

## **Basic Rights and Responsibilities**

It is the goal of the Hyde County Schools (“HCS”) that every student be provided the opportunity to receive a sound basic education and graduate from high school prepared for work, further education, and citizenship. A positive school climate conducive to teaching and learning is essential to student success, and all decisions related to student behavior are guided by the HCS Board of Education’s educational objective to teach responsibility and respect for cultural and ideological differences and the commitment to creating safe, orderly and inviting schools.

This Code of Student Conduct is a guide for students, parents, guardians, and school personnel to understand the expected standards for student behavior that describes conduct that may subject students to discipline and sets out the range of interventions and disciplinary consequences that may be used by school officials for violations of these standards of behavior.

All students are required to comply with this Code of Student Conduct, state and federal laws, Board of Education policies, and local school rules governing student behavior and conduct. This Code and other Board and school behavior policies apply to any student while in any school building or on any school premises before, during, or after hours; while on any bus or other vehicle as part of any school activity; while waiting at any bus stop; during any school-sponsored activity or extracurricular activity; while subject to the authority of school personnel; and at any time or place when the student’s behavior has or is reasonably expected to have a direct and immediate impact on the orderly and efficient operation of the schools or the safety of individuals in the school environment (including, but not limited to, use of electronic communications or social media on or off school grounds).

The regulations below are written in accordance with N.C. General Statutes 115C-390.1–390.12. These guidelines are subject to the provisions of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act.

### **RESPONSIBILITIES**

#### **A. Board of Education Responsibilities**

1. To adopt a fair and consistent discipline policy which establishes clear standards of student behavior.
2. To ensure, through the HCS Superintendent, a fair, impartial, and consistent application of the discipline policy by school employees, without regard to a student’s race, color, national origin, disability, gender, status as an English Language Learner, or other characteristic protected by federal law.

#### **B. Parent(s)/Guardian(s) Responsibilities**

1. To assume legal responsibility for the behavior of the child as determined by law and to ensure that the child is familiar with HCS discipline policies and regulations.
2. To teach the child self-discipline, respect for authority, and for the rights of others.
3. To make sure that the child attends school regularly and that the school receives notification of the reason for absences when the child cannot attend.
4. To work to the best of his/her ability to provide the necessary materials and a positive home learning environment for the child to succeed in school.
5. To maintain communication with the school and provide the school with a current, accessible telephone number through which he/she may be reached during the school day.

6. To participate in discussions on effective strategies for correcting misbehavior and appropriate consequences for violations of Board policies, the Code of Student Conduct, and other school standards and school rules.
7. To respond quickly to school to pick up the child when contacted.
8. To be available for conferences when requested.
9. To cooperate with the school staff to develop strategies to benefit the child.

**C. Student Responsibilities**

1. To be aware of and to follow district policies, regulations and school guidelines regarding acceptable behavior.
2. To be responsible for one's own behavior.
3. To conduct oneself in a manner which is conducive to learning and does not interfere with the teacher's right to teach or the student's right to learn.
4. To respect the personal, civil and property rights of all members of the school community.
5. To refrain from the use of physical force, verbal abuse or harassment, blackmail, stealing, vandalism, and other illegal activities.
6. To seek clarification from school personnel concerning the appropriateness of any action or behavior.
7. To attend school and classes regularly, on-time and to be prepared with the necessary learning materials.
8. To know and to follow the policies and regulations for every event considered part of the school program regardless of the time or place.
9. To immediately comply with any staff member's reasonable request to carry out school rules.

**D. Teacher Responsibilities**

1. To provide appropriate learning opportunities for all students as well as opportunities for all students to develop self-discipline and respect for the rights of others.
2. To accept shared responsibility for maintaining good order and discipline in the school building.
3. To consider the physical, social, intellectual and emotional development of the students.
4. To attend to the safety and welfare of students, including the need to provide appropriate supervision of students.
5. To establish and inform students of individual classroom behavior expectations, and to maintain discipline within the classroom.
6. To be aware of and to abide by Board policies, regulations, and school guidelines for discipline.
7. To confer with support personnel for possible solutions to inappropriate student behavior and to attend conferences upon request.
8. To use positive reinforcement, whenever possible, and not ridicule or use negative comparison when correcting a student.
9. To report to the parent/guardian at regular reporting periods and at other times, when appropriate, regarding the acceptability of a student's behavior.
10. To utilize all reasonable classroom strategies in addressing disruptive behavior prior to referring a student for out of class disciplinary action.

