

Students who behave in a safe, non-threatening way and who show respect for self, others, property and educational environment will never have to worry about violating this code.

The Sherman Public School System promotes: discipline as education, discipline with caring, primary prevention, early intervention, development of self discipline, consistency and predictability, celebration of good behavior, celebration of achievement and sense of school “community”.

Definitions

Harassment: conduct which annoys, threatens, intimidates, or causes fear directed at a member of a potential class based on race, color, national origin, religion, gender, disability, sexual orientation or gender identity; unwanted behavior that offends, demeans, or threatens another person causing a hostile environment.

Relational Aggression: using friendship for power, i.e. ignoring someone to punish them or to get one’s way.

Sexual Harassment: unwelcoming sexual advances, gestures or jokes.

Racial or discriminatory slurs: insulting comments made about a person’s race, sex, physical appearance or other personal characteristics.

Insubordination: willful disrespect for authority.

Vandalism: willful destruction of public or private property.

Truancy: unexcused absences up to 10 days in any school year.

Instigation, Intimidation: frightening or forcing someone into submission or obedience.

Theft: taking or attempting to take personal property or money from another by force or fear.

Fighting: with another person on school premises not reasonably necessary for self defense.

Assault: unprovoked hitting or striking.

Extortion: attempting to get something from a person by force.

Trespassing: infringing on property, territory or rights of another.

Physical Aggression: unprovoked hitting or striking based on the severity of the particular behavior and the student’s disciplinary history, the administration will assign consequences ranging between the minimum and the maximum stated in the code.

Bullying: repeated intentional aggressive acts/interactions between individuals (with different levels of social power).

Cyberbullying: bullying through email, texting, instant messaging, in a chat room, on a website, or through digital messages or images sent to any electronic devices.

Tardy: arrival after 8:25 AM.

Cyber Threat: Sending or posting of direct threats or distressing material that raises concern that an individual may contemplating a violent act.

Keys to Terminology

Appropriate Staff Response: Discipline without administrative intervention. This may include such things as conferences, parent contacts, warnings, detentions, loss of privileges, removal from class, etc.

CC: Case Conference

Planning Placement Team (PPT): Referral to Planning and Placement Team (*students in special education*)

Anti-Harassment Team (AHT): School Climate Specialists, School Counselor, School Psychologist and Teacher.

Refer to School Based Counseling (SBC): Student will meet with School Counselor or School Psychologist.

Parent contact will occur in instances below and a referral will be made to school counseling.

ISS: In-School Suspension (up to 5 days)

OSS: Out of School Suspension

Expulsion: Referral to the Superintendent for possible recommendation that the BOE expel up to one calendar year. (*PPT decisions may supersede this process.*)

Police Report: May include arrest

Consistent with Board of Education Policy, the Board of Education believes that teaching learning proceed best in a safe, respectful and orderly environment. Toward that end, the Sherman School shall implement positive approaches to promoting and maintaining appropriate behavior. Also toward that end, the school will adopt, implement and annually distribute codes of conduct which specify the range of possible consequences including, but not limited to, particular types of misbehavior. These positive approaches and conduct codes must be consistent with State and Federal law, Board policies and the following principles:

- communication/alliance with family
- safety for all
- respect for self and others
- respect for personal public property
- courtesy
- cultural sensitivity
- respect for differences
- balance between rights and responsibilities
- balance between the rights of the individual and the rights of the total school community.

Additional Board policies and administrative regulations exist. These describe in detail procedures to be followed in response to particular kinds of behaviors. Copies are available upon request through the Superintendent’s office. Examples: truancy, suspension and expulsion, harassment, weapons, bus misbehavior, removal from class, exclusion from privileges, dress and grooming.

The Sherman School

Middle School
Grades 5-8



Code of Conduct

Section I Respect and Courtesy		
Behavior	Minimum	Maximum
Harassment* Relational Aggression	•appropriate staff response	•10 days OSS •CC/PPT •Expulsion
Sexual Harassment*	•conference with student •conference with parent •SBC	•10 days OSS •police report •CC/PPT
Racial or other Discriminatory Slurs	•appropriate staff response •notify SBC •notify parent	•10 days OSS •CC/PPT •refer to AHT
Obscene, Vulgar, Abusive, Inflammatory or Disrespectful Language, Gestures or Attire	•appropriate staff response	•10 days OSS •CC/PPT •Expulsion
Verbal or Gestural Abuse Toward Staff	•1 day ISS	•10 days OSS •CC/PPT •Expulsion
Insubordination	•appropriate staff response	•10 days OSS •CC/PPT •Expulsion
Refusals to Identify Self When Asked	•admin conference with student •notify parent	•5 days ISS
False Accusation	•appropriate staff response	•10 days OSS •CC/PPT
Lying to Avoid Blame or Responsibility	•appropriate staff response	•5 days ISS
Cheating	•appropriate staff response •notify parent	•5 days ISS

*The Sherman Public School does not permit or condone harassment of employees or students. If individuals or parents suspect that they or any students may be the subject of harassment, they should promptly contact the Assistant Principal.

