

WEST BABYLON SCHOOL DISTRICT

CODE OF CONDUCT

2013-2014

**Amended and Approved by the
Board of Education on
June 25, 2013**

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Code of Conduct

I. Introduction

The board of education (“board”) is committed to providing a safe and orderly school environment where students may receive and district personnel may deliver quality educational services without disruption or interference. Responsible behavior by students, teachers, other district personnel, parents and other visitors is essential to achieving this goal.

The district has a long-standing set of expectations for conduct on school property and at school functions. These expectations are based on the principles of civility, mutual respect, citizenship, character, tolerance, honesty and integrity.

The board recognizes the need to clearly define these expectations for acceptable conduct on school property, to identify the possible consequences of unacceptable conduct, and to ensure that discipline when necessary is administered promptly and fairly. To this end, the board adopts this code of conduct (“code”).

Unless otherwise indicated, this code applies to all students, school personnel, parents and other visitors when on school property or attending a school function.

II. Definitions

For purposes of this code, the following definitions apply:

“Disruptive student” means an elementary or secondary student under the age of 21 who is substantially disruptive of the educational process or substantially interferes with the teacher’s authority over the classroom.

“Parent” means parent, guardian or person in parental relation to a student.

“School Property” means in or within any building, structure, athletic playing field, playground, parking lot or land contained within the real property boundary line of a public elementary or secondary school, or in or on a school bus, or bus stop as defined in Vehicle and Traffic Law §142.

“School function” means any school-sponsored or school-authorized extracurricular event or activity regardless of where such event or activity takes place, including any event or activity that may take place in another state.

“School Bus” means every motor vehicle owned by a public or governmental agency or private school and operated for the transportation of pupils, children of pupils, teachers and other persons acting in a supervisory capacity, to or from school or school activities, or, privately owned and operated for compensation for the transportation of pupils, children of pupils, teachers and other persons acting in a supervisory capacity to or from school or school activities (Education Law §11[1] and Vehicle and Traffic Law §142).

“Disability” means (a) a physical, mental or medical impairment resulting from anatomical, physiological, genetic or neurological conditions which prevents the exercise of a normal bodily function or is demonstrable by medically accepted clinical or laboratory diagnostic techniques or (b) a record of such an impairment or (c) a condition regarded by others as such an impairment, provided, however, that in all provisions of this article dealing with employment, the term must be limited to disabilities which, upon the provision of reasonable accommodations, do not prevent the complainant from performing in a reasonable manner the activities involved in the job or occupation sought or held (Education Law §11[4] and Executive Law §292[21]).

“Harassment” means the creation of a hostile environment by conduct or by verbal threats, intimidation or abuse that has or would have the effect of unreasonably and substantially interfering with a student’s educational performance, opportunities or benefits, or mental, emotional or physical well-being; or conduct, verbal threats, intimidation or abuse that reasonably causes or would reasonably be expected to cause a student to fear for his or her physical safety; such conduct, verbal threats, intimidation or abuse includes but is not limited to conduct, verbal threats, intimidation or abuse based on a person’s actual or perceived race, color, weight, national origin, ethnic group, religion, religious practice, disability, sexual orientation, gender or sex (Education Law §11[7]).

“Cyber Bullying” means harassment or bullying where such harassment or bullying occurs through any form of electronic communication including, but not limited to, emails, texts, blog, chat rooms, instant messaging, Facebook, Twitter, or any other Internet-based platform.

“Employee” means any person receiving compensation from a school district or employee of a contracted service provider or worker placed within the school under a public assistance employment program, pursuant to title nine-B of article five of the Social Services Law, and consistent with the provisions of such title for the provision of services to such district, its students or employees, directly or through contract, whereby such services performed by such person involve direct student contact (Education Law §§11[4]and 1125[3]).

“Sexual Orientation” means actual or perceived heterosexuality, homosexuality, or bisexuality (Education Law §11[5]).

“Gender” means actual or perceived sex and includes a person’s gender identity or expression (Education Law§11[6]).

“Violent student” means a student under the age of 21 whom:

1. Commits or threatens an act of violence upon a school employee, or attempts to do so.
2. Commits or threatens, while on school property or at a school function, an act of violence upon another student or any other person lawfully on school property, or at the school function, or attempts to do so.
3. Possesses, while on school property or at a school function, a weapon.
4. Displays, while on school property or at a school function, what appears to be a weapon.
5. Threatens, while on school property or at a school function, to use a weapon.
6. Knowingly and intentionally damages or destroys the personal property of any school employee or any person lawfully on school property or at a school function.
7. Knowingly and intentionally damages or destroys school district property.

“Weapon” means a firearm as defined in 18 USC §921 for purposes of the Gun-Free Schools Act. It also means any other gun, BB gun, pistol, revolver, shotgun, rifle, machine gun, disguised gun, dagger, dirk, razor, stiletto, switchblade knife, gravity knife, brass knuckles, slingshot, metal knuckle knife, box cutter, cane sword, electronic dart gun, Kung Fu star, electronic stun gun, pepper spray or other noxious spray, explosive or incendiary bomb, hypodermic needle, or other device, instrument, material or substance, innocuous or not, that can be used as a weapon (such as a plastic utensil or writing implement) that can cause physical injury or death when used to cause physical injury or death.

III. Student Rights and Responsibilities

A. Student Rights

The 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 civil school environment, all district students have the right to:

1. Take part in all district activities on an equal basis regardless of race, color creed, national origin, religion, gender or 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 rules and, when necessary, receive an explanation of those rules from school personnel.
4. Expect to learn in a safe, orderly environment.

B. Student Responsibilities

All district students have the responsibility to:

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

IV. Essential Partners

Essential partners are listed below with specific expectations related to their roles. In addition to these specific expectations, each essential partner is expected to:

1. Maintain a climate of mutual respect and dignity for all students regardless of actual or perceived race, color, weight, national origin, ethnic group, religion, religious practice, disability, sexual orientation, gender or sex, which will strengthen students' confidence and promote learning.
2. Confront issues of discrimination and harassment or any situation that threatens the emotional or physical health or safety of any student, school employee or any person who is lawfully on school property or at a school function.
3. Address personal biases that may prevent equal treatment of all students in the school or classroom setting.
4. Report incidents of discrimination and harassment that are witnessed or otherwise brought to an employee's attention in a timely manner.

A. Parents

All parents are expected to:

1. Recognize that the education of their child(ren) is a joint responsibility of the parents and the school.
2. Send their children to school ready to participate and learn.
3. Ensure their children attend school regularly and on time.
4. Ensure absences are legal.
5. Insist their children be dressed and groomed in a manner consistent with the student dress code.
6. Help their children understand that in a democratic society appropriate rules are required to maintain a safe, orderly environment.
7. Know school rules and help their children understand them.
8. Encourage their children to leave electronic equipment at home.
9. Convey to their children a supportive attitude toward education and the district.
10. Build good relationships with teachers, other parents and their children's friends.
11. Help their children deal effectively with peer pressure.
12. Inform school officials of changes in the home situation that may affect student conduct or performance.
13. Provide a place for study and ensure homework assignments are completed.
14. Provide appropriate school supplies.
15. Ensure their children adhere to New York State Motor Vehicle Laws.
16. Encourage high school students to display school ID card while in school.
17. Assist teachers and coaches in reinforcing good sportsmanship.
18. Reasonably monitor their children's at-home use of electronic devices and websites used to communicate with classmates.

B. Students

All students are expected to:

1. Comply with the rights and responsibilities as outlined in Section III of the Code of Conduct.

C. District Employees

All district employees are expected to:

1. Report to work as scheduled.
2. Perform assigned duties and responsibilities.
3. Maintain the qualifications, certifications, licensure, and/or training requirements identified for the position.
4. Be forthcoming with information concerning violations of the Code of Conduct.
5. Demonstrate respect for the district and toward district coworkers, supervisors, subordinates, students, and parents.
6. Resolve work-related issues and disputes in a professional manner.
7. Comply with district policies and procedures.
8. Report circumstances or concerns that may affect work performance to appropriate administrators.
9. Conduct themselves at all times in a manner that supports the mission of their district and the performance of their duties.

D. Teachers

All district teachers are expected to:

1. Maintain a climate of mutual respect and dignity, which will strengthen students' self-concept and promote confidence to learn.
2. Be prepared to teach, utilizing current best practices.
3. Demonstrate interest in teaching and concern for student achievement.
4. Know school policies and rules, and enforce them in a fair and consistent manner.
5. Communicate to students and parents:
 - a. Course objectives and requirements
 - b. Marking/grading procedures
 - c. Assignment deadlines
 - d. Expectations for students
 - e. Classroom discipline plan
6. Communicate regularly with students, parents and other teachers concerning growth and achievement.
7. Be forthcoming with information concerning violations of the Code of Conduct.
8. Address issues of harassment or any situation that threatens the emotional or physical health or safety of any students in accordance with district policies and regulations.

E. Guidance Counselors, School Psychologists and Social Workers

All guidance counselors, school psychologists, and social workers are expected to:

1. Assist students in coping with peer pressure and emerging personal, social and emotional problems.
2. Initiate teacher/student/counselor conferences and parent/teacher/student/counselor conferences, as necessary, as a way to prevent and/or resolve problems.
3. Regularly review with students their educational progress and career plans.
4. Provide information to assist students with career planning.
5. Encourage student to benefit from the curriculum and extracurricular programs.
6. Be forthcoming with information concerning violations of the Code of Conduct.

