

**Student Code of Conduct
Gobles Elementary School**



**Leadership
Integrity
Respect
Responsibility
Pride & Tradition**

Student Code of Conduct

The primary goal of the Gobles Elementary School Code of Conduct is to prevent the likelihood of problem behaviors through teaching behavior expectations and acknowledging students engaging in these expectations. We realize that there are times we must respond to inappropriate behavior as it is occurring by correcting or giving consequences.

Considerations Before Imposition of Discipline: Restorative Practices

In accordance with state law, except as specifically provided below, before a student may be suspended, expelled or permanently expelled, the district administrators making the disciplinary decision shall consider each of the following factors:

1. The student's age
2. The student's disciplinary history
3. Whether the student is a student with a disability
4. The seriousness of the violation or behavior committed by the student
5. Whether the violation or behavior committed by the student threatened the safety of any student or staff member
6. Whether restorative practices will be used to address the violation or behavior committed by the student
7. Whether a lesser intervention would properly address the violation or behavior committed by the student

The fact that consideration of these factors has occurred shall be documented in the record of the disciplinary decision.

The obligation to consider the factors listed above shall not apply to a student being permanently expelled for possessing a firearm in a weapon-free school zone.

The district shall consider using restorative practices as an alternative or in addition to suspension or expulsion of a student. If the district suspends or expels a student, the district shall consider using restorative practices in addition to suspension or expulsion. The obligation to consider restorative practices shall not apply to a mandatory expulsion for possession of a firearm in a weapon-free school zone.

"Restorative practices" means practices that emphasize repairing the harm to the victim and the school community caused by a student's misconduct. Restorative practices shall be considered as an alternative or in addition to suspension or expulsion of a student.

It is the Principal's discretion when issuing a suspension as to whether the suspension will be in-school or out of school.

Legal mandates and community safety may require removal of individuals who possess a dangerous weapon, commit arson, or engage in criminal sexual conduct (Gun Free Schools Act, 1994; Michigan Compiled Laws under MCL 380.1311), make bomb threats or engage in verbal assault (MCL 380.1311a), and/or commit physical assault against another at school or a school-related event (MCL 380.1310, 380.1311, 380.1311a, 380.1312), in compliance with MCL 380.1310(c)(d) as revised, which includes rebuttable and presumption and the seven factors to consider.

Dress Code

Our commitment to educating the whole child includes an understanding of proper grooming. Neatness, appearance, and cleanliness of a person reflect pride in one's self, in one's family, in one's school, and in one's community. In order to provide a safe and healthy environment and promote a positive learning atmosphere for all children, the following dress code and appearance expectations have been developed. We ask for your help in assuring all students follow these guidelines:

1. Students should be dressed appropriately for the weather with the expectation they will be outside at recess time.
2. Students' dress and grooming should reflect reasonable standards of health, safety, and decency.
3. Clothing with drugs/alcohol/tobacco logos or inappropriate or suggestive language, symbols, or gestures is not permitted.
4. Muscle shirts or bare midriffs, halter-tops, strapless, spaghetti strap tops are not appropriate.
5. Shorts or skirts, when standing with arms at side, must be at least fingertip length.
6. Appropriate footwear is to be worn. No flip-flops or open toe sandals on the playground. No "Heelys" at school.
7. Hats are not to be worn in the building.

Illegal Substances

The unlawful possession, use, or distribution of illicit drugs, alcohol, tobacco, or other illegal substances by students is prohibited on school premises or at any school activity and compliance is mandatory. Disciplinary action, up to and including expulsion and referral for prosecution, will be imposed on students who violate these standards.

Weapons at School

The possession or use of a weapon or any object that is used as a weapon including knives (of any size or type), razors, firearms (including air and gas-powered guns whether loaded or unloaded), clubs, or dangerous materials (matches, lighters, fireworks, etc.) are prohibited at school, or a school activity, or while a student is in route to or from school in a vehicle used by the school to transport students. This includes look-a-like toy weapons that are presented as a real weapon or reacted to as a real weapon. A student who has been found to possess or use a weapon shall be subject to discipline up to and including permanent expulsion from the regular K-12 program per school board policy and Michigan State laws.

Physical Assault, Fighting, Harassment, Verbal Threats

Any student who intentionally causes injury to another person will be disciplined up to and including suspension and/or expulsion. This includes harm caused from a physical assault, a verbal assault, and/or making threats to another.

Suspension/Expulsion

At times, a student behaves in a manner that may result in the student being suspended or expelled. No student, otherwise eligible for attendance, shall be excluded from a district program unless that student has substantially interfered with the maintenance of good order or unless it is necessary to protect that student's or other students' physical or emotional safety and well-being.

A suspension can be short-term suspension (not more than ten (10) days) or a long-term suspension (for more than ten (10) days depending on the severity of the student's actions). A student will receive a due process hearing for each suspension beyond ten (10) days, consistent with required due process for long-term suspensions. The Board designates the Superintendent as its representative at any hearings regarding the appeal of a suspension.

An expulsion, unless otherwise defined in Federal and/or State law, is the permanent exclusion of a student from Gobles Public Schools for a period of time beyond ten days. Students who are expelled permanently may petition for reinstatement under the provisions stipulated in Policy 5610.01.

The Superintendent may recommend to the Board a long-term suspension or that a student be expelled.