



2026-2027 Student Code of Conduct

Mount Arlington Public Schools

235 Howard Boulevard
Mount Arlington, NJ 07856
973-398-4400

<https://www.mtarlingtonk8.org/>

Revised July 2026

“High Expectations + Respectful Behavior = Student Success”

Purpose

The Mount Arlington School District is committed to ensuring that every student has equitable access to a safe, supportive, respectful, and academically rigorous learning environment in accordance with the New Jersey State Department of Education and the requirements of N.J.A.C. 6A:16-7.1. We believe that all students have the right to learn in a school community that fosters dignity, responsibility, and mutual respect.

Every member of the school community shares the responsibility of maintaining an environment that promotes learning and safety. No individual has the right to engage in behaviors that disrupt the educational process or infringe upon the rights of others.

This Student Code of Conduct outlines behaviors that are inconsistent with these expectations and therefore will not be tolerated. All students are required to review and acknowledge the Student Code of Conduct and are expected to conduct themselves in accordance with its provisions. The examples of prohibited behaviors and corresponding disciplinary responses provided in this document are intended to promote consistency and accountability. However, school administrators reserve the discretion to determine and modify disciplinary consequences, when appropriate, based on the nature, severity, and circumstances of each incident and in accordance with Board policy, administrative regulations, and applicable state and federal law.

The purpose of these regulations is to provide:

1. Pupils, parents, and staff members with a clear description of behavior that is unacceptable because it interferes with the maintenance of a school environment conducive to learning and protective of members of the school community,
2. Pupils with an opportunity to modify unacceptable behavior,
3. Consistency and predictability in the administration of pupil discipline; and
4. A program of sequential discipline.

Mission Statement

The Mission of the Mount Arlington School District is to ensure that our children succeed personally, academically and socially. Through our commitment and passion to promote excellence, we will continue to provide our students with a safe, challenging and inspiring learning environment so that each student may achieve his/her full potential. In partnership with the community, we will provide our students with a sound foundation to support a lifelong journey of opportunity and success.

Self-respect, appreciation and consideration for the learning rights and needs of others are a primary focus for students. The following “Expectations for Student Conduct” are to be learned and abided by all students.

Expected Student Conduct
Students will be respectful of all adults and peers.
Students will be prepared for class.
Students will complete all assignments on time.
Students will treat school property with care.
Students will conduct themselves in a safe and respectful manner in school and during all school events.
Students will ask for help when needed.

Provisions for Students with a Disability

Additional steps pursuant to [N.J.A.C. 6A:14](#) must be taken when students with disabilities, including those with IEP's and Section 504 Plans are disciplined. Administrators and/or designee shall review our students' 504 Plans, Individual Education Plans (IEPs), and/ or Behavioral Plans; and, consult with the school principal before applying the Student Code of Conduct as prescribed in this document.

Leveled Behaviors and Responses		
Level 1 Behaviors	Level 2 Behaviors	Level 3 Behaviors
Absenteeism/Tardiness	Absenteeism/Tardiness (chronic)	Arson
Academic Dishonesty (plagiarism)	Damage to Property/Vandalism	Damage to Property/Vandalism (severe)
Disruption of the Education Process	Disruption of the Education Process (Severe)	False Public Alarm
Dress Code Violation	Fighting (minor physical injury)	Fighting (major physical injury)
Inappropriate Physical Contact	Harassment, Intimidation, and Bullying (confirmed)	Harassment, Intimidation, and Bullying (severe)
Physical Altercation	Leaving School Grounds	Inappropriate Physical Contact (sexual)
Property Destruction/Vandalism	Possession of an Illegal Substance	Theft (severe)
Student Use of Internet Enabled Device	Theft	Threat (criminal)
	Threat	