7. Address issues of harassment or any situation that threatens the emotional or physical health or safety of any students in accordance with district policies and regulations.

F. Support Staff and Other District Personnel

All support staff and other district personnel are expected to:

1. Promote a safe, healthful, orderly and stimulating school environment.
2. Promote and maintain a climate of mutual respect.
3. Be forthcoming with information concerning violations of the Code of Conduct.

G. Principals/Assistant Principals

All principals and assistant principals are expected to:

1. Promote a safe, healthful, orderly and stimulating school environment, supporting active teaching and learning.
2. Ensure that students and staff have the opportunity to communicate regularly with the principal and approach the principal for redress of grievances.
3. Evaluate on a regular basis all instructional programs.
4. Promote and support the development of student participation in appropriate extracurricular activities.
5. Be responsible for enforcing the Code of Conduct and ensuring that all cases are resolved promptly and fairly.
6. Be forthcoming with information concerning violations of the Code of Conduct.
7. Address issues of harassment or any situation that threatens the emotional or physical health or safety of any students in accordance with district policies and regulations.

H. Superintendent/Assistant Superintendent/Executive Directors

The superintendent, assistant superintendent, and executive directors are expected to:

1. Promote a safe, orderly, healthful, and stimulating school environment, supporting active teaching and learning.
2. Review with district administrators the policies of the board of education and state and federal laws relating to school operations and management.
3. Inform the board about educational trends relating to student discipline.
4. Work to create instructional programs that minimize problems of misconduct and are sensitive to student and teacher needs.
5. Work with district administrators in enforcing the code of conduct and ensuring that all cases are resolved promptly and fairly.
6. Be forthcoming with information concerning violations of the Code of Conduct.
7. Address issues of harassment or any situation that threatens the emotional or physical health or safety of any students in accordance with district policies and regulations.

I. Board of Education

Trustees of the Board of Education are expected to:

1. Collaborate with student, teacher, administrator and parent organizations, school safety personnel and other school personnel to develop a code of conduct that clearly defines expectations for the conduct of students, district personnel and visitors on school property and at school functions.
2. Adopt, review and consistently support, at least annually, the district's code of conduct to evaluate the code's effectiveness and the fairness of its implementation.
3. Lead by example by conducting board meetings in a professional, respectful, courteous manner.
4. Be forthcoming with information concerning violations of the Code of Conduct.
5. Address issues of harassment or any situation that threatens the emotional or physical health or safety of any students in accordance with district policies and regulations.

V. Dress Code

All members of the school community are expected to give proper attention to personal cleanliness and to dress appropriately for school and school functions. Students and their parents have the primary responsibility for acceptable student dress, cleanliness and appearance. Teachers and all other district personnel are expected to help students develop an understanding of the dress code by exemplifying acceptable dress and appropriate professional appearance in the school setting.

A student's dress, grooming and appearance, including hair style/color, jewelry, make-up and nails, shall:

1. Be safe, appropriate and not disrupt or interfere with the educational process.
2. Recognize that extremely brief garments such as tube tops, net tops, halter-tops, short shorts, short skirts, plunging necklines, backless and see-through garments are not appropriate. Exposed midriffs are not permitted. Tops and bottoms must overlap. The wearing of pajamas is not permitted in school. An exception shall be made for the wearing of pajamas during a special event designated by the school administration as allowing pajamas (e.g., an elementary school spirit pajama day). However, the pajamas must not violate other provisions of this code. Leggings must be covered with a mid-thigh top.
3. Ensure that underwear is completely covered with outer clothing.
4. Include approved footwear at all times. Slippers are prohibited. Footwear that may compromise a student's safety will not be allowed. Sneakers are required for students during Physical Education.
5. Not include the wearing of hats, scarves or headgear in school except for a medical or religious purpose.
6. Not include items that are vulgar, obscene, libelous or denigrate others on account of race, color, religion, creed, national origin, gender, sexual orientation or disability.
7. Not promote and/or endorse and/or depict the use of alcohol, tobacco or illegal drugs and/or encourage and/or depict other illegal or violent activities.
8. Sports related accessories are to be worn only during recreation and physical education.
9. Ensure that jewelry and/or accessories do not pose a danger to self or others.
10. Students in grades 9 through 12 must have their student ID visible at all times.

Each building principal or his or her designee shall be responsible for informing all staff, students and parents of the dress code at the beginning of the school year and any revisions to the dress code made during the school year. Students who violate the student dress code shall be required to modify their appearance by covering or removing the offending item and, if necessary or practical, replacing it with an acceptable item. Any student who refuses to do so shall be subject to discipline, up to and including in-school suspension for

the day. Any student who repeatedly fails to comply with the dress code shall be subject to further discipline, up to and including out of school suspension.

VI. 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, district personnel and other members of the school community, and for the care of school facilities and equipment. The best discipline is self-imposed, and students must learn to assume and accept responsibility for their own behavior, as well as the consequences of their misbehavior. District personnel who interact with students are expected to use disciplinary action only when necessary and to place emphasis on the students' ability to grow in self-discipline. The board 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 may be subject to disciplinary action, up to and including suspension from school. Below are illustrations of conduct which may result in disciplinary sanctions. Other behavior deemed to be inappropriate may also be subject to discipline.

A. Engage in conduct that is disorderly. Examples of disorderly conduct include but are not limited to:

1. Running in hallways.
2. Making unreasonable noise.
3. Using language or gestures that are profane, lewd, vulgar or abusive or unique handshakes, signals, salutes, etc.
4. Obstructing vehicular or pedestrian traffic.
5. Engaging in any willful act which disrupts the normal operation of the school community.
6. Trespassing. Students are not permitted in any school building other than the one they regularly attend, without permission from the administrator in charge of the building.
7. Computer/electronic communications misuse, including any unauthorized use of computers, software, or internet/intranet account: accessing inappropriate websites; or any other violation of the district's acceptable use policy.
8. Writing or scratching graffiti on school district property, or otherwise defacing or damaging school district property.
9. Failure to properly display school ID's.
10. Substantially, interfering with the teacher's authority over the classroom or substantially disrupting the educational process.

B. Engage in conduct that is insubordinate. Examples of insubordinate conduct include but are not limited to:

1. Failing to comply with the reasonable directions of teachers, school administrators or other school employees in charge of students or otherwise demonstrating disrespect.
2. Lateness for, missing or leaving school or class (cutting) without permission.
3. Skipping detention, in-school suspensions, or "home teaching" sessions.

C. Engage in conduct that is disruptive. Examples of disruptive conduct include but are not limited to:

1. Failing to comply with the reasonable directions of teachers, school administrators or other school personnel in charge of students.
2. Using i-Pods, cell phones, walkie-talkies, cameras or recording devices, tablets, or other electronic devices during regular school hours without teacher/administrator approval. Elementary students may not bring these items, or any other electronic games or devices to school.
3. Cell phones are emergency communication devices that, if brought to school, must be turned off and kept out of sight during school hours. Students may not accept cell phone calls, make calls, text message, or e-mail text or pictures, at any time during school hours without administrative approval.
4. Students or parents may not bring balloons to school.

D. Engage in conduct that is violent. Examples of violent conduct include but are not limited to:

1. Committing an act of violence (such as hitting, kicking, punching, pushing, biting and scratching) upon a teacher, administrator or other school employee or attempting to do so.
2. Committing an act of violence (such as hitting, kicking, punching, biting and scratching) upon another student or any other person lawfully on school property or attempting to do so.
3. Possessing a weapon. Authorized law enforcement officials are the only persons permitted to have a weapon in their possession while on school property or at a school function.
4. Displaying what appears to be a weapon.
5. Threatening to use any weapon.
6. Threatening physical violence, verbally or in writing.
7. Intentionally damaging or destroying the personal property of a student, teacher, administrator, other district employee or any person lawfully on school property, including graffiti or arson.
8. Intentionally damaging or destroying school district property.

E. Engage in any conduct that endangers the safety, physical and/or emotional well-being, health or welfare of others. Examples of such conduct include but are not limited to:

1. Threatening to do harm to any person or property.
2. Lying to school personnel.
3. Stealing the property of other students, school personnel or any other person lawfully on school property or attending a school function.
4. Defamation, which includes making false or unprivileged statements or representations about an individual or identifiable group of individuals that harm the reputation of the person or identifiable group by demeaning them.
5. Discrimination, which includes the use of race, color, creed, national origin, religion, gender, sexual orientation or disability as a basis for treating another in a negative manner.
6. Harassment, which includes the creation of a hostile environment by conduct or by verbal threats, intimidation or abuse that has or would have the effect of unreasonably and substantially interfering with a student's educational performance, opportunities or benefits, or mental, emotional or physical well-being; or conduct, verbal threats, intimidation or abuse that reasonably causes or would reasonably be expected to cause a student to fear for his or her physical safety; such conduct, verbal threats, intimidation or abuse includes but is not limited to conduct, verbal threats, intimidation or

