

## **DISCIPLINE & STUDENT CODE OF CONDUCT**

### **BEHAVIOR**

Essentially, the right of a student to attend a public school is dependent upon his/her compliance with school rules and regulations. While at Harrison Elementary School, a student is expected to behave appropriately and properly. Behaviors that disrupt the learning atmosphere are not permitted.

### **STUDENT CONDUCT ON SCHOOL BUSES**

The Southwest Local School District Board of Education is committed to ensuring the safe and efficient operation of its school buses.

Pursuant to Ohio revised Code 3327.014 students riding district school buses may have such bus riding privileges suspended by the Superintendent or other district administrators for a period of time not to exceed 80 days for any violation of this Student Code of Conduct or a violation of the reasonable rules and regulations established by individual school bus drivers. The student is subject to the Student Code of Conduct and bus riding regulations while he or she is physically riding the bus and when the student is at or near a school bus stop.

Students riding district buses are under authority of, and directly responsible to, the bus driver. The driver has authority to enforce established regulations for bus conduct. Disorderly conduct or refusal to submit to the authority of the driver will be sufficient reason for refusing transportation services or suspending transportation services to any student.

Before a suspension from bus riding privileges is imposed under this policy, the Superintendent or Administrator shall provide notice of intent to suspend these privileges to the student and provide the student the opportunity to appear before the Superintendent or Administrator regarding the reasons for suspending the student's bus riding privileges. The parent of the student shall be notified of the suspension and the reasons therefore within one school day of the suspension. Students are subject to the emergency removal from a school bus in accordance with the provisions of R.C. 3313.66(C).

This policy will be posted in a centralized location in each school building and will be provided to students and parents upon request.

### **BUS RULES**

1. Parents and pupils must assume that bus transportation is a privilege provided by the Board of Education and not a right.
2. Pupils must ride assigned buses. Deviations may be made only by request to the transportation supervisor. Only students assigned to a particular bus will be permitted to board.
3. Pupils must leave or board the bus at the locations to which they have been assigned. If a pupil is to be let off at a different stop, then a note signed by the parent and the school principal should be presented to the driver.
4. Parents are responsible for the conduct and safety of their child to and from the bus stop.

5. Pupils must be at the bus stop on the curb-side before the bus is scheduled to arrive. The bus will not stop if pupils are not waiting at the pick up point.
6. Behavior at a bus stop must not threaten the safety or property of pupils.
7. Riders must go directly to an assigned or available seat. All elementary children will have assigned seats.
8. Riders should remain seated and keep aisles and exits clear.
9. Riders must observe classroom conduct and obey the driver promptly and respectfully.
10. Riders may not eat or drink on the bus.
11. All parts of rider's bodies shall be kept inside the bus at all times.
12. Riders may not throw or pass objects, from or into the bus.
13. Parents will be responsible for any damage to a bus by their children.
14. Absolute quiet must be maintained at all railroad crossings and during bad weather driving.
15. Riders may carry on the bus only objects that can be held on their laps or stored in such a way as to keep aisles and exits clear.
16. There will be three evacuation drills per year, a front exit, a rear exit and front and rear exit.

The driver is in charge of the bus and will enforce these regulations. Riders who violate the bus rules may be refused transportation.

#### **VIDEO TAPES**

For the safety of children, parents are advised that Southwest Local School District buses contain video cameras.

#### **STUDENT CONDUCT CODE**

This code of regulations is adopted by the Board of Education of the Southwest Local School District pursuant to 3313.66, Ohio Revised Code.

#### Code of Regulations for Conduct of Pupils

Any pupil engaging in the types of conduct either specifically or generally like the kinds of conduct listed below, on school premises, while in the control or custody of the school district regardless of whether on or off school premises, or at a school related activity regardless of location, may be subject to disciplinary action including emergency removal, or suspension, or expulsion or removal from curricular or extra-curricular activities pursuant to 3313.66, Ohio Revised Code.

#### Types of Conduct Prohibited by Regulations

##### A. Advertisement

1. Distribution of pamphlets, leaflets, buttons, insignia, etc., without permission of school administration. Permission for the distribution of such materials shall be granted unless:
  - a. They are of the nature described under Obscenity #3.

b. The time, place or manner of distribution would substantially interfere with the work of the school operation or infringe upon the rights of other students.

2. Placing signs and slogans on school property without permission of the school administration.

3. Sales or soliciting on school property without permission of school authorities.

B. Attendance

1. Truancy.

2. Tardiness (excessive or unexcused).

3. Leaving the school building during school hours without permission of the proper school authority.

4. Missing, skipping or "cutting" of class(es).

C. Civil/Criminal Law

1. Commission of any crime on school premises or at a school activity in violation of the Ohio Criminal Code or the Ohio Juvenile Code or the Ohio Traffic Code.

D. 1. Forgery on or of school related documents.

2. Falsifying information given to school authorities.

E. Dress

1. Failure to abide by reasonable dress and appearance codes set by the administration or the Board of Education.

F. Educational Process

1. Any disruption or interference with school activities.

2. Chronic misbehavior which disrupts or interferes with any school activity.

3. Demonstrations by individuals or groups causing disruption to the school program.

4. Any other activity which a pupil knows or should know will disrupt the academic process of a curricular or extra-curricular activity.