Absenteeism Arriving at school or class after the school start time as per Policy #5240 . Chronic absenteeism: more than 2 days absent per month as per Policy #5200 .		
Grade Level	Response	Behavioral Supports
K-8	• Notification of Superintendent's Office • Notification of Parent/Guardian • Notification of Police/Fire Department • Out of School Suspension (1-10 Days) • Mandatory Administrator/Parent/Guardian Conference	• Family Conference and Collaboration • Referral to Counselor • Possible denial of participation in extra-curricular activities • Possible referral to Community Services • Chronic: possible referral to Juvenile Court

Academic Dishonesty Altercations made on any type of school material including grades and plagiarism. Policy #5701		
Grade Level	Response	Behavioral Supports
K-2	• Notification of Parent/Guardian • Conference with Administrator/Teacher	• Initiate a Student Centered Discussion about the Incident • Reflection Activity
3-8	• Notification of Parent/Guardian • Conference with Administrator/Teacher • Possible Detention	• Initiate a Student Centered Discussion about the Incident

Arson Purposely or knowingly starting a fire or causing an explosion in or on the grounds of a school, thereby placing the victim or group of victims in danger of death or bodily injury; or purposely starting a fire or causing an explosion that destroys or damages the victim's or school's property/grounds.		
Grade Level	Response	Behavioral Supports
K-8	• Notification of Superintendent's Office • Notification of Parent/Guardian • Notification of Police/Fire Department • Out of School Suspension (1-10 Days) • Mandatory Administrator and Parent/Guardian Conference	• Problem Solving Conference • Family Conference and Collaboration • Referral to School Counselor • Referral to Community Support Organization • Reintegration Plan

Damage to Property/Vandalism

Purposely, knowingly, or recklessly destroying or defacing school, contracted, or personal property, thereby causing an economic loss due to repair or for replacement. Misuse or loss of, or intentional damage to, district issued computer or device [Policy #5513](#). This includes violation of the district's acceptable use of technology [Policy #2361](#), physical damage, tampering with hardware or software, theft or misplacement, and any activity that could compromise the device's security or integrity. Financial Responsibility: Parents/Guardians will be financially responsible for the costs associated with any damage or loss of district-issued devices as per [Policy #7523](#).

Grade Level	Response	Behavioral Supports
K-2	• Notification of Parent/Guardian • Conference with Administrator • Possible Restitution	First Occurrence or More Occurrence • Verbal Prompt, Redirection, and/or Correction • Positive And Specific Directives that State Expectations • Reflection Activity • Possible Facilitation of Apology
3-8	First Occurance • Notification of Parent/Guardian • Conference with Administrator • Possible Restitution • Possible Detention Second or Greater Occurrence • Possible In-School Suspension (1-4 days) • Possible Out of School Suspension (1-4 days)	First Occurance • Verbal Prompt, Redirection, and/or Correction • Positive And Specific Directives that State Expectations • Reflection Activity • Possible Facilitation of Apology Second or Greater Occurrence • Referral to School Counselor • Referral to Community Support Organization • Family Conference and Collaboration

Disruption of the Educational Process Any act or behavior that disrupts the learning environment including incidences on the bus. The teacher will use strategies to address the behavior. If the behavior continues or if the first behavior is egregious, administrative involvement should occur as listed below.		
Grade Level	Response	Behavioral Supports
K-2	- Notification of Parent/Guardian - Conference with Administrator	First Occurance - Verbal Prompt, Redirection, and/or Correction - Positive And Specific - Directives that State Classroom/School-Wide Expectations - Re-Teaching of Desired Skill or Procedure - Facilitation of Apology to Teacher Second or Greater Occurance - Referral to School Counselor - Family Conference/Collaboration - Referral to Community Support Organization
3-8	- Notification of Parent/Guardian - Conference with Administrator - Possible Detention - Possible In-School Suspension	First Occurance - Verbal Prompt, Redirection, and/or Correction - Positive And Specific - Directives that State Classroom/School-Wide Expectations - Re-Teaching of Desired Skill or Procedure - Facilitation of Apology to Teacher Second or Greater Occurance - Referral to School Counselor - Family Conference/Collaboration - Referral to Community Support Organization

