

SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 28 (QUESNEL)

P O L I C Y

NO.: 305 - STUDENT CODE OF CONDUCT

Education Committee

Ref: *School Act S. BC Human Rights Code; Sch. Reg. 4(1) & 5(7); Policy 307; Tobacco and Vapour Products Control Act;(2.2) Human Rights Code; Safe, Caring and Orderly Schools 2004; By-Law No. 1; Maintaining School Safety: A guide for School and Police Personnel in BC 2019; Safer Schools Together*

RATIONALE:

The Board of Education has a responsibility to establish expectations of student conduct in schools as part of its governance role for the District. The Board believes that schools should be places where students are free from harm; where clear expectations of acceptable behaviour are held and met, and where people feel they belong; schools should be safe, caring and orderly environments in which to work and learn.

The Board of Education is committed to the principles set out in the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms, the *School Act*, Ministerial Orders and the British Columbia Human Rights Code. In particular, the Board is committed to providing a working and learning environment free from discrimination regarding any accommodation, service or facility customarily available to the public and also free from discriminatory publications on the basis of race, colour, ancestry, place of origin, religion, marital status, family status, physical or mental disability, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression or age of that person or class of persons.

The Board believes that the use of cell phones or other communication/wireless devices should in no way interfere with learning and the operation of school, or the safety and privacy of students and staff.

POLICY:

The Board of Education believes that the responsibility for student behaviour and conduct in school is shared among students, staff and parents.

The District Code of Conduct provides a framework with respect to expectations for student behaviour while at school, during school related activities whether on or off school property, or engaging in an activity that has an impact on or connection with the school environment.

Individual school codes of conduct are to be developed consistent with the Safe Caring and Orderly Schools guidelines and the Provincial Standards for Codes of Conduct Order. This should be a collaborative process which includes the principal and representatives of staff, students, and parents. Codes of Conduct should include:

- a clearly worded statement of purpose.

- Reference to the BC Human Rights Code
- Conduct Expectations: Acceptable and Unacceptable conduct and rising expectations
- Consequences that are appropriate and restorative in nature rather than punitive and take into consideration student age, maturity and special needs.
- Notifications of breaches of the Code of conduct
- Retaliation Prevention
- A statement that restricts personal digital device use at school to promote safety and support focused learning environments. The statement must address the following matters:
 - restrictions on the use of digital devices at school including hours of instruction;
 - use of personal digital devices that is used for instructional purposes and digital literacy;
 - use of personal digital devices that is appropriate to a student's age and developmental stage;
 - accessibility and accommodation needs;
 - medical and health needs;
 - equity to support learning outcomes.
- Principals are required to:
 - ensure that the School Code of Conduct is reviewed annually with representatives of staff, parents and students to assess the effectiveness of the Code of Conduct in terms of addressing school safety issues.
 - share the School Code of Conduct annually with staff, parents and students, post it to the school webpage and display in a prominent area of the school.
 - provide the School Code of Conduct to employees of the Board who are assigned to a school during the school year when they are so assigned.
 - provide the School Code of Conduct to students and parents if they begin attending during the school year.

Students have the responsibility for conducting themselves in accordance with the codes of conduct established by the School District and by their school. Failure to comply with District expectations will result in appropriate consequences.

Restorative and other measures, including student suspension and exclusion from school may be necessary for those occasions when efforts fail to result in a student complying with the expected conduct standards. Students will be disciplined in a timely and fair manner.