

## STUDENT CONDUCT CODE

### INTRODUCTORY STATEMENT ON EXPECTATIONS

Students are expected to conduct themselves in an appropriate manner and to contribute to a scholarly, safe, and orderly environment.

Only by setting high expectations for student behavior can schools foster self-discipline, respect, consideration for others, and a sense of cooperation with all members of the school community.

Unauthorized groups organized for the purpose of committing illegal or illicit acts or deemed to be disruptive to a safe, orderly environment will not be tolerated in the school setting. Such organizations will not be allowed to carry out any of their activities, advertise or otherwise influence students while on school premises or at school sponsored activities.

Violations of District policies will not be tolerated and offenders will be subject to immediate action by school personnel in a manner that is fair, honest, developmentally appropriate and respectful of the student's constitutional freedoms. In addition, the District shall be in compliance with all state and federal laws related to student conduct, e.g., Goals 2000: Educate America Act.

### SINGLE STANDARD OF DISCIPLINE

Reasonable standards of discipline and the rules of the Waterloo Community School District apply to all students, regardless of race, color, creed, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, ethnic/national origin, religion, marital status, socio-economic status or disability.

Teachers and building administrators are responsible for maintaining the approved discipline standards of the district and the school, and for communicating these standards to students. When consistent measures to change student behavior fail, separation of that student from the regular school program will be considered.

While discipline measures are most effective when the parent, guardian or legal custodian is supportive of those measures, "special treatment" of a student as a result of parental influence is unacceptable.

### CONDUCT STANDARDS

1. Areas in which the conduct code can apply:
  - a. The school building itself, the school campus and parking lots as established by school boundaries.
  - b. In close proximity to the school campus when discipline infractions occur in close proximity to the school day or away from school grounds or school event if the misconduct directly affects the good order, efficient management and welfare of the school district.

- c. While on school operated or chartered buses or while being transported under supervision of school personnel or in close proximity to the school bus stop.
  - d. While attending school-sponsored or school-related activities in which a district school participates, whether or not on district-owned premises. This includes events away from district schools if a district school participates.
  - e. When Issues between or about students on Social Media sites (Facebook, Snapchat, etc.) regardless of the date posted, have the potential to become disruptive to the learning environment, based on the judgment of the administrator.
    - Examples include, but are not limited to content that:
      - 1. is sexually provocative or flirtatious in nature;
      - 2. exhibits or advocates for use of drugs and alcohol;
      - 3. would be defined by a reasonable person as obscene, racist or sexist;
      - 4. promotes illicit, illegal, violent or unethical activity;
      - 5. violates the district's bullying and harassment policies.
2. The purpose of discipline is to modify individual behavior through positive and supportive actions whenever possible. Allowable actions include, but are not limited to:
- a. Any action deemed appropriate by the building administrator which may achieve discipline or behavior modification and which does not violate school policies or regulations.
  - b. Limited time away from normal school activities to gain composure or modify behavior.
  - c. Denial of special privileges which a student may have been given.
  - d. Detention before or after school. (Notification will be given twenty-four (24) hours prior to the detention date unless parent, guardian or legal custodian contact is made that same day and the student's transportation needs are resolved.)
  - e. Loss of extra-curricular activities.
  - f. Referral to a licensed substance abuse program for counseling and treatment.
  - g. Nonteaching day attendance.
  - h. In-school suspension (see Administrative Regulation 504.4-R1).
  - i. Probation (see Administrative Regulation 504.71-R).
  - j. Individual management plan/Alternative School Program
  - k. Suspension out-of-school for up to 8 days. (See Adm. Regulation 504.4-R1). Suspensions of more than 5 days will not occur prior to approval from the Executive Director of Student & At-Risk Services.
  - l. Advising the Executive Director of Student & At-Risk Services, with a recommendation for or against expulsion.

### 3. Student Rights

- a. Each student will be afforded due process commensurate with the maximum possible consequences (see Adm. Regulation 504.3-R).
- b. When a student, for disciplinary reasons, is to be out of school for more than ten days pending a hearing before the Board of Education, an alternative educational program will be offered by the school for the student to attend until the student is expelled or declared eligible to return to school.
- c. The Waterloo Community School District has in force a Grievance Procedure, Policy 503.3, which provides students and parents a means of questioning the interpretation, application, or possible violation of policies and/or regulations of the District.

#### WITHDRAWAL FROM SCHOOL TO AVOID DISCIPLINARY ACTION

When breaches of discipline occur, building administrators will follow the procedures set forth in the discipline code.

Students, who plan voluntary withdrawal due to violations of Discipline Code, may apply to the Board of Education for reinstatement to the Waterloo Community School District. Board approval is necessary for readmission.

Legal Ref: Goss v. Lopez, 419 U.S. 565 (1975).  
 Brands v. Sheldon Community School District, 671 F. Supp. 627 (N.D. Iowa 1987).  
 Sims v. Colfax Comm. School Dist., 307 F. Supp. 485 (Iowa 1970).  
 Bungler v. Iowa High School Athletic Assn., 197 N.W.2d 555 (Iowa 1972).  
 Board of Directors of Ind. School Dist. of Waterloo v. Green, 259 Iowa 1260, 147 N.W.2d 854 (1967).  
 Iowa Code §§ 279.8; 282.3, 282.4, 282.5; 708.1.  
 281. I.A.C. 12.3(6)

Cross Ref.: 504.21 Academic Honesty  
 509.0 Attendance and Tardy Policy  
 510.1-R Eligibility for Athletics and Activities

ADOPTED: 7/8/85  
 6/8/90  
 11/15/94  
 8/25/97  
 6/26/00  
 6/9/03  
 12/11/06  
 06/25/07  
 1/9/12  
 8/11/14  
 1/10/22

Reviewed: 10/94, 7/97, 5/19/00, 5/1/03, 11/9/06, 06/20/07, 8/4/11, 12/1/11, 5/3/12, 8/1/13, 6/9/14, 4/7/16, 11/4/21