- abuse based on a person's actual or perceived race, color, weight, national origin, ethnic group, religion, religious practice, disability, sexual orientation, gender or sex (Education Law §11[7]).
7. Bullying, which includes teasing, taunting, mocking, ridiculing, or insulting another child or an adult in any manner; name-calling aimed at another child or an adult; threatening to fight or hurt another child or an adult, verbally or in writing; deliberately excluding a child from groups or activities; deliberately causing another child to feel uncomfortable or fearful; taking and/or damaging the property of another child or adult; and inciting or encouraging others to engage in bullying.
 8. Cyber-bullying, which includes engaging in any of the above stated bullying behaviors via the use of electronic communication devices or social networking websites.
 9. Intimidation, which includes engaging in actions or statements that put an individual in fear of bodily harm.
 10. Hazing, which includes any intentional or reckless act directed against another for the purpose of initiation into, affiliating with or maintaining membership in any school sponsored activity, organization, club or team.
 11. Selling, using, creating or possessing obscene or pornographic material.
 12. Using or writing vulgar or abusive language, cursing or swearing.
 13. Smoking a cigarette, cigar, pipe or using chewing or smokeless tobacco.
 14. Possessing, consuming, selling, distributing or exchanging alcoholic beverages or illegal substances, or being under the influence of either. "Illegal substances" include, but are not limited to, inhalants, marijuana, cocaine, LSD, PCP, amphetamines, heroin, steroids, look-alike drugs, and any substances commonly referred to as "designer drugs".
 15. Using or sharing prescription drugs.
 16. Gambling.
 17. Indecent exposure, that is, exposure to sight of the private parts of the body in a lewd or indecent manner.
 18. Initiating a report, warning of fire or other catastrophe without valid cause, misuse of calling 911, initiating a fire alarm without cause or discharging a fire extinguisher.
 19. Possession, utilizing, displaying, selling, distributing or exchanging drug paraphernalia.
 20. Possession of fireworks, explosives or ammunition.
 21. Possession of noxious materials.
 22. Violating federal, state, or local laws, regulations and ordinances.
 23. Establish/participate in societies, fraternities, sororities, or other student created clubs without permission.

F. Engage in misconduct while on a school bus or bus stop.

It is crucial for students to behave appropriately while riding on district buses to ensure their safety and that of other passengers and to avoid distracting the bus driver. Students are required to conduct themselves on the bus and at the bus stop in a manner consistent with established standards for classroom behavior. Students must utilize only their assigned bus stop. Students are expected to board and exit the bus in a safe and orderly fashion, and to remain seated on the bus until their destination is reached. Excessive noise, cursing, pushing, shoving and fighting will not be tolerated. Food, drinks, balloons and key chains on backpacks are not permitted on the bus. As per Chapter 199 of the Laws of New York State, students are prohibited from carrying rifles, shotguns or other firearms on a school bus. Students are expected to follow the direction of the school bus driver and the school bus aide.

G. Engage in any form of academic misconduct. Examples of academic misconduct include but are not limited to:

1. Plagiarism.
2. Cheating.
3. Copying.
4. Altering records.
5. Forgery.
6. Assisting another student in any of the above actions.

H. Engage in off-campus misconduct that interferes with, or can reasonably be expected to substantially disrupt the educational process in the school or at a school function. Examples of such misconduct include, but are not limited to:

1. Cyber-bullying (i.e., inflicting willful and repeated harm through the use of electronic text);
2. Threatening or harassing students or school personnel via text, email, social networking sites, or other electronic medium.

VII. Reporting Violations of the Code of Conduct

Any person violating the Code of Conduct shall be immediately reported to a teacher, guidance counselor, Dignity Act Coordinator, the building principal and/or designee, or the superintendent and/or designee. Any student observing a student possessing a weapon, alcohol or illegal substance on school property or at a school function shall report this information immediately. All district staff that is authorized to impose disciplinary sanctions is expected to do so in a prompt, fair and lawful manner. District staff that are not authorized to impose disciplinary sanctions are expected to promptly report violations of the code of conduct to their supervisor, who shall in turn impose an appropriate disciplinary sanction, if so authorized, or refer the matter to a staff member who is authorized to impose an appropriate sanction. Any weapon, alcohol or illegal substance found shall be confiscated immediately, if possible, followed by notification to the parent of the student involved and the appropriate disciplinary sanction if warranted, which may include permanent suspension and referral for prosecution.

The building principal or his or her designee must notify the appropriate local law enforcement agency of those code violations that constitute a crime and substantially affect the order or security of a school as soon as practical, but in no event later than the close of business the day the principal or his or her designee learns of the violation. The notification may be made by telephone, followed by a letter mailed on the same day as the telephone call is made. The notification must identify the student and explain the conduct that violated the code of conduct and constituted a crime.

Discipline is most effective when it deals directly with the problem at the time and place it occurs, and in a way that students view as fair and impartial. School personnel who interact with students are expected to use disciplinary action only when necessary and to place emphasis on the students' ability to grow in self-discipline. Disciplinary action, when necessary, will be firm, fair and consistent so as to be the most effective in changing student behavior. In determining the appropriate disciplinary action, school personnel authorized to impose disciplinary penalties will consider the following:

1. The student's age.
2. The nature of the offense and the circumstances which led to the offense.
3. The student's prior disciplinary record.
4. The effectiveness of other forms of discipline.
5. Information from parents, teachers and/or others, as appropriate.
6. Other extenuating circumstances.

As noted above, numerous factors will be considered in determining a disciplinary response. More severe penalties may be imposed when warranted. If the conduct of a student is related to a disability or suspected disability, the student shall be referred to the committee on special education and discipline, if warranted, shall be administered consistent with the separate requirements of this code of conduct for disciplining students with a disability or presumed to have a disability. A student identified as having a disability shall not be disciplined for behavior related to his/her disability.

Dignity Act Coordinator

The Dignity for All Students Act requires that at least one staff member at every school be thoroughly trained to handle human relations in the areas of race, color, weight, national origin, ethnic group, religion, religious practice, disability, sexual orientation, gender and sex (Education Law§13[3]). The Board of Education will annually designate at least one staff member at every school who shall be referred to as Dignity Act Coordinator.

VIII. Disciplinary Penalties, Procedures and Referrals

A. Violations of the Code of Conduct

Students who are found to have violated the district's code of conduct may be subject to the following penalties or remedial consequences, either alone or in combination. The school personnel identified after each penalty are authorized to impose that penalty, consistent with the student's right to due process.

- Oral warning – any member of the district staff
- Written warning – bus drivers, hall and lunch monitors, coaches, Athletic Director, guidance counselors, teachers, assistant principals, principal and superintendent
- Written notification to parent – bus drivers, hall and lunch monitors, coaches, guidance counselor, teachers, assistant principals, principal, superintendent
- Detention – teachers, assistant principals, principal, superintendent
- Suspension from transportation – director of transportation, assistant principals, principal, superintendent
- Suspension from athletic participation – coaches, principal, superintendent
- Suspension from social or extracurricular activities – activity director, principal, superintendent
- Suspension of other privileges – principal, superintendent
- In-school suspension – principal, superintendent
- Removal from classroom by teacher – teachers, principal
- Short-term (five days or less) suspension from school – principal, superintendent, board of education
- Long-term (more than five days) suspension from school – principal, superintendent, board of education
- Permanent suspension from school – superintendent, board of education

B. Violations Specifically Related to the Dignity for All Students Act

Incidents which involve harassment based on areas of race, color, weight, national origin, ethnic group, religion, religious practice, disability, sexual orientation, gender and sex shall be referred to the building Dignity Act Coordinator who will take appropriate actions. These actions may involve disciplinary action. Remedial responses to harassment include measures designed to correct the problem behavior, prevent another occurrence of the behavior, and protect the target of the act.

Appropriate remedial measures may include, but are not limited to:

- Restitution and restoration;
- Peer support group;
- Corrective instruction or other relevant learning or service experience;
- Supportive intervention;
- Behavioral assessment or evaluation;
- Behavioral management plan, with benchmarks that are closely monitored;
- Student counseling;
- Parent conferences; or
- Student treatment or therapy.

Environmental remediation may include, but is not limited to:

- Modification of class schedules;
- Adjustment in hallway traffic and other student routes of travel;
- Targeted use of monitors;
- Parent education seminars/workshops; or
- Peer support groups.

C. Disciplinary Procedures

The amount of due process a student is entitled to receive before a penalty is imposed depends on the penalty being imposed. In all cases, regardless of the penalty imposed, the school personnel authorized to impose the penalty must inform the student of the alleged misconduct and must investigate, to the extent necessary, the facts surrounding the alleged misconduct. All students will have an opportunity to present their version of the facts to the school personnel imposing the disciplinary penalty in connection with the imposition of the penalty. Students who are to be given penalties other than an oral warning, written warning or written notification to their parents are entitled to additional rights before the penalty is imposed. These additional rights are explained below.

1. Detention:

Teachers, principals and the superintendent may use after school detention as a penalty for student misconduct in situations where removal from the classroom or suspension would be inappropriate. Detention will be imposed as a penalty only after the student's parent has been notified and the student has appropriate transportation home following detention.

2. Suspension from transportation:

If a student does not conduct himself/herself properly on a bus, the bus driver is expected to bring such misconduct to the building principal's attention. Students who become a serious disciplinary problem may have their riding privileges suspended by the building principal or the superintendent or their designees. In such cases, the student's parent will be responsible for seeing that his or her child gets to and from school safely. A student subjected to a suspension from transportation is not entitled to a full hearing pursuant to Education Law §3214. However, the student and the student's parent will be provided with a reasonable opportunity for an informal conference with the building principal or the principal's designee to discuss the conduct and the penalty involved.