11. To refer, in writing, a disruptive student to the principal or his/her designee when appropriate teacher-initiated strategies have been unsuccessful or the severity of the offense makes it necessary.
12. To report to the principal acts of violence in school and students suspended or expelled from school as required to be reported in accordance with State Board policies.

**E. Principal Responsibilities**

1. To apply consistently the Code of Student Conduct ensuring clear standards and consequences for student behavior.
2. To maintain order on the campus and to assume the overall responsibility for the implementation of procedures and rules that are necessary to establish standards of acceptable student behavior in the school.
3. To discipline students and to assign duties to teachers with regard to discipline pursuant to the policies adopted by the local Board of Education.
4. To report certain acts to law enforcement. When the principal has personal knowledge or actual notice from school personnel that an act has occurred on school property involving assault resulting in serious personal injury, sexual assault, sexual offense, rape, kidnapping, indecent liberties with a minor, assault involving the use of a weapon, possession of a firearm in violation of the law, possession of a weapon in violation of the law, or possession of a controlled substance in violation of the law, the principal shall immediately report the act to the appropriate local law enforcement agency.
5. To assign duties and responsibilities to an assistant principal designated by the local Board or to an acting principal designated by the principal.
6. To be readily available to handle disruptive behavior, discipline, and emergency situations.
7. To communicate effectively to parents the expectations of the school discipline program and the role of the parent/family in supporting the efforts of the school in providing a safe school environment.
8. To develop a strategic plan that will mobilize community resources/agencies that can provide additional services and support to the school discipline program.
9. To provide in-service training to teachers and parents on the issues related to a sound disciplinary program, i.e. intervention strategies, establishing effective rules and consequences, legal issues, etc.
10. To develop a viable communication network that informs the community, parents, and staff of the status and modification of the school's discipline policies and procedures.
11. To continuously monitor and assess current data in order to make modifications to the program and provide alternative disciplinary strategies to fit the needs of the school.

## STUDENT CODE OF CONDUCT VIOLATION LEVELS

The Student Code of Conduct rules are divided into levels according to the severity of the violation and the type of consequence. The levels of disciplinary action specified in this list are guidelines to be followed in most cases. The school administration reserves the right to assign consequences that are more or less severe than the guidelines, when called for by the circumstances of any particular case, up to the limits allowed by law and/or Board policy.

*Level 1* Rule violations generally result in in-school interventions. In cases where a student refuses to participate in the in-school interventions, engages in persistent violations of a Level 1 rule, or other aggravating factors are present, the principal may impose a short-term suspension or recommend participation in an intervention related to the violation. Students may be suspended for up to two days for truancy.

*Level 2* Rule violations involve more serious misconduct. Level 2 consequences generally range from restorative interventions to short term suspension. Principals may recommend transfer to an alternative learning program and/or participation in an intervention program based upon the presence of aggravating factors. There is no appeal for short-term suspensions.

*Level 3* Rule violations are more severe in nature and, depending on the circumstances, may support principal recommendation for participation in an intervention program, transfer to an alternative learning program and/or long-term suspension. The principal may, however, impose Level 2 consequences based on mitigating factors.

*Level 4* Rule violations that compromise the safety and welfare of students and staff and require a suspension of a specific length under the North Carolina General Statutes.

*Level 5* Allows for expulsion of a student, as provided by state statute, for a violation of the Student Code of Conduct, if the student is fourteen (14) years of age or older and the student's behavior indicates that his/her continued presence in school constitutes a clear threat to the safety of other students or employees and the Board determines that there is no appropriate alternative education program. Additionally, any student who is a registered sex offender under N.C. General Statute § 14-208 may be expelled consistent with state law.

