

SEAFORD SCHOOL DISTRICT

CODE OF CONDUCT

Rights and Responsibilities

Student Rights:

The School District is committed to safeguarding the rights given to all students under state and federal law. In addition, to promote a safe, healthy, orderly and supportive school environment, all School District students have the right to:

1. Participate in all School District activities on an equal basis regardless of their actual or perceived race, weight, color, national origin, ethnic group, religion, religious practice, gender, sex, sexual orientation or disability.
2. Present their version of the relevant events to school personnel authorized to impose a disciplinary penalty in connection with the imposition of the penalty.
3. Access school policies, regulations and rules and, when necessary, receive an explanation of those rules from school personnel.

Student Responsibilities:

All School District students have the responsibility to:

1. Promote a safe, supportive, and orderly school environment that is conducive to learning.
2. Respect others, respect the property of others, and respect school property.
3. Maintain behavior free from all forms of harassment, bullying, and/or discrimination.
4. Be familiar with and abide by all School District policies, rules and regulations dealing with student conduct.
5. Attend school every day unless they are legally excused and be in class, on time, and prepared to learn.
6. Work to the best of their ability in all academic and extracurricular pursuits and strive toward their highest level of achievement possible.
7. React to direction given by teachers, administrators and other school personnel in a respectful, positive manner.
8. Work to develop mechanisms to control their anger.
9. Ask questions when they do not understand.
10. Seek help in solving problems that might lead to discipline.
11. Dress appropriately for school and school functions.
12. Accept responsibility for their actions.
13. Conduct themselves as representatives of the School District when participating in or attending school-sponsored extracurricular events and to hold themselves to the highest standards of conduct, demeanor, and sportsmanship.

Prohibited Student Conduct:

The Board of Education expects all students to conduct themselves in an appropriate and civil manner, with proper regard for the rights and welfare of other students, School District personnel; and other members of the school community, and for the care of school facilities and equipment. In addition to its right to impose discipline, the Board of Education reserves the right to pursue the cost of repair to damages caused by a student's misconduct in accordance with its rights under the law.

It is expected that all students conduct themselves in a manner that supports the intent of the Dignity for All Students Act; creating a safe and supportive school environment free of discrimination, bullying/cyberbullying and harassment.

The Board of Education recognizes the need to make its expectations for student conduct while on School Property or engaged in a School Function specific and clear. The rules of conduct listed below are intended to do that and focus on safety and respect for the rights and property of others. Students who will not accept responsibility for their own behavior and who violate these school rules will be required to accept the penalties for their conduct. All violations apply to student behavior in school, on School Property, on school buses and at school-sponsored functions and student behavior off school property where such acts create or would foreseeably create a risk of substantial disruption within the school environment or where it is foreseeable that the acts might reach school property.

Students may be subject to disciplinary action, up to and including suspension from school, when they:

- A. Engage in conduct that is disorderly.
- B. Engage in conduct that is insubordinate.
- C. Engage in conduct that is disruptive.
- D. Engage in conduct that is violent.
- E. Engage in any conduct that endangers the safety, morals, health or welfare of others.
- F. Engage in misconduct while on a school bus.
- G. Engage in any form of academic misconduct.
- H. Engage in off-campus misconduct that creates or would foreseeably create a risk of substantial disruption within the school environment, where it is foreseeable that the misconduct might reach school property; or endangers the health, safety or morals of students or staff within the school.
- I. Engage in misconduct while using technology.

Other sections of the Code of Conduct include:

- **Definitions**-explanation of pertinent terms
- **Essential Partners**-description of community and district stakeholders
- **Student Dress Code**-explanation of appropriate attire
- **Expectations for Student Participation in Interscholastic Athletic and Extracurricular Activities**-general guidelines for appropriate behavior and communication
- **Reporting Violations**-procedures for reporting violations of the Code of Conduct
- **Disciplinary Penalties, Procedures and Referrals**-description of procedures and consequences
- **Alternative Instruction**-definition of this form of instruction
- **Discipline of Student with Disabilities**-outline of process and procedures
- **Corporal Punishment**-definition and explanation
- **Student Searches and Interrogations**-procedures for these actions
- **Visitors to the School**-description of guidelines for visitors
- **Public Conduct on School Property**-description of prohibited conduct and consequences
- **Dissemination and review**- methods for distribution and review of Code of Conduct

*To view the Board of Education approved Code of Conduct in its entirety, please visit the Seaford School District website.