Dress Code Violation Clothing that is not part of the student dress code Policy #5511 or is distracting, suggestive or inappropriate is prohibited. Head coverings which include hats, hoodies and bandanas are not permitted unless for religious, cultural, or medical purposes.		
Grade Level	Response	Behavioral Supports
K-2	Notification of Parent/Guardian	Positive Directives that State Expectations
3-8	First Occurance - Notification of Parent/Guardian - Verbal Warning Second or Greater Occurance - Possible Detention	First Occurance - Positive Directives that State Expectations Second or Greater Occurance - Referral to School Counselor

False Public Alarm Initiating or circulating a report or warning, via any means of communication of an impending fire, explosion, bombing, crime, catastrophe or emergency, knowing that the report or warning is false or baseless and that it is likely to cause evacuation of a school building, school bus, or other place of assembly on school grounds. This includes knowingly setting off a fire alarm when no fire exists.		
Grade Level	Response	Behavioral Supports
K-2	First Occurrence • Notification of Superintendent's Office • Notification of Parent/Guardian • Notification of Police/Fire Department • Grades: 1-2: Possible Detention (1-2 Days) • Mandatory Administrator/Parent/Guardian Conference Second or Greater Occurrence • Grades: 1-2: Possible In-School Suspension (1-2 Days) • Mandatory Administrator/Parent/Guardian Conference	• Problem Solving Conference • Family Conference and Collaboration • Referral to School Counselor • Referral to Community Support Organization • Reintegration Plan
3-8	First Occurrence • Notification of Superintendent's Office • Notification of Parent/Guardian • Notification of Police/Fire Department • Grades 3-8: Possible Detention • Grades: 3-8: Possible In-School Suspension (1-10 Days) • Grades: 3-8: Possible Out of School Suspension (1-10 Days) • Mandatory Administrator/Parent/Guardian Conference Second or Greater Occurrence • Grades: 3-8: Possible In-School Suspension (1-10 Days) • Grades: 3-8: Possible Out-of-School Suspension (1-10 Days) • Mandatory Administrator/Parent/Guardian Conference	

Fighting Mutual engagement in a <i>physical</i> confrontation that may result in bodily injury to either party. Does not include a verbal confrontation or a minor confrontation, such as a shoving match.		
Grade Level	Response	Behavioral Supports
K-2	• Notification of Superintendent's Office • Notification of Parent/Guardian • Conference with Administrator • Possible HIB investigation • Grades 1-2: Possible Detention	First Occurance • Mediated Conflict Resolution • Problem Solving Conference Second or Greater Occurrence • Mediated Conflict Resolution • Family Conference and Collaboration • Referral to School Counselor • Referral to Community Support
3-8	• Notification of Superintendent's Office • Notification of Parent/Guardian • Conference with Administrator • Possible HIB investigation • Possible Detention • Possible In-School Suspension (1-10 days) • Possible Out of-School Suspension (1-10 days)	First Occurance • Mediated Conflict Resolution • Problem Solving Conference Second or Greater Occurrence • Mediated Conflict Resolution • Family Conference and Collaboration • Referral to School Counselor • Referral to Community Support Organization

Confirmed Harassment Intimidation and Bullying (HIB)

HIB means any gesture, any written, verbal or physical act, or any electronic communication, whether it be a single incident or a series of incidents, that is reasonably perceived as being motivated either by any actual or perceived characteristic, such as race, color, religion, ancestry, national origin, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity and expression, or a mental, physical or sensory disability, or by any other distinguishing characteristic, that takes place on school property, at any school-sponsored function, on a school bus, or off school grounds as provided for in section 16 of P.L. 2010, c.122 (C. 18A:37-15.3), that substantially disrupts or interferes with the orderly operation of the school or the rights of other students and that: a reasonable person should know, under the circumstances, will have the effect of physically or emotionally harming a student or damaging the student's property, or placing a student in reasonable fear of physical or emotional harm to his person or damage to his property; has the effect of insulting or demeaning any student or group of students; or creates a hostile educational environment for the student by interfering with the student's education, [Policy #5512](#)