### Level 1 Behavior Violations

- *Consequences for violations include in-school interventions, restorative interventions, or short-term suspension.*
- *Repeated or severe incidents of Level 1 violations may be considered Level 2 violations or higher.*
- *Administrators have the responsibility of considering each incident individually and may assign different consequences consistent with Board policy. Aggravating or mitigating factors may affect the assignment of consequences.*

<b>Policy 3225/4312/7320</b> , Technology Responsible Use	<b>Policy 4316</b> , Student Dress Code
<b>Policy 4310</b> , Integrity and Civility	<b>Policy 4320</b> , Tobacco Products - Students
<b>Policy 4315</b> , Disruptive Behavior	<b>Policy 4400</b> , Attendance

## Level 2 Behavior Violations

- *Consequences for violations may range from restorative interventions to short-term suspension.*
- *Repeated or severe incidents of Level 2 violations may be considered Level 3 violations or higher.*
- *Administrators have the responsibility of considering each incident individually and may assign different consequences consistent with Board policy. Aggravating or mitigating factors may affect the assignment of consequences.*

<b>Policy 3225/4312/7320</b> , Technology Responsible Use	<b>Policy 4320</b> , Tobacco Products - Students
<b>Policy 4310</b> , Integrity and Civility	<b>Policy 4342</b> , Student Searches
<b>Policy 4315</b> , Disruptive Behavior	<b>Policy 5220</b> , Collections and Solicitations
<b>Policy 4318</b> , Use of Wireless Communication Devices	

## Level 3 Behavior Violations

- *Consequences for violations include short-term suspension, assignment to an alternative learning program, recommendation for assignment to an intervention program, and long term suspension.*
- *Administrators have the responsibility of considering each incident individually and may assign different consequences consistent with Board policy. Aggravating or mitigating factors may affect the assignment of consequences.*

<b>Policy 1710/4020/7230</b> , Discrimination and Harassment Prohibited by Federal Law	<b>Policy 4330</b> , Theft, Trespass, and Damage to Property
<b>Policy 1725/4035/7236</b> , Title IX Sexual Harassment – Prohibited Conduct and Reporting Process	<b>Policy 4331</b> , Assaults, Threats, and Harassment
<b>Policy 3225/4312/7320</b> , Technology Responsible Use	<b>Policy 4333</b> , Weapons, Bomb Threats, Terrorist Threats, and Clear Threats to Safety
<b>Policy 4315</b> , Disruptive Behavior	<b>Policy 4335</b> , Criminal Behavior
<b>Policy 4325</b> , Drugs and Alcohol	<b>Policy 6125</b> , Administering Medicines to Students
<b>Policy 4328</b> , Gang-Related Activity	

## Level 4 Behavior Violations

- *Mandatory 365-day suspension*

**Policy 4333**, Weapons, Bomb Threats, Terrorist Threats, and Clear Threats to Safety – 365-day suspension when a student is found to have possessed a firearm or destructive device or educational property or at a school-sponsored event off of educational property.

## Level 5 Behavior Violations

- *Consequence for Level 5 violation is expulsion (applies only to students age 14 or older).*
- *A student may be expelled if it is determined that his/her continued presence in school constitutes a clear threat to the safety of other students or employees and the Board determines that there is no appropriate alternative education program.*
- *Any student who is a registered sex offender under N.C. Gen. Stat. § 14-208.18 may be expelled.*

