

# FIRELANDS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

## CODE OF STUDENT CONDUCT

### MISCONDUCT FOR WHICH DETENTION, SUSPENSION, EXPULSION, REMOVAL, AND/OR LOSS OF BUS RIDING PRIVILEGES MAY BE IMPOSED

#### **Rule #1 Truancy.**

A student shall not be willfully absent from any scheduled class, study hall, or detention for all or any part of the school day whether on or off school grounds.

#### **Rule #2 Disruption Of School.**

A student shall not, by use of violence, force, coercion, threat, harassment, intimidation, fear, passive resistance, or any other conduct cause, attempt, or threaten to cause the disruption or obstruction of any lawful mission, process, activity, or function of the school.

Students shall not urge other students to engage in such conduct for the purpose of causing, attempting or threatening to cause the disruption or obstruction of any lawful mission, process, activity, or function of the school. While this list is not intended to be all-inclusive, the following acts illustrate the kinds of misconduct prohibited by this rule:

- a. improperly occupying any school building, school grounds, or part thereof;
- b. blocking the entrance or exit of any school building or corridor or room therein;
- c. setting fire or attempting to set fire to or damaging or attempting to damage or defacing or attempting to deface any school building or property;
- d. making by telephone call, letter, or other means a threat to damage or destroy any school property or to disrupt any school-sponsored or related activity, function, or event on or off school grounds;
- e. activating or attempting to activate any emergency alarm system in the absence of any emergency;
- f. preventing or attempting to prevent by physical act or verbal utterance the conveying or continuing functioning of any school, class, or activity or any lawful meeting or assembly on or off school property;
- g. except under the direct instruction of the principal or other authorized school personnel, blocking pedestrian or vehicular traffic on school property or at the site of any school-sponsored or related activity or event ; or
- h. continuously making noise or acting in a manner so as to interfere with a teacher's ability to conduct a class or an extracurricular activity.
- i. unauthorized use of electronic devices such as cellular phones, and non-educational electronic devices in the school building or on school property during identified school operating hours as determined by the principal.
- j. unauthorized use of cell phones in locker rooms and restrooms at any time.

#### **Rule #3 Tardiness, Class Cutting.**

A student shall not be willfully absent from any scheduled class, study hall, or detention for all or any part of the school day whether on or off school grounds. Students shall not be tardy to school.

#### **Rule #4 Theft, Vandalism, Damage, Destruction, Defacement, Littering, Arson, Or Unauthorized Removal Of School Property/ Private Property.**

Students shall not cause or attempt to cause damage to school property or steal or attempt to steal school-owned property and/or private property or engage in or attempt to engage in or participate in or attempt to participate in the unauthorized removal of school property and/or private property.

#### ***Vandalism, Damage, Destruction, Defacement, Unauthorized Removal Of School Property/Private Property***

Students shall not cause or attempt to cause damage to private property or engage or attempt to engage in or participate in the unauthorized removal of private property.

Pursuant to ORC 3109.99 and ORC 3109.091, a student and/or their parent or legal guardian shall be held financially accountable to the Firelands Local Schools for any damage, destruction, or theft caused by their child.

**Arson**

Students shall not cause or attempt to cause damage to school property and/or private property.

**Rule #5 Fighting, Assault, Menacing, Threatening.**

A student shall not act or behave in such a way (intentional or unintentional) as could cause physical injury to another student, teacher, other employee of the school district, or any other authorized person in the school building on school grounds or on school business. No student shall knowingly cause another student to believe that he/she (the offender) will cause serious physical harm to the person or property of such other person through his/her words or actions.

**Threatening:** No student shall cause or by his words or actions help to cause, either directly or indirectly, a fight between other students or between himself/herself and another student.

No student shall engage in any behavior that may cause injury to another.