Based on the severity of the particular behavior and the student's disciplinary history, the administration will assign consequences ranging between the minimum and the maximum stated in the code.

Section II Respect for Personal and Public Property		
Behavior	Minimum	Maximum
Throwing Objects	• appropriate staff response	•10 days OSS •CC/PPT •Expulsion
Littering	•appropriate staff response •clean up	•5 days ISS
Theft or Possession of Stolen Goods	•appropriate staff response •notify parent •restitution	•10 days OSS •police report •Expulsion
Vandalism	•appropriate staff response •notify parent •clean up •restitution	•10 days OSS •police report •Expulsion
Tampering with School Records	•appropriate staff response •notify parent	•10 days OSS •police report •Expulsion

Footnotes

*1 Expulsion is mandatory whenever a student is found to have engaged in the sale or distribution of a controlled substance (defined in Sec 9 CGS§212-240), whether that conduct occurred on school property, at a school sponsored activity, on or off school property. The mandated expulsion period is for one calendar year, with the right to modify the period of expulsion on a case-by-case basis. See BOE Policy.

*2 Expulsion is mandatory for students in possession of a deadly weapon (defined in CGS§53a-3), dangerous instruments and martial arts weapons. The mandated expulsion period is for one calendar year, with the right to modify the period of expulsion on a case-by-case basis. See BOE Policy

Note: The Sherman School reserves the right - based on the severity of an incident or based upon previous use of maximum as stated - to consider out of school suspension or recommendation for expulsion.

Section III Respect for Orderly Teaching / Learning Environment		
Behavior	Minimum	Maximum
Disruption of the Education Process	•appropriate staff response	•10 days OSS •CC/PPT •Expulsion
Failure to Serve a School Suspension	•1 day OSS	•10 days OSS •CC/PPT •Expulsion
Failure to Serve Detention	•1 additional detention •notify parent	•5 day ISS •CC/PPT •Expulsion
Lunch Time Misbehavior	•appropriate staff response	•5 days removal from lunch (to ISS)
Attire Inconsistent with Teaching / Learning Enviornment	•appropriate staff response •change of attire	•5 days ISS
Misuse of Technology	•appropriate staff response	•5 days ISS •notify parent •loss of use
Tardiness to School / Class	•detention •parent/admin conference	•detention •parent/admin conference
AWOL from Class	•parent/teacher conference •exclusion from privileges •refer to school counseling	•5 days ISS •CC/PPT
Truancy form School	•admin conference •refer to school counseling/Community referrals •follow state law	•5 days ISS •follow state law •possible DCF referral •CC/PPT
Bringing Unauthorized Visitors to School	•admin conference (warning)	•5 days ISS
Trespassing	•warning •request to leave	•police report •add time to suspension in progress
Gambling	•admin conference •notify parent	•5 day ISS •CC/PPT

Section IV Safety, Freedom from Fear		
Behavior	Minimum	Maximum
Bus Misbehavior	•Warning •Notify parent	•suspension of bus privileges •AHT
Intimidation, Instigation, Threatening behavior	•1 day ISS •Notify parent	•10 days OSS •CC/PPT •Expulsion
Cyberbullying	•Warning •Notify parent	•10 days OSS •Police Report •CC/PPT •Expulsion •SBC
Fighting / Bullying	•1 day ISS •Notify parent	•10 days OSS •CC/PPT •Expulsion •AHT
Physical Aggression	•appropriate staff response •notify parent	•10 days OSS •CC/PPT •Expulsion
Assault	•3 days OSS •police report	•10 days OSS •Police Report •CC/PPT •Expulsion
Smoking/eCigarette or Chewing Tobacco	•1 day ISS	•5 days ISS
Using, selling, Possessing, Distributing Controlled Substances: Alcohol, Drugs or Paraphernalia	•Report to Principal •police report •refer to CC/PPT •*1 •5 days ISS	•10 days OSS •Expulsion
Weapon Possession (including fireworks)	•1 day ISS •*2	•Expulsion •Police Report •CC/PPT
Arson, False Alarm, Bomb Threat, Threat of gun violence	•3 days ISS •police and/or fire marshal notification •CC/PPT	•10 days OSS •Expulsion
Gang Colors, Decoration or Attire	•appropriate staff response	•5 days ISS •CC/PPT
Extortion, Blackmail	•appropriate staff response	•10 days OSS •CC/PPT •Police Report
Cyber Threat	•3 day ISS •Police report •CC/PPT	•10 days OSS •Expulsion