## STUDENT CODE OF CONDUCT – PROHIBITED BEHAVIOR

- A. **Assaults, Threats and Harassment – Policy 4331**: The Board will not tolerate assaults, threats or harassment from any student. Any student engaging in such behavior will be removed from the classroom or school environment for as long as is necessary to provide a safe and orderly environment for learning. The following definitions apply: Assault - physically injuring, attempting to injure or intentionally behaving in such a way as could reasonably cause injury to any other person; Threats - language directed toward another person that threatens force, violence or disruption, or any sign or act that constitutes a threat of force, violence or disruption; Harassment - unwanted, unwelcome and uninvited behavior that demeans, threatens or offends the victim and results in a hostile environment for the victim. The hostile environment may be created through pervasive or persistent misbehavior or a single incident if sufficiently severe.
- B. **Attendance – Policy 4400**: Regular attendance by every student is mandatory. The State of North Carolina requires that every child in the State between the ages of 7 (or younger if enrolled) and 16 attend school. Students are expected to be at school on time and to be present at the scheduled starting time for each class. Parents and legal guardians are responsible for ensuring that students attend and remain at school daily. Students may be suspended for up to two days for truancy, and excessive absences may impact eligibility for participation in interscholastic athletics. Violations of the HCS attendance policy include, but are not limited to: tardiness; class cutting; school cutting; excessive absences (truancy)
- C. **Administering Medicines to Students – Policy 6125**: Each school has rules on administering non-prescription and prescription drugs. Students are to adhere to the rules of the school and HCS Policy 6125, Administering Medicines to Students. A student who uses his or her medication in a manner other than as prescribed or who permits another person to use the medication may be subject to disciplinary action pursuant to the school disciplinary policy.
- D. **Criminal Behavior – Policy 4335**: Criminal or other illegal behavior is prohibited. Any student who the principal reasonably believes has engaged in criminal behavior on school premises or at school activities will be subject to appropriate disciplinary action, as stated in applicable Board policies, and also may be criminally prosecuted. The school principal is required to report certain acts to law enforcement when he/she has personal knowledge or actual notice that such acts occurred on school property.
- E. **Disruptive Behavior – Policy 4315**: Students are prohibited from disrupting teaching, the orderly conduct of school activities, or any other lawful function of the school or school system. Prohibited conduct includes the following: (1) intentional verbal or physical acts that result or have the potential to result in blocking access to school functions or facilities or preventing the convening or continuation of school-related functions; (2) appearance or clothing that violates a reasonable dress code adopted and publicized by the school, is substantially disruptive, is provocative or obscene, or endangers the health or safety of the student or others; (3) possessing or distributing literature or illustrations that significantly disrupt the educational process or that are obscene or unlawful; (4) engaging in behavior that is immoral, indecent, lewd, disreputable or of an overly sexual nature in the school setting; (5) failing to observe established safety rules, standards and regulations, including on buses and in hallways; and (6) interfering with the operation of school buses, including delaying the bus schedule, getting off at an unauthorized stop, and willfully trespassing upon a school bus.
- F. **Drugs and Alcohol – Policy 4325**: Students are prohibited from possessing, using, transmitting, selling or being under the influence of any of the following substances on school grounds, to and from school, on a school bus, on field trips, or at any school function: narcotic drugs; hallucinogenic drugs; amphetamines; barbiturates; marijuana or any other controlled substance; synthetic stimulants, such as MDPV and mephedrone (e.g., "bath salts"), and synthetic cannabinoids (e.g., "Spice," "K2"); any alcoholic beverage, malt

beverage, fortified or unfortified wine or other intoxicating liquor; or any chemicals, substances or products procured or used with the intention of bringing about a state of exhilaration or euphoria or of otherwise altering the student's mood or behavior. Students also are prohibited from possessing, using, transmitting or selling drug paraphernalia or counterfeit (fake) drugs. Students may not participate in any way in the selling or transmitting of prohibited substances, regardless of whether the sale or transmission ultimately occurs on school property. The principal must report to the appropriate law enforcement agency any student who has used or possessed prohibited substances in violation of this policy.

**G. Gang-Related Activity – Policy 4328:** A gang is any ongoing organization, association, or group of three or more persons, whether formal or informal, having as one of its primary activities the commission of criminal acts and having a common name or common identifying sign, colors, or symbols. The Board condemns the existence of gangs and will not tolerate gang-related activity in the school system. “Gang-related activity” means: (1) any conduct that is prohibited by another Board policy and is engaged in by a student on behalf of an identified gang or as a result of the student’s gang membership; or (2) any conduct engaged in by a student to perpetuate, proliferate, or display the existence of any identified gang. Prohibited conduct includes: wearing, possessing, using, distributing, displaying, or selling any clothing, jewelry, emblems, badges, symbols, signs, or other items with the intent to convey membership or affiliation in a gang; communicating either verbally or non-verbally (gestures, handshakes, slogans, drawings, etc.) with the intent to convey membership or affiliation in a gang; tagging, or otherwise defacing school or personal property with symbols or slogans intended to convey membership or affiliation in a gang; requiring payment of protection or insurance or otherwise intimidating or threatening any person related to gang activity; inciting others to intimidate or to act with physical violence upon any other person related to gang activity; soliciting others for gang membership; and committing any other illegal act or other violation of school system policies in connection with gang-related activity.

**H. Integrity and Civility – Policy 4310:** All students are expected to demonstrate integrity, civility, responsibility and self-control. In addition to any standards or rules established by the schools, the following behaviors are in violation of the standards of integrity and civility and are specifically prohibited: (1) cheating, including the actual giving or receiving of any unauthorized assistance or the actual giving or receiving of an unfair advantage on any form of academic work; (2) plagiarizing, including copying the language, structure, idea and/or thought of another and representing it as one's own original work; (3) violating copyright laws, including the unauthorized reproduction, duplication and/or use of printed or electronic work, computer software, or other copyrighted material; (4) cursing or using vulgar, abusive or demeaning language toward another person; and (5) playing abusive or dangerous tricks or otherwise subjecting a student or an employee to personal indignity.