3. Suspension from athletic participation, extracurricular activities and other privileges including graduation, the eighth grade Farewell Dance and the junior or senior prom:

A student subjected to a suspension from athletic participation, extracurricular activities or other privileges including graduation, the eighth grade Farewell Dance and the junior or senior prom, is not entitled to a full hearing pursuant to Education Law §3214. However, the student and the student's parent will be provided with a reasonable opportunity for an informal conference with the district official imposing the suspension to discuss the conduct and the penalty involved.

4. In-school suspension:

The board recognizes the school must balance the need of students to attend school and the need for order in the classroom to establish an environment conducive to learning. As such, the board authorizes building principals or designee and the superintendent to place students who would otherwise be suspended from school as the result of a code of conduct violation in "in-school suspension". The in-school suspension teacher will be a certified teacher. A student subjected to an in-school suspension is not entitled to a full hearing pursuant to Education Law §3214. However, the student and the student's parent will be provided with a reasonable opportunity for an informal conference with the district official imposing the in-school suspension to discuss the conduct and the penalty involved.

5. Teacher disciplinary removal of disruptive students:

A student's behavior can affect a teacher's ability to teach and can make it difficult for other students in the classroom to learn. In most instances the classroom teacher can control a student's behavior and maintain or restore control over the classroom by using good classroom management techniques. These techniques may include practices that involve the teacher directing a student to briefly leave the classroom to give the student an opportunity to regain his or her composure and self-control in an alternative setting. Such practices may include, but are not limited to: (1) short-term "time out" in an elementary classroom or in an administrator's office; (2) sending a student to the principal's or designee's office for the remainder of the class time only; or (3) sending a student to a guidance counselor or other district staff member for counseling. Time-honored classroom management techniques such as these do not constitute disciplinary removals for purposes of this code. On occasion, a student's behavior may become disruptive. For purposes of this code of conduct, a disruptive student is a student who is substantially disruptive of the educational process or substantially interferes with the teacher's authority over the classroom. A substantial disruption of the educational process or substantial interference with a teacher's authority occurs when a student demonstrates a persistent unwillingness to comply with the teacher's instructions or repeatedly violates the teacher's classroom behavior rules. A classroom teacher may remove a disruptive

student from class for up to two days. The removal from class applies to the class of the removing teacher only. If the disruptive student does not pose a danger or ongoing threat of disruption to the academic process, the teacher must provide the student with an explanation for why he or she is being removed and an opportunity to explain his or her version of the relevant events before the student is removed. Only after the informal discussion may a teacher remove a student from class. If the student poses a danger or ongoing threat of disruption, the teacher may order the student to be removed immediately. The teacher must, however, explain to the student why he or she was removed from the classroom and give the student a chance to present his or her version of the relevant events within 24 hours. The teacher must complete a district-established disciplinary removal form and meet with the principal or his or her designee as soon as possible, but no later than the end of the school day, to explain the circumstances of the removal and to present the removal form. If the principal or designee is not available by the end of the same school day, the teacher must leave the form with the secretary and meet with the principal or designee prior to the beginning of classes on the next school day. Within 24 hours after the student's removal, the principal or another district administrator designated by the principal must notify the student's parents, in writing, that the student has been removed from class and why. The notice must also inform the parent that he or she has the right, upon request, to meet informally with the principal or the principal's designee to discuss the reasons for the removal. The written notice must be provided by personal delivery, express mail delivery, or some other means that is reasonably calculated to assure receipt of the notice within 24 hours of the student's removal at the last known address for the parents. Where possible, notice should also be provided by telephone if the school has been provided with a telephone number(s) for the purpose of contacting parents. The principal may require the teacher who ordered the removal to attend the informal conference. If at the informal meeting the student denies the charges, the principal or the principal's designee must explain why the student was removed and give the student and the student's parents a chance to present the student's version of the relevant events. The informal meeting must be held within 48 hours of the student's removal. The timing of the informal meeting may be extended by mutual agreement of the parent and principal. The principal or the principal designee may overturn the removal of the student from class if the principal finds any one of the following:

- a) The charges against the student are not supported by substantial evidence.
- b) The student's removal is otherwise in violation of law, including the district's code of conduct.
- c) The conduct warrants suspension from school pursuant to Education Law §3214 and a suspension will be imposed.
- d) The principal or his or her designee may overturn a removal at any point between receiving the referral form issued by the teacher and the close of business on the day following the 48-hour period for the informal conference, if a conference is requested. No student removed from the classroom by the classroom teacher will be permitted to return to the classroom until the principal makes a final determination, or the period of removal expires, whichever is less. Any disruptive student removed from the classroom by the classroom teacher shall be offered continued educational programming and activities until he or she is permitted to return to the classroom. Each teacher must keep a complete log (on a district provided form) for all cases of removal of students from class. Removal of a student with a disability, under certain circumstances, may constitute a change in the student's placement. Accordingly, no teacher

may remove a student with a disability from his or her class until he or she has verified with the principal or the chairperson of the committee on special education that the removal will not violate the student's rights under state or federal law or regulation.

6. Suspension from school: Suspension from school is a severe penalty, which may be imposed only upon students who are insubordinate, disorderly, violent or disruptive, or whose conduct otherwise endangers the safety, morals, health or welfare of others. The board retains its authority to suspend students, but places primary responsibility for the suspension of students with the superintendent and the building principals. Any staff member may recommend to the superintendent or the principal that a student be suspended. All staff members must immediately report and refer a violent student to the principal or the superintendent for a violation of the code of conduct. All recommendations and referrals shall be made in writing unless the conditions underlying the recommendation or referral warrant immediate attention. In such cases a written report is to be prepared as soon as possible by the staff member recommending the suspension. The superintendent or principal, upon receiving a recommendation or referral for suspension or when processing a case for suspension, shall gather the facts relevant to the matter and record them for subsequent presentation, if necessary.

a. Short-term (5 days or less) suspension from school

When the superintendent or principal (referred to as the "suspending authority") proposes to suspend a student charged with misconduct for five days or less pursuant to Education Law §3214 (3), the suspending authority must immediately notify the student orally. If the student denies the misconduct, the suspending authority must provide an explanation of the basis for the proposed suspension. The suspending authority must also notify the student's parents in writing that the student is suspended from school. The written notice must be provided by personal delivery, express mail delivery, or some other means that is reasonably calculated to assure receipt of the notice within 24 hours of the decision to suspend, at the last known address for the parents. Where possible, notice should also be provided by telephone if the school has been provided with a telephone number(s) for the purpose of contacting the parents. The notice shall provide a description of the charges against the student and the incident for which suspension has occurred and shall inform the parents of the right to request an immediate informal conference with the principal. Both the notice and informal conference shall be in the dominant language or mode of communication used by the parents. At the conference, the parents shall be permitted to ask questions of complaining witnesses under such procedures as the principal may establish. The notice and opportunity for an informal conference shall be offered before the student is suspended unless the student's presence in school poses a continuing danger to persons or property or an ongoing threat of disruption to the academic process. If the student's presence does pose such a danger or threat of disruption, the notice and opportunity for an informal conference shall take place as soon after the suspension as is reasonably practicable.

b. Long-term (more than 5 days) suspension from school

When the superintendent or his/her designee or building principal determines that a suspension for more than five days may be warranted, he or she shall give reasonable notice to the student and the student's parents of their right to a fair hearing. At the hearing the

student shall have the right to be represented by counsel, the right to question witnesses against him or her and the right to present witnesses and other evidence on his or her behalf. The superintendent shall personally hear and determine the proceeding or may, in his or her discretion, designate a hearing officer to conduct the hearing. The hearing officer shall be authorized to administer oaths and to issue subpoenas in conjunction with the proceeding before him or her. A record of the hearing shall be maintained, but no stenographic transcript shall be required. A tape recording shall be deemed a satisfactory record. The hearing officer shall make findings of fact and recommendations as to the appropriate measure of discipline to the superintendent. The report of the hearing officer shall be advisory only, and the superintendent may accept all or any part thereof. An appeal of the decision of the superintendent may be made to the board that will make its decision based solely upon the record before it.

All appeals to the board must be in writing and submitted to the district clerk within 10 business days of the date of the superintendent's decision, unless the parents can show that extraordinary circumstances precluded them from doing so. The board may adopt in whole or in part the decision of the superintendent. Final decisions of the board may be appealed to the Commissioner within 30 days of the decision.

c. Permanent suspension

Permanent suspension is reserved for extraordinary circumstances such as where a student's conduct poses a life-threatening danger to the safety and well being of other students, school personnel or any other person lawfully on school property or attending a school function.

D. Minimum Periods of Suspension

1. Students who bring a weapon to school

Any student found guilty of bringing a weapon onto school property will be subject to suspension from school for at least one calendar year. Before being suspended, the student will have an opportunity for a hearing pursuant to Education Law §3214. The superintendent has the authority to modify the one- year suspension on a case-by-case basis. In deciding whether to modify the penalty, the superintendent may consider the following:

- a. The student's age.
- b. The student's grade in school.
- c. The student's prior disciplinary record.
- d. The superintendent's belief that other forms of discipline may be more effective.
- e. Input from parents, teachers and/or others.
- f. Other extenuating circumstances.

A student with a disability may be suspended only in accordance with the requirements of state and federal law.

