treated differently because of their race, color, weight, national origin, ethnic group, religion, religious practice, disability, sexual orientation, gender, or sex.
6. Every student has the right to take part in school activities regardless of weight, race, color, weight, national origin, ethnic group, religion, religious practice, disability, sexual orientation, gender, or sex.

7. Every student has the right to freedom of expression as long as the expression does not interfere with the rights of others or disrupt or interfere with the education, discipline or regular activities of the school.

You are expected to:

1. Respect yourself, all other students, teachers, other school workers
2. Respect the property of other students, the property of school staff, and all school property;
3. Come to school on time and ready to do school work unless you are ill or absent because of a legal excuse;
4. Keep your school materials organized so you are prepared to work;
5. Complete homework and return it to school on time; and
6. Listen to all adults in school and follow their directions.
7. Tell your school principal or another adult in school if anyone says or does things that make you or other students feel unsafe or uncomfortable.

Dress Code

1. Your clothing should be safe and appropriate for school.
2. You should always wear shoes, sneakers, or other footwear to cover and protect their feet
3. You should not wear short shorts or skirts, or clothes that show your underwear or bare stomach to school. Clothing that is too fancy may be damaged during play or art class.
4. Your clothing may not include negative or obscene messages that might offend others on account of race, color, religion, national origin, sex, gender, or disability.
5. Your clothing may not include messages about alcohol, tobacco, drugs, or violent activities.

If you do not follow the student dress code, you will be asked to change your appearance by covering or removing the inappropriate clothing. If you refuse to do follow the dress code rules, you will be subject to discipline, up to and including in-school suspension for the day. If you repeatedly fail to follow the dress code, you will be subject to further discipline, up to and including out-of-school suspensions.

Dignity for All Students Act

A new law known as the Dignity for All Students Act was written to make sure that your school is a safe place and that all students are protected from bullying. Every school has a Dignity for All Students Act Coordinator who has learned all about this law and knows how to help you. If anyone is making you or another student feel unsafe, threatened, or bullied, please talk to this Coordinator or any adult in school.

The Dignity Act Coordinators for the District Elementary Schools are:

| School | Dignity Act Coordinator | Phone Number |
|---------------|--------------------------------|---------------------|
| Barnard | Dr. Diana Planells-Bloom | 576-4385 |
| Columbus | Dr. Elizabeth Stanton | 576-4408 |
| Davis | Ms. Paula Cohen | 576-4221 |
| Jefferson | Ms. Julie Berry | 576-4433 |
| Trinity | Ms. Melissa Hernandez | 576-4434 |
| Ward | Ms. Judy Shulman | 576-4478 |
| Webster | Ms. Melissa Passarelli | 576-4680 |

Student Conduct

All students are expected to follow the school rules and respect the rights of other students, all school staff, and other members of the community working within the school. Students are expected to take care of school property and equipment.

Conduct or behavior that does not create a positive school climate is not acceptable and will result in corrective, remedial or disciplinary action, up to and including suspension.

Unacceptable and prohibited student behavior includes:

A. Disorderly conduct

- Running in the hallways
- Making too much noise
- Horseplay that is dangerous
- Using foul language (swearing) or rude gestures
- Preventing other people from moving around the school
- Behavior done on purpose which disrupts a class or school activity
- Trespassing—being on school property without permission or when suspended from school

B. Insubordinate conduct

- Failing to follow the directions of school teachers and other school staff
- Behavior that is disrespectful to school staff
- Being late to school or class, or leaving a classroom or the school building without permission

C. Disruptive or offensive conduct

- Failing to follow the directions of school staff
- Being disrespectful or disorderly in the class, hallway, cafeteria, auditorium, after-school event, or other school event.
- Threatening, bullying, or harassing other students or school staff. This includes deliberately frightening someone else, saying that you are going to hurt someone, and using insults or bad language to start a fight or make someone else feel bad.

- Cyber-bullying—using technology (e-mails, text messages, chat rooms, Facebook pages and the like) to threaten or harass others
 - False alarms or bomb threats
 - Interfering with school equipment which you are not supposed to touch
 - Using cell phones or other personal electronic devices while you are in school.
- D. Violent or destructive conduct
- Fighting, deliberately hurting, or trying to fight or deliberately hurt a person on school property or at a school event
 - Possessing, showing, using or threatening to use a weapon or something that appears to be a weapon, or an object that could be used to hurt someone and is not being used for its regular purpose. This includes knives, guns, toy knives and toy guns, and anything else (like a screwdriver or hammer) which does not belong in school and which could be used to hurt someone
 - Touching someone in an unwelcome sexual way, especially in their private places
 - Deliberately damaging or trying to damage school property or personal property
- E. Conduct that endangers the safety, physical or emotional health, dignity or welfare of others
- Stealing school property or someone else's property
 - Smoking or using tobacco products, lighting matches or other lighting instruments
 - Having, using, sharing, selling, giving, or trading any alcoholic product, drug, or drug-related objects
 - Using or sharing prescription drugs or over-the counter drugs.
 - Betting or gambling
 - Unwelcome or inappropriate verbal, written, or physical conduct of a sexual nature
 - Subjecting another student to being hurt or embarrassed before you will let him/her participate in an activity.
- F. Misbehavior/misconduct on a school bus
- Making too much noise which might distract the bus driver
 - Refusing to follow the directions of the bus driver or monitor
 - Pushing, shoving, or fighting on the bus
 - Threatening students or the driver
 - Damaging bus property
- G. Academic misconduct
- Cheating
 - Misuse of computers or technology
- H. Misbehaving on school trips or other school activities which take place out of the building.

Reporting Violations of the Code of Conduct

The School District believes that discipline should be prompt and fair, and an important goal of discipline is to help students grow and learn to control their own behavior. School personnel are expected to be firm, fair and consistent in dealing with students who misbehave. However, discipline is sometimes necessary, in which case the school will consider the student's age and maturity; the nature of the offense and the surrounding circumstances; the student's prior disciplinary record; the effectiveness of other forms of discipline and the degree of danger created for other members of the school community by the particular behavior. **In most cases**

there will be less of a penalty for a first offense. However, a serious first offense may lead to short-term and/or long-term suspension.

Disciplinary Procedures –corrections/responses/consequences

1. Verbal or written warnings
2. Written notification to parents
3. Detention
4. Suspension from transportation, athletic participation, social or extracurricular activities or other privileges.
5. Teacher removal from classroom
6. In-school suspension
7. Short-term(five days or less) suspension from school
8. Long-term(more than five days) suspension from school
9. Expulsion or permanent suspension from school

Corporal Punishment

Corporal punishment means the use of physical force on a student to punish that student.

Corporal punishment of any student by a school employee is strictly forbidden.

Corporal punishment does not include the use of physical force to:

1. To protect oneself or another person from being injured;
2. To protect the property of the school or others;
3. To restrain or remove a student whose behavior is interfering with the order of the school, if the student has refused to follow directions and stop the disruptive behavior; provided that other methods that do not use physical force have been used and have not worked to stop the disruptive behavior.