**I. Discrimination and Harassment Prohibited by Federal Law - Policy 1710/4020/7230:** The Board will not tolerate any form of unlawful discrimination, harassment, or bullying in any of its educational or employment activities or programs. Students found to have engaged in such conduct will be subject to appropriate consequences and remedial actions ranging from positive behavioral interventions up to, and including, expulsion. In addition, the violation may also be reported to law enforcement, as appropriate. Prohibited behavior includes, but is not limited to, the following:

1. **Discrimination** - Any act or failure to act, whether intentional or unintentional, that unreasonably and unfavorably differentiates treatment of others based solely on their membership in legally-protected class so as to interfere with or limit their ability to participate in or benefit from the services, activities, or privileges offered by the school system’s education program. For purposes of this policy, the legally protected classes are race, color, national origin, religion, and disability.
2. **Harassment** - Deliberate unwelcome conduct directed at another person or group of persons based on

their membership in a legally protected class that creates a hostile environment. Harassment creates a hostile environment when the conduct is sufficiently severe, pervasive, or persistent so as to interfere with or limit a person's ability to participate in or benefit from the services, activities, or opportunities offered by the school system. Examples of behavior that may constitute harassment include, but are not limited to, acts of disrespect, intimidation, or threats, such as verbal taunts, name-calling and put-downs, epithets, derogatory comments or slurs, exclusion from peer groups, extortion of money or possessions, implied or stated threats, assault, impeding or blocking movement, offensive touching, or any physical interference with normal work or movement, and visual insults, such as derogatory posters or cartoons. Harassment may occur through electronic means, such as through the Internet, email, or text message. Legitimate age-appropriate pedagogical techniques are not considered harassment.

**J. Title IX Sexual Harassment – Prohibited Conduct and Reporting Process - Policy 1725/4035/7236:** HCS expressly prohibits sexual harassment by students, employees, board members, volunteers, or visitors. Sexual harassment prohibited under Title IX of the Education Amendments Act of 1972 (Title IX) and by this policy is conduct *on the basis of sex* occurring in a school system education program or activity that satisfies one or more of the following: (1) an employee of the school system conditioning the provision of an aid, benefit, or service of the school system on an individual's participation in unwelcome sexual conduct; (2) unwelcome conduct determined by a reasonable person to be so severe, pervasive, and objectively offensive that it effectively denies a person equal access to the school system's education program or activities; (3) sexual assault including rape, statutory rape, fondling, and incest; (4) dating violence; (5) domestic violence; or (6) stalking. Conduct that satisfies this standard is not sexual harassment for purposes of this policy if the conduct occurred (1) outside the United States or (2) under circumstances in which the school system did not have substantial control over both the harasser and the context in which the harassment occurred.

Examples of conduct on the basis of sex that would be considered sexual harassment if the conduct satisfies the criteria above include, but are not limited to: unwelcome sexual advances; requests for sexual favors; and other verbal or physical conduct of a sexual nature, such as deliberate, unwelcome touching that has sexual connotations or is of a sexual nature; suggestions or demands for sexual involvement accompanied by implied or overt promises of preferential treatment or threats; pressure for sexual activity; continued or repeated offensive sexual flirtations, advances, or propositions; continued or repeated verbal remarks about an individual's body; sexually degrading words used toward an individual or to describe an individual; sexual assault; sexual violence; the display of sexually suggestive drawings, objects, pictures, or written materials; posting sexually suggestive pictures of a person without the person's consent; and forwarding pornographic material depicting a classmate or other member of the school community. Acts of verbal, nonverbal, or physical aggression, intimidation, or hostility based on sex or sex-stereotyping but not involving conduct of a sexual nature may also constitute sexual harassment.

**K. Collections and Solicitations – Policy 5220:** Students may not sell commercial products during the instructional school day unless given prior approval from the school principal.

**L. Student Dress Code – Policy 4316:** Any clothing that is substantially disruptive, provocative, obscene, endangers the health or safety of students or others, and/or violates a reasonable dress code adopted and publicized by the school will not be permitted.