2. Students who commit violent acts other than bringing a weapon to school

Any student, other than a student with a disability, who is found to have committed a violent act, other than bringing a weapon onto school property, shall be subject to suspension from school for at least five days. If the proposed penalty is the minimum five-day suspension, the student and the student's parents will be given the same notice and opportunity for an informal conference given to all students subject to a short-term suspension. If the proposed penalty exceeds the minimum five-day suspension, the student and the student's parents will be given the same notice and opportunity for a hearing given to all students subject to a long-term suspension. The superintendent has the authority to modify the minimum five-day suspension on a case-by-case basis. In deciding whether to modify the penalty, the superintendent may consider the same factors considered in modifying a one-year suspension for possessing a weapon.

3. Students who are repeatedly substantially disruptive of the educational process or repeatedly substantially interferes with the teacher's authority over the classroom

Any student, other than a student with a disability, who repeatedly is substantially disruptive of the educational process or substantially interferes with the teacher's authority over the classroom, will be suspended from school for at least five days. For purposes of this code of conduct, "repeatedly is substantially disruptive" means engaging in conduct that results in the student being removed from the classroom by teacher(s) pursuant to Education Law §3214 (3-a) and this code on four or more occasions during a semester, or three or more occasions during a trimester. If the proposed penalty is the minimum five-day suspension, the student and the student's parent will be given the same notice and opportunity for an informal conference given to all students subject to a short-term suspension. If the proposed penalty exceeds the minimum five-day suspension, the student and the student's parent will be given the same notice and opportunity for a hearing given to all students subject to a long-term suspension. The superintendent has the authority to modify the minimum five-day suspension on a case-by-case basis. In deciding whether to modify the penalty, the superintendent may consider the same factors considered in modifying a one-year suspension for possessing a weapon.

E. Referrals

1. Counseling

Referrals for counseling shall be under the purview of the School Instructional Support Team.

2. PINS Petitions

The district may file a PINS (person in need of supervision) petition in Family Court on any student under the age of 18 who demonstrates that he or she requires supervision and treatment by:

- a. Being habitually truant and not attending school as required by part one of Article 65 of the Education Law.
- b. Engaging in an ongoing or continual course of conduct which makes the student ungovernable, or habitually disobedient and beyond the lawful control of the school.

- c. Knowingly and unlawfully possesses marijuana in violation of Penal Law §221.05. A single violation of §221.05 will be a sufficient basis for filing a PINS petition.

The superintendent is required to refer the following students to the County Attorney for a juvenile delinquency proceeding before the Family Court:

- a. Any student under the age of 16 who is found to have brought a weapon to school, or
- b. Any student 14 or 15 years old who qualifies for juvenile offender status under the Criminal Procedure Law §1.20 (42).

The superintendent is required to refer students age 16 and older or any student 14 or 15 years old who qualifies for juvenile offender status to the appropriate law enforcement authorities.

IX. Alternative Instruction

When a student of any age is removed from class by a teacher or a student of compulsory attendance age is suspended from school pursuant to Education Law §3214, the district will take immediate steps to provide alternative means of instruction for the student.

X. Discipline of Students with Disabilities

The board recognizes that it may be necessary to suspend, remove or otherwise discipline students with disabilities to address disruptive or problem behavior. The board also recognizes that students with disabilities enjoy certain procedural protections whenever school authorities intend to impose discipline upon them. The board is committed to ensuring that the procedures followed for suspending, removing or otherwise disciplining students with disabilities are consistent with the procedural safeguards required by applicable laws and regulations. This code of conduct affords students with disabilities subject to disciplinary action no greater or lesser rights than those expressly afforded by applicable federal and state law and regulations.

A. Authorized Suspensions or Removals of Students with Disabilities

1. For purposes of this section of the code of conduct, the following definitions apply:
 - a. A “suspension” means a suspension pursuant to Education Law §3214.
 - b. A “removal” means a removal for disciplinary reasons from the student’s current educational placement other than a suspension and change in placement to an interim alternative educational setting (IAES) ordered by an impartial hearing officer because the student poses a risk of harm to himself or herself or others.
 - c. An “IAES” means a temporary educational placement for a period of up to 45 days, other than the student’s current placement at the time the behavior precipitating the IAES placement occurred, that enables the student to continue to progress in the general curriculum, although in another setting, to continue to receive those services and modifications, including those described on the student’s current individualized education program (IEP), that will enable the student to meet the goals set out in such IEP, and include services and modifications to address the behavior which precipitated the IAES placement that are designed to prevent the behavior from recurring.

d. A “weapon” means the same as “dangerous weapon” under 18 U.S.C. §930 (g) (w) which includes “a weapon, device, instrument, material or substance, animate or inanimate, that is used for, or is readily capable of causing death or serious bodily injury, except...[for] a pocket knife with a blade of less than 2 ½ inches in length.”

e. A “controlled substance” means a drug or other substance identified in certain provisions of the federal Controlled Substances Act specified in both federal and state law and regulations applicable to this policy.

f. “Illegal drugs” mean a controlled substance except for those legally possessed or used under the supervision of a licensed health-care professional or that is legally possessed or used under any other authority under the Controlled Substances Act or any other federal law.

2. School personnel may order the suspension or removal of a student with a disability from his or her current educational placement as follows:

a. The board, the district (BOCES) superintendent of schools or a building principal may order the placement of a student with a disability into an IAES, another setting or suspension for a period not to exceed five consecutive school days and not to exceed the amount of time a non-disabled student would be subject to suspension for the same behavior.

b. The superintendent may order the placement of a student with a disability into an IAES, another setting or suspension for up to 10 consecutive school days, inclusive of any period in which the student has been suspended or removed under subparagraph (a) above for the same behavior, if the superintendent determines that the student has engaged in behavior that warrants a suspension and the suspension or removal does not exceed the amount of time non-disabled students would be subject to suspension for the same behavior.

c. The superintendent may order additional suspensions of not more than 10 consecutive school days in the same school year for separate incidents of misconduct, as long as those removals do not constitute a change of placement.

d. The superintendent may order the placement of a student with a disability in an IAES to be determined by the committee on special education (CSE), for the same amount of time that a student without a disability would be subject to discipline, but not more than 45 days, if the student carries or possesses a weapon to school or to a school function, or the student knowingly possesses or uses illegal drugs or sells or solicits the sale of a controlled substance while at school or a school function.

3. Subject to specified conditions required by both federal and state law and regulations, an impartial hearing officer may order the placement of a student with a disability in an IAES setting for up to 45 days at a time, if maintaining the student in his or her current educational placement poses a risk of harm to the student or others.

B. Change of Placement Rule

1. A disciplinary change in placement means a suspension or removal from a student’s current educational placement that is either:

a. for more than 10 consecutive school days; or

b. for a period of 10 consecutive school days or less if the student is subjected to a series of suspensions or removals that constitute a pattern because they cumulate to more than 10 school days in a school year and because of such factors as the length of each suspension or removal, the total amount of time the student is removed and the proximity of the suspensions or removals to one another.

2. School personnel may not suspend or remove a student with disabilities if imposition of the suspension or removal would result in a disciplinary change in placement based on a pattern of suspension or removal. However, the district may impose a suspension or removal, which would otherwise result in a disciplinary change in placement, based on a pattern of suspensions or removals if the CSE has determined that the behavior was not a manifestation of the student's disability, or the student is placed in an IAES for behavior involving weapons, illegal drugs or controlled substances.

C. Special Rules Regarding the Suspension or Removal of Students with Disabilities

1. The district's committee on special education shall:

a. Conduct functional behavioral assessments to determine why a student engages in a particular behavior, and develop or review behavioral intervention plans whenever the district is first suspending or removing a student with a disability for more than 10 school days in a school year or imposing a suspension or removal that constitutes a disciplinary change in placement, including a change in placement to an IAES for misconduct involving weapons, illegal drugs or controlled substances. If subsequently, a student with a disability who has a behavioral intervention plan and who has been suspended or removed from his or her current educational placement for more than 10 school days in a school year is subjected to a suspension or removal that does not constitute a disciplinary change in placement, the members of the CSE shall review the behavioral intervention plan and its implementation to determine if modifications are necessary. If one or more members of the CSE believe that modifications are needed, the school district shall convene a meeting of the CSE to modify such plan and its implementation, to the extent the committee determines necessary.

b. Conduct a manifestation determination review of the relationship between the student's disability and the behavior subject to disciplinary action whenever a decision is made to place a student in an IAES either for misconduct involving weapons, illegal drugs or controlled substances or because maintaining the student in his current educational setting poses a risk of harm to the student or others; or a decision is made to impose a suspension that constitutes a disciplinary change in placement.

2. The parents of a student who is facing disciplinary action, but who has not been determined to be eligible for services under IDEA and Article 89 at the time of misconduct, shall have the right to invoke applicable procedural safeguards set forth in federal and state law and regulations if, in accordance with federal and state statutory and regulatory criteria, the school district is deemed to have had knowledge that their child was a student with a disability before the behavior precipitating disciplinary action occurred. If the district is deemed to have had such knowledge, the student will be considered a student presumed to have a disability for discipline purposes.

a. The superintendent, building principal or other school official imposing a suspension or removal shall be responsible for determining whether the student is a student presumed to have a disability.

b. A student will not be considered a student presumed to have a disability for discipline purposes if, upon receipt of information supporting a claim that the district had knowledge the student was a student with a disability, the district either:

1) conducted an individual evaluation and determined that the student is not a student with a disability, or

2) determined that an evaluation was not necessary and provided notice to the parents of such determination, in the manner required by applicable law and regulations.

