

**CODE OF
ACCEPTABLE BEHAVIOR
AND DISCIPLINE**

MACON COUNTY SCHOOL SYSTEM

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I. STATEMENT OF ORIGIN

In order to provide an environment that is conducive to learning for each student, the Macon County Board of Education has established this *Code of Acceptable Behavior and Discipline*.

II. PURPOSE

The purpose of this Code is to assure all students the same educational opportunities in a learning environment that is safe and secure without regard to race, creed, ethnic origin, sex, or disability.

III. EXPECTED BEHAVIOR

Students are expected to:

- A. Conduct themselves in an orderly manner at all times.
- B. Refrain from threatening, intimidating, or harassing another student, faculty member, or any school staff member.
- C. Refrain from fighting or committing any act of violence against any student, faculty or school staff member.
- D. Respect school property
- E. Be respectful of other students, faculty and staff, and their possessions.
- F. Refrain from the use of tobacco products and alcohol on school property, school buses, and at school functions.

IV. ACTS IN VIOLATION OF LAWS/POLICIES

Students in violation of the expected behavior will be subject to disciplinary sanctions, ranging from verbal warnings to suspensions/expulsions, as defined in Board Policies 6.3001 and/or 6.3002 posted throughout the school.

V. ZERO TOLERANCE

Infractions listed below will result in expulsion from the regular school program for one calendar year:

- A. Possession or use of illegal and/or legend drugs
 - B. Possession or use of firearms
 - C. Battery against a teacher, administrator or school employee.
- Zero tolerance offenses will be reported to the appropriate law enforcement agencies.

VI. CORPORAL PUNISHMENT

Corporal punishment may be used in a reasonable manner only after other measures to correct behavior(s) have been exhausted, or the conduct of a student is of such nature that corporal punishment is the most reasonable form of punishment under the circumstances.

VII. SEARCH PROCEDURES

The Principal or designee of the Principal may search any student, place or thing on school property, including buses, and/or at any organized school activity, upon reasonable suspicion that the search will lead to the discovery of evidence that is in violation of the law or school rules, or may lead to immediate danger or illness to any person. If public health or safety is involved, upon request of the Principal, police officers may make a general search of student lockers, desks, or vehicles for drugs, weapons, or items of an illegal or prohibited nature.

VIII. DUE PROCESS

Every student will be afforded due process in discipline matters, whereby he/she will be advised of the infraction, allowed to state his/her side of the matter, and given the procedures for appeal.

IX. STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

Students with disabilities will be subject to the same code of discipline and behavior as all other students unless the misbehavior(s) is a manifestation of his/her disability. The Principal will be responsible for calling a manifestation meeting in such cases.

X. FAMILY RIGHTS AND PRIVACY ACT

Parent(s) of students and eligible students (18 years of age or enrolled in a post-secondary school) have the right to:

- A. Inspect and review the student's education records
- B. Seek correction of items in the record which are believed to be inaccurate, misleading, or in violation of the student's rights, including the right to a hearing upon request.
- C. File a complaint with the appropriate state or federal officials when the school system violates laws and regulations relative to student records.
- D. Obtain a copy of such educational records and a copy of Board Policy 6.601 "*Students Records Annual Notification of Rights.*"
- E. Exercise control over other people's access to the records, except when prior written consent is given, or under circumstances as provided by law or regulation, or where the school system has designated certain information as "directory information."

XI. SEXUAL HARASSMENT GRIEVANCE PROCEDURE

Students will be provided a learning environment free from sexual, racial, ethnic, and religious discrimination/harassment. Discrimination/harassment is defined as conduct, advances, gestures, or words either written or spoken of a sexual, racial, ethnic, or religious nature that:

- A. Unreasonably interfere with the student's work or educational opportunities
- B. Create an intimidating, hostile, or offensive learning environment
- C. Imply that submission to such conduct is made an explicit or implicit term of receiving grades or credits
- D. Imply that submission to or rejection of such conduct will be used as a basis for determining the student's grades and/or participation in a student activity.

Alleged victims of discrimination/harassment shall report these incidents to a teacher, counselor, or building administrator. Complaints will be fully investigated by the building complaint manager.

XII. ADOPTION

This *Code of Acceptable Behavior and Discipline* has been duly adopted by the Macon County Board of Education on September 14, 2000.