**Rule #6. Harassment/ Intimidation/ Bullying.**

A student shall not commit any form of verbal or physical harassment that may frighten, injure, degrade, or disgrace another individual by banter, bullying, threats, ridicule, or criticism, or to play abusive or humiliating tricks. Any form of Harassment, Intimidation, or Bullying that materially or substantially disrupts the educational environment or process of school property, school events, or off school property will be dealt with possible discipline/suspension. Student shall not cause anyone to be fearful of physical or emotional harm (i.e. personal involvement in gangs, secret societies, or any other such groups), or threaten to cause physical or emotional harm.

**Reporting Procedures:**

When an individual believes he/she has been subjected to Harassment / Intimidation / Bullying, he/she should immediately report the incident to the building principal.

**Rule #7 Hazing.**

A student shall not cause another student to participate in any act of initiation towards any student or other organization that creates a mental or physical harm. This includes harassment, persecution, or participation in any act/s or attempt to threaten, act, or participate in any act(s) that injures, degrades, disgraces, or intends to injure, degrade, or disgrace any student. Permission, consent, or assumption of risk by any individual subjected to hazing will not exempt any student from discipline under this policy.

**Reporting Procedures.**

When an individual believes he/she has been subjected to Hazing, he/she should immediately report the incident to the building principal.

**Rule #8 Weapons, Look-A-Like Weapons, Dangerous Instruments, Fireworks, Explosives, Lighters.**

Students shall not use, possess, handle, transmit, sell, or conceal any object that can be classified as a weapon, look-a-like weapon, or dangerous instrument. Weapons, look-a-like weapons, and dangerous instruments shall include any object which is used or may be used to inflict physical harm or property damage or to threaten to inflict such harm or damage.

**Fireworks, Explosives, Lighters:** A student shall not possess, use, or threaten the use of any fireworks, explosives, or other such materials capable of inflicting bodily harm. Students may not possess matches, lighters or flame producing devices.

**Rule #9 Tobacco / Inhalants.**

A student shall not possess, use, transmit, conceal, show evidence of consuming or using tobacco, tobacco substitutes, e-cigarettes or Inhalants.

As of July 20, 1988, the Ohio Revised Code (3313.751) prohibits the use or possession of tobacco by students in any area under the control of the school district or at any activity supervised by any school operated by the district.

**Rule #10 Narcotics, Alcoholic Beverages, Drugs, And Counterfeit Controlled Substances, Drug Paraphernalia.**

A student shall not possess, use, transmit, conceal, or show evidence of consuming or using narcotics, alcoholic beverages, drugs, or drug paraphernalia. Narcotics and drugs are defined as follows: any narcotic, drug, medicine or pill, chemical preparation, plant, seed or derivative thereof, of a hallucinogen, barbiturate, or amphetamine nature.

It is important to note that beverages described as non-alcoholic and/or de-alcoholized representation of alcoholic products also contain small amounts of alcohol and are prohibited.

Possessing, using, selling, etc. any “counterfeit controlled substance” or “look-a-like drug” as defined in the Ohio Revised Code in amended sections 2925.01 (P) and 2925.37 is a crime in the state of Ohio with various penalties. Look-a-like drugs or counterfeit controlled substances are defined as:

- a. any drug that bears or whose container or label bears a trademark, trade name, or other identifying mark used without authorization of the owner of rights to such trademark, trade name, or identifying mark;
- b. any unmarked or unlabeled substance that is represented to be a controlled substance that is manufactured, processed, packed, or distributed;
- c. any substance that is represented to be a controlled substance but is not a controlled substance or is a different controlled substance;
- d. any substance other than a controlled substance that a reasonable person would believe to be a controlled substance because of its similarity in shape, size, and color, or its markings, labeling, packaging, distribution, or the price for which it is sold or offered for sale.

The use of any of the above is strictly prohibited. These prohibitions also extend to prescription drugs, except the possession of a medication together with evidence that a duly licensed physician has ordered such medication for medical purposes. The main office has to be properly notified (as outlined in the handbook under Medications) for this to not constitute a violation.