If there is no basis for knowledge that the student is a student with a disability prior to taking disciplinary measures against the student, the student may be subjected to the same disciplinary measures as any other non-disabled student who engaged in comparable behaviors. However, if a request for an individual evaluation is made while such non-disabled student is subjected to a disciplinary removal, an expedited evaluation shall be conducted and completed in the manner prescribed by applicable federal and state law and regulations. Until the expedited evaluation is completed, the non-disabled student who is not a student presumed to have a disability for discipline purposes shall remain in the educational placement determined by the district, which can include suspension.

3. The district shall provide parents with notice of disciplinary removal no later than the date on which a decision is made to change the placement of a student with a disability to an IAES for either misconduct involving weapons, illegal drugs or controlled substances or because maintaining the student in his/her current educational setting poses a risk of harm to the student or others; or a decision is made to impose a suspension or removal that constitutes a disciplinary change in placement. The procedural safeguards notice prescribed by the Commissioner shall accompany the notice of disciplinary removal.

4. The parents of a student with disabilities subject to a suspension of five consecutive school days or less shall be provided with the same opportunity for an informal conference available to parents of non-disabled students under the Education Law.

5. Superintendent hearings on disciplinary charges against students with disabilities subject to a suspension of more than five school days shall be bifurcated into a guilt phase and a penalty phase in accordance with the procedures set forth in the Commissioner's regulations incorporated into this code.

6. The removal of a student with disabilities other than a suspension or placement in an IAES shall be conducted in accordance with the due process procedures applicable to such removals of non-disabled students, except that school personnel may not impose such removal for more than 10 consecutive days or for a period that would result in a disciplinary change in placement, unless the CSE has determined that the behavior is not a manifestation of the student's disability.

7. During any period of suspension or removal, including placement in an IAES, students with disabilities shall be provided services as required by the Commissioner's regulations incorporated into this code.

D. Expedited Due Process Hearings

1. An expedited due process hearing shall be conducted in the manner specified by the Commissioner's regulations incorporated into this code, if:

a. The district requests such a hearing to obtain an order of an impartial hearing officer placing a student with a disability in an IEAS where school personnel maintain that it is dangerous for the student to be in his or her current educational placement, or during the pendency of due process hearings where school personnel maintain that it is dangerous for the student to be in his or her current educational placement during such proceedings.

b. The parent requests such a hearing from a determination that the student's behavior was not a manifestation of the student's disability, or relating to any decision regarding placement, including but not limited to any decision to place the student in an IAES.

1) During the pendency of an expedited due process hearing or appeal regarding the placement of a student in an IAES for behavior involving weapons, illegal drugs or controlled substances, or on grounds of dangerousness, or regarding a determination that the behavior is not a manifestation of the student's disability for a student who has been placed in an IAES, the student shall remain in the IAES pending the decision of the impartial hearing officer or until expiration of the IEAS placement, whichever occurs first, unless the parents and the district agree otherwise.

2) If school personnel propose to change the student's placement after expiration of an IAES placement, during the pendency of any proceeding to challenge the proposed change in placement, the student shall remain in the placement prior to removal to the IAES, except where the student is again placed in an IAES.

2. An expedited due process hearing shall be completed within 15 business days of receipt of the request for a hearing. Although the impartial hearing officer may grant specific extensions of such time period, he or she must mail a written decision to the district and the parents within five business days after the last hearing date, and in no event later than 45 calendar days after receipt of the request for a hearing, without exceptions or extensions.

E. Referral to Law Enforcement and Judicial Authorities

In accordance with the provisions of IDEA and its implementing regulations:

1. The district may report a crime committed by a child with a disability to appropriate authorities, and such action will not constitute a change of the student's placement.
2. The superintendent shall ensure that copies of the special education and disciplinary records of a student with disabilities are transmitted for consideration to the appropriate authorities to whom a crime is reported.

XI. Corporal Punishment

Corporal punishment is any act of physical force upon a student for the purpose of punishing that student. Corporal punishment of any student by any district employee is strictly forbidden. However, in situations where alternative procedures and methods that do not involve the use of physical force cannot reasonably be used, reasonable physical force may be used to:

1. Protect oneself, another student, teacher or any person from physical injury.
2. Protect the property of the school or others.
3. Restrain or remove a student whose behavior interferes with the orderly exercise and performance of school district functions, powers and duties, if that student has refused to refrain from further disruptive acts.

The district will file all complaints about the use of corporal punishment with the Commissioner of Education in accordance with Commissioner's regulations.

XII. Student Searches and Interrogations

The board of education is committed to ensuring an atmosphere on school property and at school functions that is safe and orderly. To achieve this kind of environment, any school official authorized to impose a disciplinary penalty on a student may question a student about an alleged violation of law or the district code of conduct. Students are not entitled to any sort of "Miranda"-type warning before being questioned by school officials, nor are school officials required to contact a student's parent before questioning the student. However, school officials will tell all students why they are being questioned. In addition, the board authorizes the superintendent, building principals, assistant principals, administrative assistants, the school nurse, athletic director, coaches and district security officials to conduct searches of students and their belongings if the authorized school official has reasonable suspicion to believe that the search will result in evidence that the student violated the law or the district code of conduct. The board further authorizes the superintendent, associate superintendent, assistant superintendents and building principals to designate others as a "school official" authorized to conduct a search on incident specific basis. An authorized school official may conduct a search of a student's belongings that is minimally intrusive, such as touching the outside of a book bag, without reasonable suspicion, so long as the school official has a legitimate reason for the very limited search. An authorized school official may search a student or the student's belongings based upon information received from a reliable informant. Individuals, other than the district employees, will be considered reliable informants if they have previously supplied information that was accurate and verified, or they make an admission against their own interest, or they provide the same information that is received independently from other sources, or they appear to be credible and the information they are communicating relates to an immediate threat to safety. District employees will be considered reliable informants unless they are known to have previously supplied information that they knew was not accurate. Before searching a student or the student's belongings, the authorized school official should attempt to get the student to admit that he or she possesses physical evidence that they violated the law or the district code, or get the student to voluntarily consent to the search. Searches will be limited to the extent necessary to locate the evidence sought. Whenever practical, searches will be conducted in the privacy of administrative offices and students will be present when their possessions are being searched.

A. Student Lockers, Desks and other School Storage Places

Student lockers, desks and other school storage places may be subject to search at any time by school officials, without prior notice to students and without their consent. Students have no reasonable expectation of privacy with respect to these places and school officials retain complete control over them.

B. Documentation of Searches

The authorized school official conducting the search shall be responsible for promptly recording the following information about each search:

1. Name, age and grade of student searched or general search.
2. General locker search warrants the location of the lockers.
3. Reasons for the search.
4. Name of any informant(s).
5. Purpose of search (that is, what item(s) were being sought).
6. Type and scope of search.
7. Person conducting search and his or her title and position.
8. Witnesses, if any, to the search.
9. Time and location of search.
10. Results of search (that is, what item(s) were found).
11. Disposition of items found.
12. Time, manner and results of parental notification.

The building principal or the principal's designee shall be responsible for the custody, control and disposition of any illegal or dangerous item taken from a student. The principal or his or her designee shall clearly label each item taken from the student and retain control of the item(s), until the items are turned over to the police. The principal or his or her designee shall be responsible for personally delivering dangerous or illegal items to police authorities.

C. Police Involvement in Searches and Interrogations of Students

District officials are committed to cooperating with police officials and other law enforcement authorities to maintain a safe school environment. Police officials, however, have limited authority to interview or search students in schools or at school functions, or to use school facilities in connection with police work. Police officials may enter school property or a school function to question or search a student or to conduct a formal investigation involving students only if they have:

1. A search or an arrest warrant; or
2. Probable cause to believe a crime has been committed on school property or at a school function;
or
3. Been invited by school officials.

Before police officials are permitted to question or search any student, the building principal or his or her designee shall first try to notify the student's parent to give the parent the opportunity to be present during the police questioning or search. If the student's parent cannot be contacted prior to the police questioning or

search, the questioning or search shall not be conducted. The exception to this rule of parent notification and presence during questioning, is in cases involving the suspicion of child abuse/neglect/maltreatment or sexual abuse. The principal or designee will also be present during any police questioning or search of a student on school property or at a school function. Students who are questioned by police officials on school property or at a school function will be afforded the same rights they have outside the school. This means:

1. They must be informed of their legal rights.
2. They may remain silent if they so desire.
3. They may request the presence of an attorney.

D. Child Protective Services Investigations

Consistent with the district's commitment to keep students safe from harm and the obligation of school officials to report to child protective services when they have reasonable cause to suspect that a student has been abused or maltreated, the district will cooperate with local child protective services workers who wish to conduct interviews of students on school property relating to allegations of suspected child abuse, and/or neglect, or custody investigations. All requests by child protective services to interview a student on school property shall be made directly to building principal or his or her designee. The principal or his or her designee shall set the time and place of the interview. The principal or designee shall decide if it is necessary and appropriate for a school official to be present during the interview, depending on the age of the student being interviewed and the nature of the allegations. If the nature of the allegations is such that it may be necessary for the student to remove any of his or her clothing in order for the child protective services worker to verify the allegations, the school nurse or other district medical personnel must be present during that portion of the interview. No student may be required to remove his or her clothing in front of a child protective services worker or school district official of the opposite sex. A child protective services worker may not remove a student from school property without a court order, unless the worker reasonably believes that the student would be subject to danger of abuse if he or she were not removed from school before a court order can reasonably be obtained. If the worker believes the student would be subject to danger of abuse, the worker may remove the student without a court order and without the parent's consent.

