

Community Expectations

South Woods 2025-2026



Compassion

Awareness

Respect

Empathy

Service

Reflect On Your Role in Our Community:

Stop. Think. Act.

- Am I acting safely and responsibly?
- Am I showing respect for others and my surroundings?
- What do my actions and look like to others?
- Where can I improve?
- When I am expected to speak up?

Dignity for All



- We are a **"No Place for Hate"** school.
- We embrace difference and diversity, and we are inclusive and supportive.
- If our community members make decisions that harm others, we take a stand and help them learn to do better.

Race
Color
Weight
National origin
Ethnic group
Religion and religious practice
Physical or mental abilities
Sexual orientation
Gender/sex/identity
Socio-economic status
Family status

Code of Character, Conduct, and Support

Know the Expectation
Treat others and your surroundings with respect.

Make Good Choices
Speak up for others & demonstrate P.R.I.D.E.

Anticipate Consequences & Expect to MAKE THINGS RIGHT.

All School District students have the responsibility to:

- Contribute to maintaining a safe, supportive and orderly school environment that is conducive to learning.
- Show respect to other persons (peers, faculty, staff, etc.), the personal space of other persons, and the property of other persons.
- Actively participate in making the school a community free of violence, intimidation, bullying, harassment, and discrimination.

Hate Speech, School Rules, and The Law

- When people use identity-based hate to target others, that is **hate speech**.
- **Antisemitism, Islamophobia, Anti Asian Hate, Racism, Anti LGBTQ speech** are forms of hate speech.
- **Hate speech** can be verbal, non-verbal, online, etc..
- Hate speech and hateful actions are prohibited in school by our Code of Conduct and in our community by law.
- **New York State Penal Law** defines a hate crime as any offense against someone that is motivated by bias regarding “race, color, national origin, ancestry, gender, gender identity or expression, religion, religious practice, age, disability or sexual orientation.”
- Consequences can include suspension, expulsion, referral to law enforcement.
- Potential impact on college applications and employment.

Acceptable Use Policy: Student Responsibilities

- **Use technology responsibly:** Chromebook is only for authorized, educational purposes.
- **Protect accounts and passwords:** Students are responsible for what happens on their account. Do not share passwords.
- **Report security issues to a trusted adult immediately.**
- **Avoid inappropriate content:** Students must not access, download, send, or display any content that is unlawful, obscene, or abusive.
- **Respect others' privacy and intellectual property:** No sharing personal information or accessing copyrighted material without permission.
- **Do not download unauthorized software or materials without permission:**
- **Maintain device care:** Protecting your Chromebook from damage, theft, or loss. You may be held responsible for purchasing a replacement.
- **Adhere to district policies:** Students must follow all rules outlined in the district's policies, including the Code of Character, Conduct, and Support.

COMPUTER MISUSE =

VIOLATES THE CODE OF CONDUCT AND ACCEPTABLE USE POLICY

- Hacking/tampering of any kind
 - Freezing Go Guardian
- Online gaming at sites not protected by the district's filtering/monitoring software
- Using district platforms (Google Docs, Sports U) for private conversations
- Google searches including violence/crime
- Cheating/Dishonest use of Artificial Intelligence

DISTRACTION FREE SCHOOLS

- Per NYS students will not be permitted to use any **personal internet-enabled device** during the entirety of the school day and so are encouraged to leave their devices at home.
- Middle School students who are permitted by their parents/guardians to bring an internet-enabled device to school must **turn off and store the device in their locker upon arrival**. Devices must remain turned off and in lockers until the final bell at 2:50 pm.
- Students who violate the cell phone policy may have their phones confiscated and kept in the office for the day. Repeat offenses will lead to additional disciplinary consequences.

Other Do's and Don'ts

Maintain respect in class, cafeteria, common areas, & the bus.

- **Cafeteria expectations**
 - Clean up your table
 - One student to a seat
 - Must have a pass for workshop
- **Transportation**
 - No bus passes
 - All buses have video cameras
 - Must be seated
- **Restroom**
 - **Neatly** sign in/out of restroom - even during passing time

Avoid damaging and disrespectful behavior:

- No hoods, hats, or headphones
- No intrusion of others' personal space - keep your hands to yourself.
- No food delivery, no food drop-offs for large groups
- No loitering/hanging out in halls or unsupervised classrooms
- No graffiti/defacing school property
- No dangerous items in school
- No TikTok challenges
- No paper darts
- No paper in locker tumblers

Key Supporters:

Principals

- Ms. Burget, Ms. Burke, Ms. Berke, Ms. Tam

Guidance Department

- Ms. Carleo | *8th grade*
- Ms. Goodman | *7th grade*
- Mr. Singh | *6th grade*
- Ms. Connolly | *Social Worker*
- Dr. Foster | *School Psychologist*

DASA Coordinators

- Ms. Russell and Ms. Chung