**Rule #11 Insubordination, Disregard Of Directions Or Requests.**

Students shall comply with all requests and directives of teachers, student teachers, substitute teachers, teacher aides, principal, and other authorized school personnel during any period of time when the student is properly under the authority of school personnel. Repeated violation of any minor rule, directive, or disciplinary procedure, or repeated involvement in actions which disrupt the educational process of other students in a classroom activity or other organized function of the school shall also constitute insubordination.

**Rule #12 Inappropriate Language / Gross Verbal Disrespect / Verbal Aggression / Obscenity.**

A student shall not use profane, vulgar, obscene, demeaning, or derogatory language, either written, verbal, or gesture, in communicating with any faculty member, any other authorized school personnel, or another student at school or at school-sponsored activities or events on or off school property. Included in the prohibition would be the use of inappropriate or improper gestures, signs, or publications. Any speech, verbal or written, inciting panic or non-contact action which provokes, threatens, or appears to threaten physical injury to a staff member; student, visitor, or other person associated with the District will not be tolerated and is considered aggression against that person. Such aggression directed toward staff is subject to suspension and/or possible expulsion charges being filed.

**Rule #13 Classroom Disruption / Classroom Removal.**

Students shall not passively or overtly disrupt the educational process in a classroom. A student shall not be involved in actions which disrupt the educational process of other students in a classroom, activity, or other organized function of the school. Actions that students may be involved in that disrupt the educational process are: **Excessive talking, Sleeping in class, Mischief, Lack of class materials.**

**Rule #14 Disrespect For Staff/ Lack Of Cooperation/ Rude, Discourteous Behavior.**

Students will be expected to demonstrate respect toward all staff and their personal property at all times, day or night, on or off school property. Failure to comply with this reasonable request will result in immediate disciplinary action.

**Rule #15 Academic Dishonesty/ Cheating/ Plagiarism/ Copyright.**

No student shall fraudulently, dishonestly, or deceptively obtain and use the work of another, or otherwise violate a teacher’s reasonable requirements with respect to proper test taking or completion of work assignments. Neither shall any student assist another student in the pursuit of academic dishonesty, by providing information or by any other means. A student shall not pass off as one’s own the ideas or work of another.

Academic Dishonesty or Cheating in class on class assignments/tests will not be tolerated at the Firelands Elementary School. First offense shall result in an “F” grade for that assignment/test. Second offense shall result in an “F” grade for the grading period in the subject area where the cheating occurred.

No student shall engage in any unauthorized use, tamper with, or falsify copyrighted materials, which includes personal (staff/student) computer programs and any computer access or networking programs.

**Rule #16 Trespass/ Loitering.**

Students shall not enter school grounds or premises of a school building to which the students are not assigned during or after school hours except with the express permission of the school principal of that building.

Students under suspension, expulsion, or emergency removal are not permitted on school grounds without the express permission of the principal.

A student shall not; be present in a school building or restricted area at unauthorized times, cause disruption to any activity or function, pose a threat to the safety or well-being of a student, or disrupt the educational process.

**Rule #17 Falsification Or Misrepresentation Of Facts Or Other Information/ Forgery.**

Students shall not forge the writing of another or falsely use the name of another person or falsify items, dates, grades, addresses, or other data on school forms or school-related correspondence.

**Rule #18 Extortion/ Obtaining Property Or Things Of Value By Use Of Coercion And Related Misconduct/Shakedown Or Strong Arm.**

Students shall not use or attempt to use an express or implied threat, violence, harassment, coercion, or intimidation to obtain or borrow money or other types of property belonging to another student, school employee, or other person.

**Rule #19 Withholding Information From School Authorities.**

Any student who has knowledge about specific incidents of code of conduct violations, and deliberately withholds information from school authorities will be subject to disciplinary action.