XIII. Visitors to the Schools

The board encourages parents and other district citizens to visit the district's schools and classrooms to observe the work of students, teachers and other staff. Since schools are a place of work and learning, however, certain limits must be set for such visits. The building principal or his or her designee is responsible for all persons in the building and on the grounds. For these reasons, the following rules apply to visitors to the schools:

1. Anyone who is not a regular staff member or student of the school will be considered a visitor.
2. All visitors to the school must report to the office of the principal upon arrival at the school. There they will be required to sign the visitor's register and will be issued a visitor's identification badge, which must be worn at all times while in the school or on school grounds.
3. Visitors attending school functions that are open to the public, such as parent-teacher organization meetings or public gatherings, are not required to register.

4. Parents or citizens who wish to observe a classroom while school is in session are required to arrange such visits in advance with the classroom teacher(s), so that class disruption is kept to a minimum.
5. Teachers are expected not to take class time to discuss individual matters with visitors.
6. Any unauthorized person on school property will be reported to the principal or his or her designee. Unauthorized persons will be asked to leave. The police may be called if the situation warrants.
7. All visitors are expected to abide by the rules for public conduct on school property contained in this code of conduct.

XIV. Public Conduct on School Property

The district is committed to providing an orderly, respectful environment that is conducive to learning. To create and maintain this kind of an environment, it is necessary to regulate public conduct on school property and at school functions. For purposes of this section of the code, “public” shall mean all persons when on school property or attending a school function including students, teachers and district personnel. The restrictions on public conduct on school property and at school functions contained in this code are not intended to limit freedom of speech or peaceful assembly. The district recognizes that free inquiry and free expression are indispensable to the objectives of the district. The purpose of this code is to maintain public order and prevent abuse of the rights of others. All persons on school property or attending a school function shall conduct themselves in a respectful and orderly manner. In addition, all persons on school property or attending a school function are expected to be properly attired for the purpose they are on school property.

A. Prohibited Conduct

No person, either alone or with others, shall:

1. Intentionally injure any person or threaten to do so.
2. Intentionally damage or destroy school district property or the personal property of a teacher, administrator, other district employee or any person lawfully on school property, including graffiti or arson.
3. Disrupt the orderly conduct of classes, school programs or other school activities.
4. Distribute or wear materials on school grounds or at school functions that are obscene, advocate illegal action, appear libelous, obstruct the rights of others, or are disruptive to the school program.
5. Intimidate, harass or discriminate against any person on the basis of race, color, creed, national origin, religion, age, gender, sexual orientation or disability.
6. Enter any portion of the school premises without authorization or remain in any building or facility after it is normally closed.
7. Obstruct the free movement of any person in any place to which this code applies.
8. Violate the traffic laws, parking regulations or other restrictions on vehicles.
9. Possess, consume, sell, distribute or exchange alcoholic beverages, controlled substances, or be under the influence of either on school property or at a school function.
10. Possess or use weapons in or on school property or at a school function, except in the case of law enforcement officers or except as specifically authorized by the school district.
11. Loiter on or about school property.

12. Gamble on school property or at school functions.
13. Refuse to comply with any reasonable order of identifiable school district officials performing their duties.
14. Willfully incite others to commit any of the acts prohibited by this code.
15. Violate any federal or state statute, local ordinance or board policy while on school property or while at a school function.

B. Penalties

Persons who violate this code shall be subject to the following penalties:

1. Visitors. Their authorization, if any, to remain on school grounds or at the school function shall be withdrawn and they shall be directed to leave the premises. If they refuse to leave, they shall be subject to ejection.
2. Students. They shall be subject to disciplinary action as the facts may warrant, in accordance with the due process requirements.
3. Tenured faculty members. They shall be subject to disciplinary action as the facts may warrant in accordance with Education Law §3020-a or any other legal rights that they may have.
4. Staff members in the classified service of the civil service entitled to the protection of Civil Service Law §75. They shall be subject to immediate ejection and to disciplinary action as the facts may warrant in accordance with Civil Service Law §75 or any other legal rights that they may have.
5. Staff members other than those described in subdivisions 4 and 5. They shall be subject to warning, reprimand, suspension or dismissal as the facts may warrant in accordance with any legal rights they may have.

C. Enforcement

The building principal or his or her designee shall be responsible for enforcing the conduct required by this code.

When the building principal or his or her designee sees an individual engaged in prohibited conduct, which in his or her judgment does not pose any immediate threat of injury to persons or property, the principal or his or her designee shall tell the individual that the conduct is prohibited and attempt to persuade the individual to stop. The principal or his or her designee shall also warn the individual of the consequences for failing to stop. If the person refuses to stop engaging in the prohibited conduct, or if the person's conduct poses an immediate threat of injury to persons or property, the principal or his or her designee shall have the individual removed immediately from school property or the school function. If necessary, local law enforcement authorities will be contacted to assist in removing the person. The district shall initiate disciplinary action against any student or staff member, as appropriate, with the "Penalties" section above. In addition, the district reserves its right to pursue a civil or criminal legal action against any person violating the code.

XV. Reporting Violations of the Code of Conduct

It is the responsibility of all members of the school community to report violations of the Code of Conduct. This includes, but is not limited to, incidents of discrimination, harassment and bullying. Students may report violations of the Code of Conduct to any member of the school staff. In turn, staff members are responsible for reporting violations of the Code of Conduct to school administration if the level of consequence/intervention is beyond what they are authorized to implement. In addition, all cases of discrimination, harassment or bullying must be reported to the school administration.

Parents and community members are encouraged to report all violations of the Code of Conduct to an administrator at the relevant school. If the appropriate school is unknown, a report to the Office of the Superintendent may be made.

XVI. Dissemination and Review

A. Dissemination of Code of Conduct

The board will work to ensure that the community is aware of this code of conduct by:

1. Providing copies of a summary of the code to all students at a general assembly held at the beginning of each school year.
2. At the beginning of the school year, notifying parents of the availability of paper and electronic copies of the Code of Conduct.
3. Mailing a summary of the code of conduct written in plain language to all parents of district students before the beginning of the school year and making this summary available later upon request.
4. Providing all current teachers and other staff members with a copy of the code and a copy of any amendments to the code as soon as practicable after adoption.
5. Providing all new employees with a copy of the current code of conduct when they are first hired.
6. Making copies of the code available for review by students, parents and other community members. The board will sponsor an in-service education program for all district staff members to ensure the effective implementation of the code of conduct. The superintendent may solicit the recommendations of the district staff, particularly teachers and administrators, regarding in-service programs pertaining to the management and discipline of students.

The board of education will review this code of conduct every year and update it as necessary. In conducting the review, the board will consider how effective the code's provisions have been and whether the code has been applied fairly and consistently. The board may appoint an advisory committee to assist in reviewing the code and the district's response to code of conduct violations. The committee will be made up of representatives of student, teacher, administrator, and parent organizations, school safety personnel and other school personnel. Before adopting any revisions to the code, the board will hold at least one public hearing at which school personnel, parents, students and any other interested party may participate. The code of conduct and any amendments to it will be filed with the Commissioner no later than 30 days after adoption.

ADDENDUM 1

MISCONDUCT POLICY (approved 1/13/04)

I. COACHES, PLAYERS, OFFICIALS, SCHOOL PERSONNEL, AND MEMBER SCHOOLS MISCONDUCT POLICY

A. The display of physical or verbal abuse or improper behavior is to be considered misconduct.

B. Misconduct occurring before, during, or after a contest is to be reported by the assigned official(s) or a school administrator to the Executive Director of Section XI.

II. Reporting Procedures

A. Procedures for officials to report a player, coach, school personnel or member school for misconduct. When a player, coach, school personnel or member school displays misconduct, the official will report such by phone to the Section XI Office on the following weekday; a written report is then to be forwarded to the Section XI Office by the official; the Section XI Office is to send a copy the Athletic Director of the offending school with the written report.

B. Procedure for coaches and school administrators to report a player, coach, official, school personnel or a member school for misconduct:

1. Any incident of misconduct is to be reported to the Section XI office by the Athletic Director of the reporting school following his/her independent finding of misconduct.
2. A written report signed by the Athletic Director is to be forwarded to the Section XI Office detailing the incident of misconduct.

III. PenaltiesA. Member Schools, Players, Officials, Coaches or School Personnel

Member schools, school personnel, players, officials, or coaches displaying misconduct may be subject to penalties deemed appropriate by Section XI. These penalties may include: a one or two game suspension (which may be meted-out by the Section XI Office), censure, reprimand or other appropriate sanctions and penalties imposed for serious or continued actions of misconduct. Section XI will employ the procedure set forth within III (infra) to assist in determining a penalty when that penalty may exceed a two game suspension (which may be meted-out by the Section XI Office).

B. Players and Coaches

Those players and coaches who engage in founded misconduct shall be subject to the following penalties:

- a. Removal From the Contest - Game officials and coaches will enforce all rules as they pertain to player conduct.

An official's judgment finding misconduct will necessitate the suspension of a player or coach from a contest or removal of school personnel from the site should the misconduct occur prior to a contest; the ejection of a player or coach from the contest should the misconduct occur during the contest; or the suspension of the coach or player from the next subsequent contest should the misconduct occur following the contest.

A coach suspended from a contest or school personnel removed from the site is not to be present or remain present at the game site during the subject contest from which he or she has been ejected or he or she has been removed.

Disqualification of a coach or a player is to carry over from one season to the next.