**M. Student Searches - 4342:** School administrators have the authority to conduct reasonable searches and seize materials in accordance with this policy for the purpose of maintaining a safe, orderly environment and for upholding standards of conduct established by the Board or school. **A student's failure to permit reasonable searches and seizures as provided in Policy 4342 will be considered a violation of the expected standard of behavior.** Types of searches that may be authorized include:

1. **Personal Searches** - A student's person and/or personal effects (e.g., purse, book bag, etc.) may be searched whenever a school authority has reasonable grounds for suspecting that the search will turn up evidence that the student has violated or is violating a law or a school rule. If the school official has reasonable grounds for suspecting that the student has on his or her person an item imminently dangerous to the student or to others, a more intrusive search of the student's person may be conducted.
2. **Vehicle Searches** - The interior of a student's motor vehicle parked on the school premises may be searched if a school official has reasonable grounds for suspecting that the search will turn up evidence that the student has violated or is violating a law or a school rule.
3. **Desk and Locker Searches** - Student desks and lockers may not be used to store illegal, unauthorized or contraband materials. Inspections of desks and lockers may be conducted by school authorities for any reason consistent with Board policies or school rules at any time, without notice, without consent, and without a search warrant.
4. **Metal Detectors** - A metal detector may be used to search a student's person and/or personal effects whenever a school official has reasonable grounds for suspecting that the student is in possession of a weapon. A school official is authorized to conduct general searches of students and other persons and their personal effects with a metal detector before the person may gain entry to the school campus or any school-sponsored extracurricular activity.
5. **Use of Trained Dogs in Conducting Searches** - School officials may use trained dogs in inspections for illegal materials in school facilities, on school grounds and in school parking lots. If a school official has reasonable suspicion that a student possesses illegal material on his or her person, a dog may sniff the air near the student.

**N. Technology Responsible Use – Policy 3225/4312/7320:** Responsible use of school system technological resources is use that is ethical, respectful, academically honest, and supportive of student learning. All users of school system technological resources are expected to comply with the requirements established in policy 3225/4312/7320, Technology Responsible Use. In particular, users are prohibited from: (a) attempting to gain unauthorized access, including "hacking" and engaging in other similar unlawful activities; and (b) creating, intentionally viewing, accessing, downloading, storing, printing, or transmitting images, graphics (including still or moving pictures), sound files, text files, documents, messages, or other material that is obscene, defamatory, profane, pornographic, harassing, abusive, or considered to be harmful to minors.

**O. Theft, Trespass and Damage to Property – Policy 4330:** The Board will not tolerate theft, trespass or damage to property by any student. Any student engaging in such behavior will be removed from the classroom or school environment for as long as is necessary to provide a safe and orderly environment for learning. The following definitions apply: (1) Theft - stealing or attempting to steal school or private property and/or from knowingly being in possession of stolen property; (2) Damage to property - damaging or attempting to damage school or private property; and (3) Trespassing – occurs when a student is on the campus of a school to which he or she is not assigned during the school day without the knowledge and consent of the officials of that school, a student is loitering at any school after the close of the school day without any specific need or supervision, or a student has been suspended from school but is on the property of any school during the suspension period without the express permission of the principal.

**P. Tobacco Products – Students – Policy 4320:** Students are prohibited from using or possessing any tobacco product (1) in any school building, on any school campus, and in or on any other school property owned or operated by the Board, including school vehicles; (2) at any school-related activity, including athletic events; or (3) at any time when the student is subject to the supervision of school personnel, including during school trips.

**Q. Weapons, Bomb Threats, Terrorist Threats, and Clear Threats to Safety – Policy 4333:** The Board will not tolerate the presence of weapons or destructive devices, bomb or terrorist threats, or actions that constitute

a clear threat to the safety of students or employees. Any student who violates this policy will be removed from the classroom or school environment for as long as is necessary to provide a safe and orderly environment for learning.