Grade Level	Response	Behavioral Supports
K-2	• Notification of Superintendent's Office • Notification of Parent/Guardian • Conference with Administrator • Grades 1-2: Possible Detention • Possible Police Notification	First Occurrence • Reflection Activity • Possible Mediation • Possible Facilitation of Apology • Family Conference and Collaboration Second or More Occurrence • Referral to School Counselor • Family Conference and Collaboration • Referral to Community Support Organization
3-8	• Notification of Superintendent's Office • Notification of Parent/Guardian • Conference with Administrator • Detention • Possible In-School Suspension (1-10 days) • Possible Police Notification • Possible Out of-School Suspension (1-10 days)	First Occurrence • Reflection Activity • Possible Mediation • Possible Facilitation of Apology • Family Conference and Collaboration Second or More Occurrence • Referral to School Counselor • Family Conference/Collaboration • Referral to Community Support Organization • Reintegration Plan (following a suspension)

Inappropriate Physical Contact Intentional touching by the offender, either directly or through clothing, of the victim's or offender's intimate body parts.		
Grade Level	Response	Behavioral Supports
K-8	• Notification of Superintendent's Office • Notification of Parent/Guardian • Mandatory Administrator/Parent/Guardian Conference • Possible Police Notification • Grades 1-8: Possible In-School Suspension (1-10 Days) • Grades 1-8: Possible Out of School Suspension (1-10 Days)	• Initiate a Student Centered Discussion about the Incident (and Repair, Restore and Reteach Expectations) • Family Conference and Collaboration • Problem Solving Conference • Referral to School Counselor • Referral to Community Support Organization • Reintegration Plan (following suspension)

Leaving School Grounds Being off of school grounds without authorization.		
Grade Level	Response	Behavioral Supports
K-2	• Notification of Superintendent's Office • Police Notification • Notification of Parent/Guardian • Conference with Administrator	First Occurance • Positive Directives that State Expectations • Reflection Activity Second or More Occurance • Referral to School Counselor for Student Contract Development • Family Conference/Collaboration
3-8	• Notification of Parent/Guardian • Police Notification • Conference with Administrator • Detention • Possible In-School Suspension	First Occurance • Positive Directives that State Expectations • Reflection Activity Second or More Occurance • Referral to School Counselor for Student Contract Development • Family Conference/Collaboration

Possession of an Illegal Substance A student is found with one of the reportable substance types.		
Grade Level	Response	Behavioral Supports
K-8	• Notification of Superintendent's Office • Notification of Parent/Guardian • Notification of Police • Out of School Suspension (1-10 Days) • Mandatory Administrator/Parent/Guardian Conference • Mandatory Drug Screening	• Problem Solving Conference • Referral to School Counselor • Referral to Community Support Organization • Family Conference and Collaboration • Reintegration Plan (following a suspension) • Substance Abuse Policy #5530 and Smoking Policy #5533

Student Use of Internet-Enabled Devices Student use of internet-enabled devices on school grounds during the school day and on the bus when students are under the direct supervision of a teaching staff member. Policy # 5516		
Grade Level	Response	Behavioral Supports
K-8	First Occurrence • Notification of Parent/Guardian • Conference with Administrator • Devices will be taken from the student and kept in the Principal or designee's office for the remainder of the school day. The student can retrieve the device at the end of the day. The student signs off on retrieving the phone and first offense. Second Occurrence • Notification of Parent/Guardian • Conference with Administrator • Devices will be taken from the student and kept in the Principal or designee's office for the remainder of the school day. The parent must retrieve the device at the end of the day (or next day if not available). The student and parent signs off on retrieving the phone and second offense. Third or More Occurrence • Notification of Superintendent's Office • Notification of Parent/Guardian • Conference with Administrator • Loss of privilege to bring internet-enabled devices to school sponsor activities off school grounds during the school (i.e. field trip) or loss of privilege to bring device(s) to school for 30 school days OR device will be taken from the student and kept in the Principal or designee's office for the remainder of the school day. The parent must retrieve the device at the end of the day. The student and parent signs off on retrieving	First Occurrence • Problem Solving Conference Second Occurrence • Problem Solving Conference • Possible Facilitation of Apology • Family Conference and Collaboration Third or More Occurrence • Referral to Student Support Team • Referral to Community Services • Family Conference and Collaboration • Reintegration Plan (following a suspension)

