

STUDENT CODE OF CONDUCT

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE:

To establish and publish expectations for student behavior while at school, at a school-related activity, being transported in a Peace River School Division vehicle, or while engaging in an activity that may have an impact on others in the school community.

The *Alberta Human Rights Act (AHRA)* Section 4 prohibits discrimination on the basis of an individual's race, color, ancestry, place of origin, religious beliefs, gender (including pregnancy, sexual harassment, and gender identity), physical disability, mental disability, marital status, family status, source of income, or sexual orientation. Any discrimination on any of the prohibited grounds in Section 4 of the AHRA is unacceptable behavior.

The *Canadian Charter of Rights & Freedoms* Section 15 provides that every individual is equal before and under the law and has the right to the equal protection and equal benefit of the law without discrimination and, in particular, without discrimination based on race, national or ethnic origin, colour, religion, sex, age or mental or physical disability.

In accordance with the Education Act Bill 10 Amendment the Board has set a Student Code of Conduct designed to ensure that responsible and respectful attitudes are demonstrated towards:

1. The education process
2. Professional and non-professional members of the school staff
3. Other students
4. Visitors to the school
5. Their own, and other people's property
6. School rules and regulations
7. Acceptance and responsibility
8. Extracurricular activities and field trips sponsored by the school.
9. Use of Electronic Devices

CODE OF CONDUCT

The Board of Trustees believes that the school community should develop standards of conduct and that each member of the school staff is responsible for supervision of the conduct of students in the school.

To establish and maintain a welcoming, caring, respectful, and safe learning environment for all students and staff, and to maximize the educational opportunities provided, students shall, as a partner in education, have a responsibility to ensure that their conduct respects diversity and fosters a sense of belonging by:

- Respecting themselves and the rights of others,
- Ensuring their conduct respects the diversity and fosters a sense of belonging of others in their school,
- Refraining from, reporting and refusing to tolerate bullying or bullying behavior, even if it happens outside of the school or school hours or electronically,
- Acting in ways that honors and appropriately represents themselves and their school,
- Attending school regularly and punctually
- Being ready to learn and actively engage in and diligently pursue their education,
- Knowing and complying with the rules of their school,
- Cooperating with all school staff,
- Being accountable for their behavior,
- Contributing positively to their school and community.

The Student Code of Conduct will be made publicly available, reviewed every year, and provided to all staff, students of the Board and parents of the students and be in accordance with any further requirements established by the Minister by order.

Unacceptable Behavior and Consequences

All members of the school community must be made aware of what is expected of them in this regard, and of the possible consequences of breaches of school community policy and school regulations. And, although school staff are not able to control what students do outside of school, where that behavior spills into the school environment, there may be consequences.

The Board does not condone behaviors that:

- Interfere with the learning of others and/or the school environment or that create unsafe conditions,
- Are acts of bullying, harassment or intimidation
- Are physically violent
- Are retribution against any person in school who has intervened to prevent or report bullying or any other incident or safety concern,
- Are illegal, such as possession, use or distribution of illegal or restricted substances, possession or use of weapons, theft or damage to property

The Board will support its students and staff in the maintenance of proper order and discipline, with the consequences of unacceptable behaviour taking into account the student's age, maturity and individual circumstances.

Consequences may include any or all of the following: notification to parents/guardians, the matter being referred to a higher school authority, meeting with parents/guardians, suspension, reporting to a provincial governing or law enforcement body and expulsion.

In administering discipline, staff will treat students with dignity and respect which is considerate of their circumstances. Disciplinary measures that humiliate or degrade students are unacceptable to the Division. Corporal punishment shall not be used as a disciplinary measure.

Support

The Board in their efforts to establish and maintain a welcoming, caring, respectful, and safe learning environment for all students and staff will provide support to students and staff impacted by inappropriate behavior and to those students and staff who engage in inappropriate behavior. Support is provided through mentoring, restorative processes, counselling and staff support.

MAR 2018/JAN 2019/NOV 2019/APR 2021/DEC 2021

Legal Reference: Section 11, 31, 33, 35.1, 36, 37, 52, 53, 58, 196, 197 213, 222 Education Act
Alberta Bill of Rights
Alberta Human Rights Act
Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms
Criminal Code