**Rule #20 Sexual Harassment.**

A student shall not engage in any act which may be considered to be a form of sexual harassment. Sexual harassment is defined as unwanted sexual advances which may be verbal, visual, or physical contact. The definition is very broad and could include propositioning, making threats of reprisal after a proposition is refused, displaying sexual suggestive objects, making sexual remarks or gestures, making sexual comments, displaying sexual pictures or cartoons, making derogatory comments or slurs based on sex, making sexual comments about a person's body, touching a person, blocking their exit, or assaulting a person.

**Reporting Procedures:**

When an individual believes he/she has been subjected to Harassment / Intimidation / Bullying, he/she should immediately report the incident to the building principal/administrator.

**Rule #21 Immunizations And Health Policies.**

Failure to comply with Sections 3313.671 and 3701.13 of the Ohio Revised Code or the health policies of Firelands Schools may result in exclusion from school.

**Rule #22 Unauthorized Sale Or Distribution.**

No student shall sell, distribute, or attempt to sell or distribute any item which has not been authorized for such sale or distribution by the building principal to any person on school property or at any school sponsored activity.

**Rule #23 Publications And Organizations.**

Publishing or distributing any printed material, promoting organizations or joining any club or organization which has not been approved by the building administrator is prohibited.

**Rule #24 Graffiti, Signs, Symbols, Clothing, Etc.**

No students will display or demonstrate anything that would symbolize or show gang affiliation or manifest and exhibit discrimination, bias, or harassment.

**Rule #25 Aiding And Abetting.**

Any student that aids or abets another student who has violated any rules, guidelines, regulations, or policies of the

Student Handbook will be subject to disciplinary action.

**Rule #26 Inducing Panic / False Alarm / Bomb Threat.**

At no time shall any individual falsely initiate or circulate reports or warnings of any alleged or impending fire, explosion, crime, or other catastrophe. No individual shall commit any offense with reckless disregard of the likelihood that said offense will cause serious public inconvenience or alarm. Threatening to commit any offense or act of violence is strictly prohibited.

**Rule #27 Inappropriate Conduct.**

At no time shall a student exhibit any behavior deemed inappropriate in a school environment.

**Rule #28 Bus Transportation Violation.**

A student shall not violate any rules or regulations of the Bus Transportation Policies.

**Rule #29 Dress Code Violation.**

Students shall attend school dressed in a manner which is clean, not hazardous to their safety or the safety of others, and which does not detract from the educational environment. Proper undergarments and footwear are required at all times. The student DRESS CODE will be followed at all times during school day and activities.

Students shall have proper Dress for Physical Education class per class requirements.

**Rule #30 Unauthorized Possession Of Electronic Equipment, Toys, Video Games, Transportation Or  
Unauthorized Use Of Electronic Devices & Cellular Phones.**

Most electronic equipment necessary in school is supplied by the school. Students are not allowed to bring trading cards of any type (e.g., sports cards), toys, hand-held video games, video recorders, lasers, or electronic equipment (such as “boom-boxes”, tape/digital recorders, CD players, portable TV’s, pagers), skateboards, roller blades and the like without the permission of the administration. The property will be confiscated and disciplinary action may be taken.

The unauthorized use of electronic devices such as cellular phones, iPods, MP3, etc. and non-educational electronic devices in the school building or on school property during identified school operating hours as determined by the principal.

There is to be no use of cell phones in locker rooms and restrooms at any time. (See page 22 for policy of Use of Electronic Devices)

**Rule #31 Technology/Computer/On-Line Regulation Violations.**

Students are to use computers in a responsible, efficient, and legal manner. Failure to adhere to policy and technology guidelines will result in the revocation of the user’s access privilege and disciplinary assignment.

**Rule #32 Gambling.**

A student shall not bet or participate in lotteries or other games of chance for money or valuables while on school property or while participating in school activities.

**Rule #33 Multiple Offenses.**

Any combination of offenses of the Student Code of Conduct.