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	the phone and third offense. Fourth Occurrence Students are prohibited from bringing an internet-enabled device on school grounds during the school day, on a school bus before and after school and while participating in school sponsored events. The parent signs off on retrieving the phone and fourth offense.	
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Theft The taking of the school district's or a person's belongings or property without consent, when the offender knew that consent was needed.		
Grade Level	Response	Behavioral Supports
K-8	- Notification of Superintendent's Office - Notification of Parent/Guardian - Conference with Administrator - Possible Restitution - Grades 1-8: Detention - Grades 1-8: Possible In-School Suspension (1-10 days) - Grades 1-8: Possible Out-of-School Suspension (1-10 days) - Possible Police Notification	First Occurance - Reflection Activity - Possible Facilitation of Apology Second or More Occurrence - Problem Solving Conference - Possible Facilitation of Apology - Family Conference/Collaboration Third or More Occurrence - Referral to Student Support Team - Referral to Community Services - Family Conference & Collaboration - Reintegration Plan (following suspension)

Threat Attempting by physical or verbal menace to instill fear in another person.		
Grade Level	Response	Behavioral Supports
K-8	- Notification of Superintendent's Office - Notification of Parent/Guardian - Conference with Administrator - Possible HIB Investigation - Grades 1-8: Detention - Grades 1-8: Detention - Grades 1-8: Possible In-School Suspension (1-10 days) - Grades 1-8: Possible Out-of-School Suspension (1-10 days) - Possible Police Notification	- Problem Solving Conference - Referral to School Counselor - Referral to Community Support Organization - Family Conference & Collaboration - Reintegration Plan - Risk/Threat Assessment, Policy #2419

EXPECTATIONS FOR PUPIL CONDUCT*

**Expectations have been reprinted with permission of the Roxbury Township Public Schools, Roxbury, N.J.*

- A. Pupils will prepare themselves mentally and physically for the process of learning by:
 - 1. Being well-nourished, rested, clean and properly dressed and groomed;
 - 2. Being free of drugs and alcohol and refraining from smoking; and
 - 3. Developing attitudes that will prepare them for listening, participating, and learning.
- B. Pupils will respect the person, property, and intellectual and creative products of other by:
 - 1. Being always honest, forthcoming, and courteous;
 - 2. Displaying care for the property of others;
 - 3. Acknowledging the intellectual work of others when it is incorporated into their work;
 - 4. Accepting the rights of others to their own opinions and beliefs;
 - 5. Resolving disputes and differences peacefully;
 - 6. Displaying loyalty and good sportsmanship; and
 - 7. Helping to maintain school facilities that are neat and clean.
- C. Pupils will take responsibility for their own behavior and learning by:
 - 1. Recognizing that academic endeavor is the primary purpose of school attendance;
 - 2. completing all homework, class work, and assigned projects on time;
 - 3. Preparing for each class by bringing necessary supplies and equipment;
 - 4. Making personal choices that are based on sound reasoning and decision-making;
 - 5. Accepting constructive criticism; and
 - 6. Acknowledging and accepting the consequences of their own actions.
- D. Pupils will use time and other resources responsibly by:
 - 1. Attending school regularly and promptly and striving for a perfect attendance record;
 - 2. Using study periods and library time for school work; and
 - 3. Using books and other equipment appropriately.
- E. Pupils will share responsibilities when working with others by:
 - 1. Cooperating with others in the work of the group;
 - 2. Contributing talents and services as appropriate;
 - 3. Accepting leadership when appropriate; and
 - 4. Respecting the rights and opinions of others in a group setting.
- F. Pupils will meet the requirements of each course of study by:
 - 1. Participating actively and appropriately in the scheduled class;
 - 2. Following the rules and procedures established for the class by the teacher;
 - 3. Bringing to class the textbook, clothing, and other materials necessary for participation, and
 - 4. Observing school rules for the safe handling of class equipment and materials.
- G. Pupils will monitor their own progress toward school objectives by:
 - 1. Carefully planning courses of study and schedules;
 - 2. Promptly seeking staff assistance as required; and
 - 3. Maintaining records of progress.

