

# **Youngstown Community School**

## **"Great Expectations" Code of Conduct K - 8**

**2019 - 2020**

\* Be Respectful \* Be Responsible \*  
\*Be Safe

# **Youngstown Community School**

## **Purpose for the Code of Conduct**

- To ensure that every student at YCS is continuously engaged in challenging programs of academic instruction within safe and orderly environments.
- To provide clear and explicit expectations for social behavior within all school settings.
- To specify guidelines for teaching and to encourage social skills necessary for meeting school-wide behavioral expectations.
- To describe explicit methods of corrective instruction and consequences for responding to behavior infractions.

## **Values and Beliefs**

- We are a standards-based, results-driven school district.
- We set high academic standards for all students.
- We set high behavioral standards for all students and employees.
- We collaborate with parents and guardians in making decisions that affect their child's education.
- We provide and maintain quality environments and facilities designed to support student learning.
- We structure policies and administrative procedures, functions and resources to support student learning.
- We hold everyone in the school personally accountable for achieving the mission of YCS.
- We allocate resources for funding to provide all children access to a quality public education.
- We promote parent and community involvement for education.

## **Summary of School Policy Regarding Behavior**

All students have the right to learn, and no student has the right to disrupt the learning activities of others. Youngstown Community School has adopted a school-wide policy to provide guidelines for the teaching and implementation of expected behaviors.

Students must follow the school Code of Conduct before, during and after school. The Code is in effect in the school building, on school grounds, at school-related activities, and on the way to and from school. Students are also expected to follow these rules on the bus that brings them to school or takes them home.

The school Code of Conduct provides definition of behavior infractions. Some definitions include examples. These examples are not intended to be exhaustive lists; that is, the behaviors covered by the definition include, but are not limited to, the examples given.

In addition to the Code of Conduct, our school has developed its own school wide positive behavior support. This system includes activities for teaching and encouraging expected behaviors. We will communicate our school-wide behavior system to our parents/ guardians and students - including strategies for teaching and reinforcing positive behavior, and social skills.

The safety and security of your child is our highest priority and we are committed to providing a safe learning environment for your child. Parents are expected to know and understand the school-wide positive behavior system at our school.

Our goal at Youngstown Community School is to focus on the positive, be proactive, provide system level supports, stress that PBIS is a general education initiative, support all children and youth, value and respect families, establish clarity in direction and consider emotional impacts on behavior.

**Youngstown Community School abides by the ODE Policy on Bullying, Intimidation, and Harassment** (Adopted 10-09-2012) See **Blue** pages.

# Youngstown Community School Behavior Expectations and Examples

1. Be Respectful
2. Be Responsible
3. Be Safe

## Youngstown Community School Expectation Pledge

We are **RESPECTFUL, RESPONSIBLE, and SAFE.**

I promise to **RESPECT** myself, others, and my school.

I am **RESPONSIBLE** for my best in reading, math and the rest.

I promise to be **SAFE** by following all rules and directions.

I pledge to learn all I can and do my best to be all that I am.

# DEFINITION OF INFRACTIONS

## Minor

**Cheating** Using or attempting to obtain answers dishonestly or by any other means than those authorized by the teacher. Also including forgery of another's name or to alter dates, times, grades, passes, or permits.

**Disruptive Behavior/ Inappropriate Communication** Engaging in minor physical (pushing, tripping, etc.) or verbal altercations. Lack of courtesy and respect (name-calling, talking back). Disrespect toward staff members, volunteers, visitors and peers. Using offensive language or improper gestures.

**Dress Code** Dressing or grooming in a manner that violates the Youngstown Community School dress code or disrupts the teaching and learning of others. (See **Pink** pages 21-22)

**Possession of Electronic Items** - Possessing an electronic device, IPOD, cellular phone, CD player, MP3 player, hand held gaming devices, etc.

## Major

**\*Aggressive Physical Contact/ Fighting** - Engaging in physical conflict, threatening serious harm, or engaging in violent or turbulent behavior with another pupil, school staff member, volunteer or visitor. **Parents/Guardians please note:** If any of the above is made to a staff member, criminal charges may be filed accordingly.