(1) It is the responsibility of the coach to ascertain from the official that the incident leading to the suspension or ejection is considered misconduct and, if so, it is the coach's responsibility to suspend the player from the team's next contest.

(2) Failure of the official to report to the Section XI Office or failure of the Section XI Office to forward the report to the Athletic Director, or failure of the Athletic Director to notify the coach does not relieve a coach of the responsibility to suspend the player.

b. Removal From a Subsequent Contest - A player or coach suspended from a contest due to misconduct exhibited prior to a contest, or ejected from a contest for misconduct occurring during the contest, or a player or coach guilty of misconduct following a contest is not to participate in his/her team's next regularly scheduled contest (including post season contests). If a suspended player or coach participates in a contest, he/she is deemed ineligible and that contest is considered forfeited.

In the event of a suspension of a player at the final contest of the season, the suspended player will serve the suspension at the next scheduled contest determined by the schedule in place at the start of that season in which the player participates. (Approved 3/30/2004)

c. Further Suspension

(1) Ejection of a player or coach (including the suspension of a player or coach for misconduct exhibited prior to or following a contest) from a second contest in a season by officials will result in suspension from two additional contests.

(2) Continued infractions causing ejection or suspension of the same player or coach from additional contests shall prompt a communication by the Executive Director to the Superintendent and Athletic Director of the school involved. It is the responsibility of the Athletic Director to respond to this communication and indicate the action taken by the member school.

(3) If a satisfactory response is not received by the Executive Director, the matter will be referred to the Executive Board of Section XI.

D. All determinations by officials in the ejection or suspension of athletes/coaches are to be deemed conclusive.

III. COACH/PLAYER/OFFICIAL/SCHOOL PERSONNEL/MEMBER SCHOOL BEHAVIOR

Written charges against an official, coach, player, school personnel or member school for alleged misconduct may be filed by a Superintendent of Schools or member of the Presidents' Council with the Executive Director of Section XI within five calendar days of the date of the alleged misconduct.

Upon a review of the charge(s) by at least a quorum of the Executive Board of Section XI within ten days of receipt of charges, it will be determined by a majority of the quorum of the Executive Board whether "probable cause" exists. If such a determination is made, a written statement specifying the charges in detail shall be immediately forwarded to the accused coach, official, player, school personnel or member school by certified mail.

Within five days of the receipt of the statement of charges, the coach, official, player, school administrator or member school will notify the Executive Director of Section XI whether a hearing is desired on the charges. The inexcusable failure to notify the Executive Director of Section XI of such desire for a hearing within five days of the receipt of the charges will be deemed a waiver of the right to a hearing. If the coach, official, player, school personnel or member school waives his/her/its right to a hearing, the Executive Board shall proceed within five days, by vote of the majority present (a quorum being required) to determine the case and fix the penalty or punishment, if any, to be imposed. The Executive Board will avail itself of all necessary testimonies and proofs concerning the charges prior to its determination.

The coach, official, player, school personnel or member school shall be informed that if a hearing is requested he/she/it shall have the right of representation by counsel; the right to question witnesses against him/her/it and the right to present witnesses and other evidence on his/her/its behalf.

The hearing will be held before the Section XI Ethics Committee, and the hearing officer shall be the Chairperson of the Ethics Committee; the hearing officer shall be authorized to administer oaths and issue subpoenas in conjunction with the proceeding before him/her. A record of the hearing shall be maintained, but no stenographic transcript shall be required and a tape recording shall be deemed a satisfactory record. The Hearing Panel shall make "Findings of Fact and Recommendations" as to the appropriate, if any, measure of discipline to be imposed upon the coach, official, player, school administrator or member school.

The penalties to be assessed against the coach, player, official, or school personnel may include a reprimand to be filed with the Superintendent of the member school employing the coach, school personnel or

educating the player; a suspension from all Section XI contests of the coach, player, official or school personnel for a fixed time; permanent expulsion from participation as a player, coach or official; such sanctions as may be deemed appropriate against a school administrator or member school; a penalty to be assessed against an official may include a reprimand to be filed with the Presidents' Council of Officials and Section XI or a suspension for a fixed time or permanent expulsion from all officiating duties within Section XI.

The Hearing Panel's determination may be appealed to the Section XI Executive Board within five days of receipt of the decision by way of the filing of a written appeal request with the Executive Director of Section XI.

The Executive Board, will, within twenty days of receipt of the appeal request, review the transcript or tape recording of testimony and other evidence submitted before the Hearing Panel and will render a determination affirming, reversing, or modifying the decision of the Hearing Panel; the respondent party or parties shall be entitled to oral argument before the Executive Board through a representative or pro se.

The Executive Board's determination shall be deemed final for the purpose of determining the measure of discipline, if any, to be imposed upon the coach, official, player, school personnel or member school.

Approved 1/13/04
Section XI

CODE OF CONDUCT FOR SPECTATORS

A. **STATEMENT OF PHILOSOPHY:** The member schools encourage the attendance of students, parents and interested members of the community at all athletic events. We further encourage their active support of these programs by participating in those activities which lend themselves to stimulating student achievement, good sportsmanship, and school spirit. These activities should be positive in nature and within the guidelines of the Section XI Code of Conduct. It is not our intent to reduce the involvement of spectators or the enjoyment of those who participate. Rather, it is our goal to create an atmosphere which is conducive to healthy athletic competition, is safe for those involved, and which provides the ideals of sportsmanship and sound educational practices.

B. **SPECTATOR CODE OF CONDUCT** (Violators of this Code are subject to eviction from the site.)

1. Spectators are an important part of the game and shall at all times conform to accepted standards of good sportsmanship and behavior.
2. Spectators shall at all times respect officials, coaches and players and extend all courtesies to them.
3. Wholesome cheering is encouraged.
4. Stamping of feet, taunting, foul and abusive language, inflammatory remarks, and disrespectful signs and behavior are not acceptable. Violations during a free throw attempt will be penalized by repeating the free throw, if missed. The officials will make this decision.
5. Faculty supervised pep bands are permitted during dead ball time. However, spectator noise makers or sound devices are prohibited.
6. Spectators shall observe and obey the rules and regulations of the school concerning smoking, food and soft drink consumption, and use of lavatory facilities and parking of cars.
7. New York State law prohibits alcoholic beverages of any kind on school property; the law further prohibits any person under the influence of alcohol to be on school property.
8. Spectators shall respect and obey all school officials, supervisors, and police at all athletic contests.

C. **RECOMMENDATIONS FOR MEMBER SCHOOLS**

1. Use physical education classes, class meeting and any/all other means to educate students as to what is expected of them.

2. Prior to each contest, make an announcement as to what is expected of all those in attendance.
3. Encourage officials to penalize poor sportsmanship.
4. Visiting schools should provide supervision for away contests especially for basketball, wrestling, football, and known rivalries in other sports.
5. All supervisors should wear identifying jackets.
6. All supervisors should be totally aware of what is expected of them, both home and away.
7. School district representatives should be encouraged to communicate with each other both before and after contests relative to the possible occurrence of a problem, supervisory procedures and follow up in the case of an incident.
8. In basketball, wrestling, football, and known rivalries in other sports, an administrator or supervisor from the host school shall be designated as the person in charge and the name of this person shall be communicated to the visiting school.
9. The Section XI Code of Conduct should be emphasized with every student in every school. Furthermore, it should be posted and also publicized by way of Board Reports, school newspaper, Curriculum Guide, Booster Clubs and other public forums in the school district.
10. Section XI should publicize the Code of Conduct by means of newspapers, local TV stations and other established guidelines of communication. This should be done periodically.

CODE OF ETHICS FOR COACHES

Section XI is committed to high ethical standards of conduct as applied to coaches and athletes, therefore coaches shall:

1. Know the rules of the game, the policies of Section XI, and the rules and regulations of NYSPHSAA. The coach and the team shall abide by these rules and regulations.
2. Actively use their influence to enhance good sportsmanship on the part of their players and their community.
3. Refrain from the verbal abuse of athletes and/or officials. Profane and vulgar remarks, critical public comments, and off-color humor are demeaning, offensive and unprofessional.
4. Refrain from the physical abuse of athletes and/or officials. Unnecessary roughness, fighting or any other form of physical abuse cannot be tolerated. (Note: Verbal and physical abuse should never substitute for motivational techniques, which enhance performance without threatening the dignity of the athlete.)
5. Be responsible for the supervision, discipline, and behavior of his/her athletes and abide by all of the rules and regulations of the host school at away contests.
6. Preserve the integrity of competition by never humiliating the opponent in a deliberate manner.
7. In unofficiated sports, ensure honesty in scoring and integrity of calls on the part of their athletes.
8. Do not attempt to seek an advantage through intimidation of opponents or officials.
9. Be positive role models relative to the use of controlled and illegal substances (drugs, alcohol, and tobacco).
10. Recognize that the purpose of athletics is to promote the physical, mental, moral, social, and emotional well being of the individual players.

Violations of this code will be handled by Section XI in the following manner:

1. Misconduct regarding the inappropriate behavior of a coach shall be referred to the offending coach's athletic director.
2. If the violation is not reconciled, the athletic director will forward a report to the Executive Director.
3. On a further violation or flagrant misconduct, the Executive Director will send a formal letter to the coach, athletic director and principal noting that such behavior is unacceptable at Section XI contests. The letter should reflect the degree of inappropriateness.
4. Should Section XI deem it necessary, the matter will be pursued through the Ethics Committee.