Parent/Guardian Resources

Crisis Evaluation/Partial Hospitalization/Day Programs

Organization	Services	Contact Information
High Focus Centers Parsippany Outpatient Treatment Center	- Partial Hospitalization Program (PHP) - Intensive Outpatient Program (IOP) - Individual, group, and family therapy - Psychiatric evaluation and medication management Appropriate for youth with: - Anxiety and Depression - School refusal - Mood disorders - Self-harm behaviors - Trauma - Behavioral concerns	(866) 935-4424 https://www.highfocuscenters.com/location/nj/parsippany/
Family Crisis Intervention Unit (FCIU)	FCIU serves families experiencing family conflict, youth truancy, run away behavior and human trafficking. Schools, law enforcement, family members, and other mental health agencies can make referrals.	Morris County FCIU (973) 586-5243 PerformCare (877) 652-7624 CFS Access Center (877) 922-2377 https://www.centerffs.org/our-services/counseling-behavioral-health/family-crisis-intervention-unit-fciu

Counseling and Mental Health Services

Organization	Services	Contact Information
NJ Children's System of Care: Perform Care	- Behavioral and Mental Health Services - Crisis Intervention - Services for Children with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities (I/DD) - Substance Use Treatment - Care Management	1-877-652-7624 https://www.performcarenj.org/families
Mobile Response & Stabilization Services	Available 24/7 Trained and caring staff will provide: - Encouragement, support, and assistance to you and your child 24/7 crisis response - Referral and connection to community resources	1-877-652-7624 https://www.centerffs.org/our-services/counseling-behavioral-health/mobile-response-stabilization-services

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	● Up to 8 weeks of care coordination linkage ● Coordination with in-community therapy and/or behavioral assistance (when applicable)	
988 Suicide & Crisis Lifeline	Available 24/7 for anyone experiencing a mental health crisis or supporting someone in crisis.	Call or text 988
2nd Floor Helpline	Available 24/7 for youth needing help with anything including: ● Problems with friends and peer pressure ● Substance abuse ● School stress ● Bullying ● Eating disorders ● Family problems ● Depression and anxiety ● Abuse and Dating Abuse ● Suicide	Call or text 888-222-2228 http://www.2ndfloor.org

Medical Services

Organization	Services	Contact Information
Zufall Community Health Center	● Primary care for adults and children ● Pediatrics ● Behavioral health ● Dental services ● Pharmacy assistance ● Accepts uninsured patients and offers a sliding fee scale.	https://www.zufallhealth.org/about-us/locations/morristown-medical-dental/?utm_source=chatgpt.com 4 Atno Ave. Morristown, NJ 07960 Phone: 973-267-0002
NJ Department of Human Services	● Healthcare ● Mental Health ● Disability	https://www.nj.gov/humanservices/

Family and Mentoring Services

Organization	Services	Contact Information
Big Brother and Big Sisters of Northern NJ	Operates community-based school, hospital, and corporate mentoring programs, as well as the Bigs in Blue program pairing students with local law enforcement officials to build trusting community relationships.	Northern Office: 21 Western Avenue Morristown, NJ 07960 732-544-2224 https://mentornj.org/need-a-big/
Family Support Organization of Morris & Sussex Counties (MSFSO)	The Family Support Organization of Morris & Sussex Counties provides intensive peer-to-peer support for families of children with complex care needs through strategic community partnerships.	(973) 940 3194 111 Howard Blvd. Suite 201 Mount Arlington, NJ https://msfso.org/