1. **Weapons or Weapon-like Items** - Students are prohibited from possessing, handling, using or transmitting, whether concealed or open, any weapon or any instrument that reasonably looks like a weapon or could be used as a weapon. Weapons include, but are not limited to the following: loaded and unloaded firearms, including guns, pistols, and rifles; destructive devices, including explosives, such as dynamite cartridges, bombs, grenades, and mines; knives, including pocket knives, bowie knives, switchblades, dirks, and daggers; slingshots and slungshots; leaded canes; blackjacks; metal knuckles; BB guns; air rifles and air pistols; stun guns and other electric shock weapons, such as tasers; icepicks; razors and razor blades (except those designed and used solely for personal shaving); fireworks; gun powder, ammunition, or bullets; any sharp pointed or edged instruments except unaltered nail files and clips and tools used solely for preparation of food, instruction, and maintenance; and mace, pepper spray, and other personal defense sprays.
2. **Bomb Threats** - Students are prohibited from making, aiding, and/or abetting in making a bomb threat or perpetrating a bomb hoax against school system property by making a false report that a device designed to cause damage or destruction by explosion, blasting, or burning is located on school property.
3. **Terrorist Threats** - Students are prohibited from making, aiding, conspiring, and/or abetting in making a terrorist threat or perpetrating a terrorist hoax against school system property by making a false report that a device, substance, or material designed to cause harmful or life-threatening injury to another person is located on school property or at a school event.
4. **Clear Threats to Student and Employee Safety** - Students are prohibited from engaging in behavior that constitutes a clear threat to the safety of other students or employees including, but is not limited to: theft or attempted theft by a student from another person by using or threatening to use a weapon; the intentional and malicious burning of any structure or personal property, including any vehicle; an attack or threatened attack by a student against another person wherein the student uses a weapon or displays a weapon in a manner found threatening to that person; an attack by a student on any employee, adult volunteer, or other student that does not result in serious injury but that is intended to cause or reasonably could cause serious injury; an attack by a student on another person whereby the victim suffers obvious severe or aggravated bodily injury, such as broken bones, loss of teeth, possible internal injuries, laceration requiring stitches, loss of consciousness, or significant bruising or pain; or whereby the victim requires hospitalization or treatment in a hospital emergency room as a result of the attack; any intentional, highly reckless, or negligent act that results in the death of another person; confining, restraining, or removing another person from one place to another, without the victim's consent or the consent of the victim's parent, for the purpose of committing a felony or for the purpose of holding the victim as a hostage, for ransom, or for use as a shield; the possession of a weapon on any school property, including in a vehicle, with the intent to use or transmit for another's use or possession in a reckless manner so that harm is reasonably foreseeable; taking or attempting to take anything of value from the care, custody, or control of another person or persons, by force, threat of force, or violence, or by putting the victim in fear; any unauthorized and unwanted intentional touching, or attempt to touch, by one person of the sex organ of another, including the breasts of the female and the genital areas of the male and female; the possession, manufacture, sale, or delivery, or any attempted sale or delivery, of a controlled substance in violation of Chapter 90 of the North Carolina General Statutes; any behavior resulting in a felony conviction on a weapons, drug, assault, or other charge that implicates the safety of other persons; and any other behavior that demonstrates a clear threat to the safety of others in the school environment.

**R. Use of Wireless Communication Devices – Policy 4318:** Wireless communication devices (such as cellphones) are permitted on school grounds but shall not be used by students unless directed to do so by a teacher/administrator. School employees may immediately confiscate any wireless communication devices

that are on, used, displayed or visible without teacher/administrator approval. Absent compelling and unusual circumstances, confiscated wireless communication devices will be returned only to the student's parent.

*The list of infractions set forth in the Student Code of Conduct (the “Code”) is not all-inclusive. The school administration reserves the right to assign consequences for misconduct not listed that a student would or should have known would be disruptive to the academic process or would endanger self or others, or that is in violation of state or federal law or regulations.*

*The minimum and maximum levels of disciplinary action specified in this list are guidelines to be followed in most cases. The school administration reserves the right to assign consequences that are more or less severe than the guidelines, when called for by the circumstances of any particular case, up to the limits allowed by law.*

*Any student who has violated one or more sections of the Code may be subject to more severe disciplinary action than is recommended in the Code for violations of a single Code section.*

*The Code applies to behavior through electronic communications or on social media, on or off school grounds, that has or is reasonably expected to have a direct and immediate impact on the school or other students.*

*A principal has the authority to suspend student privileges. As students do not have a right to participate in activities that are privileges, a student’s ability to participate in privileged activities may be restricted or curtailed for good cause as determined by the principal, apart from any violation of the Code of Student Conduct.*