

STUDENT CODE OF CONDUCT

Statement of Purpose

The Purpose of the Code of Conduct is to:

- Provide and maintain a safe, caring, and orderly environment for students to develop to their full potential
- Ensure that the rights and responsibilities of individuals are appropriately balanced to uphold the collective well-being of all
- Communicate the expectations of student behaviour to all members of the school community.

Conduct Expectations

All Burnsview students are expected to demonstrate respect for self, others, property and environment. Responsible, acceptable conduct supports a positive learning environment. To continue to be a student in good standing, students are expected to:

- Conduct themselves in an appropriate manner when going to and from school, within school, on school grounds, during extended school activities and on school buses
- Apply themselves to the best of their ability in all aspects of their education
- Attend school and classes regularly and punctually
- Be respectful of the thoughts, feelings and heritage of others
- Respect the rights and property of others
- Dress in an appropriate and respectful manner
- Contribute positively to a safe, caring and orderly school
- Behave in an ethical and lawful manner
- Refrain from the use of illegal drugs, alcohol, or tobacco products
- Report to a responsible adult, incidents of threats, bullying, harassment, violence or intimidation

Unacceptable conduct interferes with a positive learning environment. The following examples of unacceptable conduct are considered serious and will be dealt with by the administration:

- Interference with the learning of others
- Use of inappropriate or abusive language
- Threatening, harassing, intimidating, assaulting or bullying, in any way, any person within the school community including aggressive behaviours such as “cyber” hate messaging and websites created in the student’s home, in cyber cafes or other settings.
- Any student who actively participates in, promotes or encourages a fight will result in an immediate suspension. This would also include any student who attends a fight specifically as a spectator.
- Possessing weapons or dangerous articles. Delta School Board Policy prohibits the possession of such objects as pepper sprays, knives, guns, laser pointers or any objects that are intended to be used as a weapon.
- Possession, use, or distribution of illegal or restricted substances
- Theft of or damage to property done with intent or through negligence, according to Section 10 of the School Act, will result in the student and their parents being liable for costs.
- Any efforts to cause harm or discriminate against* another person based on, but not limited to race, religion, gender, physical or intellectual disability, marital or family status, sexual orientation or age.
- Gang related behaviours
- Acts of retribution toward a person who has reported incidents
- Rudeness or willful disobedience to a staff member
- Violation of school, fire, or safety regulations
- Smoking on or around school property
- Student pranks which disturb school activities or cause damage/theft of school or private property
- Serious plagiarism from any source
- Wearing short shorts, strapless tops, undershirts, exposed underwear or any clothing that has words or graphics that refer to drugs, alcohol, any tobacco product, sex, violence, offensive language or racism

*The Human Rights Code states: **discrimination** occurs when someone is treated differently and poorly because of their race, colour, ancestry, place of origin, religion, marital or family status, physical or mental disability, sex, sexual orientation, age, criminal conviction, political belief, or lawful source of income.



Consequences

The consequences for unacceptable conduct may include one or more of the following:

- Meeting with parents
- Suspension from school
- Loss of extracurricular privileges including not being permitted to attend the Graduation Banquet and the Valedictory Ceremony
- Legal and/or financial responsibility
- Referral to the Superintendent of Schools
- Referral to the Delta Police
- Withdrawal from school.

Rising Expectations

The Code of Conduct recognizes that as children grow and mature, they are more able to make appropriate decisions and to be responsible for their actions. As students' progress through school, they are expected to:

- Acquire greater knowledge and understanding about their personal behaviour and its impact on others
- Learn and utilize appropriate decision-making strategies
- Demonstrate increasing self-discipline
- Take increasing personal responsibility for their actions and learning
- Be subject to increasing consequences for inappropriate behaviour

When determining consequences, consideration is given to the maturity as well as the intellectual, social and emotional capacity of the student along with the severity and frequency of the misbehaviour.

Consequences should, where appropriate, follow District procedures and will:

- Be thoughtful, consistent and fair
- Seek to prevent a recurrence of the offense
- Teach acceptable social behaviour rather than be merely punitive

And where appropriate

- Provide means for restitution and restorative actions

Notification

It is understood that communication is essential to the home and school partnership. Notification is given to Burnsview's community of our school's Code of Conduct. As well, notice is given to the parents and students of the range of responses that schools may apply to breaches of the Code of Conduct including threat making behaviours.

For breaches of the Code of Conduct, notification may occur as follows:

- Parents of student in breach of the Code of Conduct
- Parents of student victim(s)
- School and District personnel – where appropriate
- Police and/or other agencies – where deemed appropriate or where required by law
- All parents of the school community – when deemed important to reassure members of the school community that school and district officials are aware of a serious situation or incident and are taking appropriate action to address it
- When the breach of the Code of Conduct is criminal in nature, police will be consulted prior to public notification

STUDENT THREATS TO SAFETY

The safety of our students is a top priority for all of us in the Delta School District. When a threat or violent incident occurs it is taken very seriously and a student threat assessment is started.

As partners in educating our youth, everyone in the community has a duty to report all threat-related behaviours. These threats include expressing an intent to harm themselves, another person or property, or acting out violently against them. Whether the threat is spoken, drawn, made with gestures or on social media, they must all be taken seriously. We will investigate and respond to all harmful threats to our students.