**Damage/ Destruction of Property** - Causing, attempting to cause or threatening to cause damage to school or private property.

**Extortion/ Coercion** - Obtaining or attempting to obtain money or property from an unwilling person or forcing an individual to act by either physical force or intimidation.

**Gross Insubordination** - Knowingly refusing to comply with school rules or with instructions of authorized school personnel

**Obscenities/ Verbal Abuse/ Vulgarity** - Directing obscene, abusive, or vulgar language, written or verbal, toward school personnel, volunteers, visitors, other students or any member of the school community. This shall include use of obscene gestures, signs, verbal threats of physical harm, bullying or spreading vicious comments either written or verbal. Use of slang will not be permitted.

**School Disruption** - Engaging in any conduct for the purpose of disrupting school-wide activities; such as assemblies, fire drills, tornado drills, etc.

**Sexual Misconduct** - Intentionally touching another person inappropriately or intimately, including any conduct involving sexual harassment.

***Out of School Suspension*** – *Students who are serving out of school suspension are not permitted on school property for the duration of their suspension. Failure to comply with this policy will result in more serious consequences*

# Illegal Misconduct/Law enforcement Involvement

**Arson** - Setting fire, or attempting to set fire, to a school building or property located on the school grounds or any property belonging to, rented by or on loan to the school, or property (including automobiles) of persons employed by or in attendance at the school.

**Assault/Menacing** - Causing physical injury to school personnel, a visitor, a volunteer, or a student.

**Threats/False Alarms** - Making a knowingly false statement regarding the possession or location of explosive or incendiary materials or activating the fire alarm system on school property or reporting a fire when no fire exists.

**Bullying/Harassment/Intimidation** – Please see **blue pages** (Anti-Harassment, Anti-Intimidation or Anti-Bullying Policy). Not limited to listed page numbers of the policy.

**Volatile Acts** -Disrupting school by use of violence, coercion or threat (including such acts with a toy gun, weapon, or knife). This shall include use of the same to incite others towards acts of disruption (individual or group related).

**Possession or Use of Weapons or Dangerous Instruments** - Possessing, handling, transmitting, or using any kind of firearm, knife, razor, club, chain, or items which can be considered a weapon or used as a weapon, including laser pointers. This includes bringing such items onto school grounds. NOTE: In accordance to state law, students found in possession of a firearm or knife shall be expelled for a period of one year. (ORC Ohio *Revised* Code 3313.66 (B) (3))

**Sale, Use, or Possession of Alcohol, Drugs, or Other Chemical Control Substances** - Any student selling, using, or possessing chemicals or substances (including counterfeit or look alike substances) distributing any narcotics, drugs, controlled substances of any kind or alcoholic beverages on school property. This includes bringing such items to school for another person, to school - sponsored activities, or having such items in one's desk or hiding place on school property.

**Sexual Offenses** - Committing any willful and/or deliberate act with the intention of gaining sexual favors or acts lewd or lascivious in nature, including acts of indecent exposure; sexual offenses also include consensual or nonconsensual sexual contact or conduct.

**Theft** - Stealing school or private property or participating in the theft of school or private property.

**Trespassing** - Being in the school building (YCS and/or MCC) or on school grounds (both YCS and/or MCC) without permission or refusing to comply with a request to leave school premises. Note: Any child who is serving an out-of-school suspension or has been expelled & is on school property is considered trespassing.

**Use of Tobacco** - Smoking, using or possessing tobacco in any form.

**Vandalism** - Substantial destruction or defacing of school or private property. Causing irreparable damages or loss of property.

**Gang Membership Activity or Other Illegal or inappropriate Conduct** - Engaging in gang membership activity or conduct which imposes a threat to another person's life, health, or seriously disrupts or interferes with the educational process

**\*\*\*\* All disciplinary consequences will be at the discretion of the principals. \*\*\***



**CORRECTIVE STRATEGIES FOR CATEGORY 3 OFFENSES**