G. Health

1. Presence on school property with a communicable disease.

H. Homework

1. Cheating or plagiarizing.

I. Obscenity

1. Use of indecent, abusive or obscene language in oral, written or symbolic form.

2. Engaging in sexual acts, indecent exposure or public display of affection.

3. Publication, distribution or possession of obscene, pornographic or libelous materials.

- J. Physical
1. Assault, verbal abuse or threat of physical harm to a school employee, student or other person.
  2. Fighting.
  3. Possession or use of dangerous weapons, instruments, fireworks or firearms.
- K. Property
1. Arson or attempted arson or setting unauthorized fires.
  2. Turning in false fire, tornado, bomb or disaster alarms.
  3. Damage or destruction (actual or attempted) of school property.
  4. Damage or destruction (actual or attempted) of private property.
  5. Theft.
  6. Use of nuisance items during the instructional day, which participating hinder school-sponsored activities or while utilizing school transportation. Radios, cassettes, personal stereos, tape players, skates, skateboard, playing cards, cellular phones, laser light, and pagers are considered nuisance items. Hats, headbands and visors are considered items of unnecessary dress and are not permitted.
  7. Possession of matches or lighters or other similar devices.
- L. Pupil Personnel
1. Hazing/bullying/intimidation activities of any kind.
  2. Extortion.
  3. Gambling
  4. Aiding another person to violate school regulations.
  5. Public displays of affection between pupils are discouraged and prohibited as being inappropriate for a school setting. Pupils may hold hands, but embracing and kissing are strictly forbidden.
  6. Harassment/bullying/intimidation, vandalism, physical or verbal abuse or other disruptive behavior toward other students.
- M. Staff
1. Disregard of directions or commands by school authorities, including school administration, teachers, and non-certified staff.
  2. Disrespect to school personnel.
  3. Refusing to comply with minor punishment such as detention, writing assignments, etc., or repeated offenses of school regulations.
  4. Harassment/bullying/intimidation, vandalism, physical or verbal abuse or other disruptive behavior toward school personnel during non-school time.
- N. Substances
1. Possession, distribution or use of narcotics, alcoholic beverages, dangerous drugs, illegal drugs, inhalants, mind-altering substances, non-controlled drugs, drug paraphernalia or any other like-substances. This includes look-alike substitutes, and/or placebos carrying an implied or explicit representation as a drug.

2. Smoking, use or possession of any substance containing tobacco, including, but not limited to, cigarettes, cigars, "dip", snuff, and chewing tobacco, or use of any other form.
- O. Transportation
1. Failure to obey school driving and parking regulations.
  2. Any type of prohibited activity listed herein taking place on a school bus shall be reason for removal, suspension, or expulsion.
- P. Trespass
1. Presence in areas during school hours or outside school hours, where a student has no legitimate business.

## DANGEROUS WEAPONS

The Board is committed to providing the students of the Southwest Local School District with an educational environment, which is free of the dangers of firearms, knives and other dangerous weapons in the schools.

The definition of a firearm shall include any weapon (including a starter gun) which will or is designed to or may readily be converted to expel a projectile by the action of an explosive; the frame or receiver of any such weapon; any firearm muffler or firearm silencer; or any destructive device (as defined in 18 U.S.C.A. Sections 921-924.), which includes but is not limited to any explosive, incendiary, or poisonous gas; bomb, grenade, or rocket having a propellant charge of more than four ounces; missile having an explosive or incendiary charge of more than one-quarter ounce, mine or device similar to any of the devices described above.

Students are prohibited from bringing a firearm on school property, in a school vehicle or to any school-sponsored activity. If a student brings a firearm on school property, in a school vehicle or to any school-sponsored activity, the Superintendent shall expel this student from school for a period of one calendar year. The Superintendent, at his/her discretion, may expel any student who possesses a firearm, which was initially brought onto school property by another person. In addition, the Superintendent shall notify the appropriate criminal justice or juvenile delinquency authorities. Any expulsion shall extend, as necessary, into the school year following the school year in which the incident occurred. The Superintendent may reduce this requirement on a case-by-case basis in accordance with State Law. Reasons for such reduction would include, but not be limited to, the expiration of the year occurring near the beginning of a school year, the nature of the weapon; manifestation of a student's disability, and other mitigating circumstances.

Students are also prohibited from bringing a knife to or possessing a knife (which was initially brought by another person) onto school property, in a school vehicle or to any school-sponsored activity. The definition of a knife includes, but is not limited to a cutting instrument consisting of a sharp blade fastened to a handle. If a student brings a knife on school property, in a school vehicle or to any school-sponsored activity, the Superintendent may expel the student from school, with the same expulsion implications as noted above.

Students who possess or use other dangerous weapons, which are defined but not limited to metal knuckles, straight razors, explosives, nervous irritation or poisonous gases, poisons, drugs or other items possessed with the intent to use, sell, harm, threaten or harass students, staff members, parents or community members, may be subject to expulsion.